

Doctrine of church 7
July 16, 2019

WHO LEADS THE CHURCH?

1. Jesus Christ is the supreme authority of the church.
 1. Jesus Christ is the _____ of the church
 - i. Eph. 1:22,
 - ii. Col. 1:18
 2. Jesus Christ is _____ of the church and all.
 - i. Acts 2:36
 - ii. Phil. 2:9–11
2. The early church was led by a _____ of elders
 1. The Jerusalem church had elders
 - i. Acts 11:29–30
 2. The churches that Paul planted had elders
 - i. Acts 14:23
 - ii. Acts 20:17
 3. The churches throughout Asia Minor were also led by elders.
 - i. 1 Pet. 5:1

FUNCTIONS OF ELDERS

1. Elders are to _____ the church
 1. Elders oversee the church
 - i. Acts 20:28
 - ii. 1 Tim 3:5
 2. Elders are responsible for the direction of the church
 - i. Heb. 13:17
 3. Elders lead the church by example
 - i. 1 Pet. 5:2,3
2. Elders _____ the church body
 1. 1 Tim. 3:2
 2. Titus 1:9
 3. 1 Tim. 5:17
3. Elders _____ the needs of the church body
 1. Acts 20:35
 2. James 5:14
 3. Gal. 6:1
4. Elders _____ the church body
 1. 1 Thess. 5:12
 2. Acts 20:31

Information below comes from:¹

1 Timothy 3:2–7

Titus 1:6–9

Above reproach (3:2)	Above reproach (1:6)
Husband of one wife (3:2)	Husband of one wife (1:6)
Sober-minded (3:2)	
Self-controlled (3:2)	Self-controlled and disciplined (1:8)
Respectable (3:2)	
Hospitable (3:2)	Hospitable (1:8)
Able to teach (3:2)	Holding firm to the Word, able to give instruction in sound doctrine, and to rebuke those who contradict it (1:9)

¹ MacArthur, J., & Mayhue, R. (Eds.). (2017). [Biblical Doctrine: A Systematic Summary of Bible Truth](#) (p. 760). Wheaton, IL: Crossway.

Not a drunkard (3:3)	Not a drunkard (1:7)
Not violent but gentle (3:3)	Not violent (1:7)
Not quarrelsome (3:3)	Not quick-tempered (1:7)
Not a lover of money (3:3)	Not greedy for gain (1:7)
Skilled manager of his household (3:4)	Above reproach as God's steward (1:7)
Keeping his children submissive with all dignity (3:4)	Having faithful children not open to the charge of debauchery or insubordination (1:6)
Not a recent convert lest he become conceited (3:6)	Not arrogant (1:7)
Well thought of by outsiders (3:7)	
	A lover of good (1:8)
	Upright (1:8)
	Holy (1:8)

It is the responsibility of every elder (and a commendable practice even for every Christian) to contemplate this one overarching question: If Jesus Christ were to write my church a letter, like he wrote in Scripture, what would he say? What would he commend? What would he condemn? The elders must guide the church in pursuing what Jesus commends and eschewing what he condemns.

The Lord commended these features:

- Good deeds
- Hard work
- Endurance
- Discernment
- Suffering
- Faithfulness to the end
- Holding fast to Christ's name
- Not denying the faith
- Love
- Faith
- Service
- Righteous living
- Keeping Christ's Word
- Submission
- Repentance
- Patience
- Accepting God's Word
- Standing firm
- Pleasing God
- Loving the brethren
- Prayer
- Evangelistic fervor
- Baptismal emphasis
- Strong teaching/preaching
- Spiritual leadership
- Dependence on God
- Joyful attitudes
- Generosity
- Boldness
- Growth
- Ministry of the Holy Spirit
- Discipleship
- Sacrifice
- Spiritual priorities
- Spiritual potential
- Submission to God's sovereignty
- True worship

The Lord condemned these features

- Lost love
- Absence of first deeds
- Compromise
- Tolerating sin

- Immorality
- Idolatry
- Deadness
- Incomplete deeds
- Lukewarmness
- Hypocrisy
- False teaching
- Undisciplined living
- Disunity
- Sin
- Arrogant divisions
- Prolonged spiritual immaturity
- Suing one another
- Abusing Christian liberty
- Profaning the Lord's Supper
- Misappropriating spiritual gifts
- Unwillingness to forgive
- Slow to give
- Critical of leadership