

## *Study Guide Notes*

**Messenger:** Pastor Keith Graham

**Date:** June 8, 2025

**Scripture:** I Timothy 5.17-18



### ***Pastor Melford S. Keyes 20<sup>th</sup> Pastoral Anniversary***

#### ***Joshua House of Worship***

#### ***Theme: Double Decade, Double Honor***

#### **The Points:**

1. \_\_\_\_\_ for the position of Elder: v17a. Let the elders....
- *Why does someone become an elder?* I Timothy 3.1. If a man desires the position of a bishop, he desires a good work. You have an inward spirit-led desire to shepherd God's people.
- *What is the purpose of an elder?* I Timothy 3.1. If a man desires the position of a bishop, he desires a good work. An elder is an overseer of the ministry of the Lord's Church.
- *How is someone appointed an elder?* Must be qualified and ordained
- *What are the qualifications of an elder?* 'An elder must be above reproach, husband of one wife, self-controlled, able to teach, not a lover of money, manages his household, respected by outsiders...' I Timothy 3.2-7

An ordination is a sacred service that affirms God's calling and gifting upon a candidate for eldership, through the laying on of hands by the elders of the church. Reference: I Timothy 4.14

'Laying on of hands represents the line of authority that continues the biblical pattern of leadership passed down from the apostles through the elders to preserve the governance and doctrine of the church.'

**Takeaway:** You become an elder when you have a spirit-led desire, you qualify, and you are ordained-recognition by the church elders. You can be anointed but you must be appointed properly.

**The Point:** We reverence the position of elder because it is a God ordained role of apostolic order for spiritual leadership, responsibility, and service to the church.

2. \_\_\_\_\_ the works of Elders: v17b. who rule well....

- Rule well = the ability to administrate the affairs of the church that reflects the priorities and heart of Christ. References: I Thessalonians 5.12-13

Hebrews 13.17. Obey your spiritual leaders and do what they say. Their work is to watch over your souls, and they are accountable to God. Give them reason to do this with joy and not with sorrow. That would certainly not be for your benefit. (NLT)

**The Point:** We should deeply respect and love our spiritual leaders by recognizing their labor and assigning value to them.

3. \_\_\_\_\_ for Elders: v17c. be counted worthy of double honor, especially those who labor in the word and doctrine. v18. For the Scripture says, 'You shall not muzzle an ox while it treads out the grain, and "The laborer is worthy of his wages.'

The Elders who rule well should be:

- *counted worthy: to recognize the worth;*
- *of double honor: respect and generous support*
- *especially: special group of elders*
- *those who labor: work to exhaustion*
- *in the word: in the Scriptures*
- *and doctrine: sound teaching and theology*

*Recognition of work and rewards of compensation is supported by the Scriptures:*

- *'For the Scripture says': Paul bases his teaching on double honor on the Scriptures not his opinion.*
- *'You shall not muzzle an ox while it treads out the grain' (Deuteronomy 25.4)*
- *the laborer is worthy of his wages. (Luke 10.7)*
- Paul's teachings I Corinthians 9.14. the Lord has commanded that those who preach the gospel should live from the gospel (*supported by those who benefit from it*). (NKJV)

**The Point:** Spiritual leaders who rule well deserve to be highly esteemed and generously compensated.

**Big Idea:** When you *revere* the office of elder, *recognize* their works and *reward* them with generous compensation. This *reflects* the heart of God concerning the spiritual leaders of His church.

**Conclusion:** 'Continue to hold your pastor in high regard, honoring him not with your words but also through fair and generous compensation. In doing so, you encourage and equip him to continue faithfully for another 20 years and beyond, fulfilling the call God has placed on his life for your life.'