

Epistles Paragraph Study Worksheet

Name:

Instructor:

Paragraph: Titus 1:5-9

2. a. Unfamiliar, historically significant, key words; use of OT

Elder (presbuteros) and overseer (episkopos) are synonyms used to describe the same office.

"Elder" points to their relative spiritual maturity (who they are).

"Overseer" points to their function (what they do). Above reproach (anegkletos) means unimpeachable, unreprouvable.

1. a. Main Point

Set in order what remains AND appoint elders in every city. (v. 5)

1. b. Supporting points (WHY?, HOW?)

How? What kind of elders? Those above reproach...

... in family matters (v. 6)

husband of one wife, children who believe, not accused of dissipation

... as God's stewards (vs. 7-9)

not self willed, not quick-tempered, not addicted to wine, not pugnacious, not fond of sordid gain, hospitable, loving what is good, sensible, just, devout, self-controlled, holding fast the faithful word... that he might be able to...

... exhort in sound doctrine

... refute those who contradict

2. b. Theological meaning of main & supporting points

Qualified spiritual leaders are crucial to the health of the local church.

Church leaders must have unimpeachable/exemplary character and sound working knowledge of scripture.

3. a. Application - What did it mean to them?

The churches in Crete (misled by false teachers and lacking leadership) require elders that have the character qualities and knowledge to lead well.

3. b. Application - What does it mean to us?

> We need to appoint qualified leaders in the church.
 > Today, many elderships consist of those who have been successful in the world. But they often have little knowledge of doctrine and fail to meet the character qualities specified in this passage. As a result, churches may take a wrong turn in their ministry.
 > We need to emphasize training in Xenos to equip our future leaders to exhort and refute.
 > Since these qualities are a profile of maturity, I should strive to gain them in myself.

1. c. Literary/ theological context

Main point of paragraph before:

Paul was commanded by God to proclaim the truth.

Main point of paragraph after:

Reprove false teachers that they might be sound in the faith.

2. c. Parallel passages

1 Timothy 3 lists requirements for elders

Acts 14:23 "And when they had appointed elders for them in every church..."

How does this paragraph fit into the argument of this section?

To uphold the truth, the churches in Crete need moral leaders who can exhort in sound doctrine and refute those who contradict.

How does this paragraph relate to the author's reason for writing the letter?

Structure

Theology

Application

The main point of this paragraph IS the author's reason for writing the letter!