Proper Conduct in the House of God

1 Timothy 3

January 19, 2014
1 Timothy

I. Timothy’s Charge (Chapter 1)

- promote sound doctrine by confronting the false teachers and their doctrines (1:3-4)
- fight the good fight (1:18-19)

II. Timothy’s Instructions (Chapters 2-6)

- men/women (chapter 2)
- leaders (chapter 3)


1 Timothy 3

I. The Qualifications for Elders (3:1-7)
II. The Qualifications for Deacons (3:8-13)
III. The Mystery of Godliness (3:14-16)
I. The Qualifications for Elders (3:1-7)
   1) Calling (3:1)
   2) Character (3:2-3)
   3) Conduct (3:4-7)

II. The Qualifications for Deacons (3:8-13)

III. The Mystery of Godliness (3:14-16)
Can a woman be an elder?

τις (tis): anyone

• “anyone”/“whoever” [ESV, NET, NIV, NLT, RSV]
• “man” [KJV, NKJV, NAS]

The office of elder is limited to men because...

✓ “the husband of one wife” (3:2)
✓ “able to teach” (3:2) Cf. 1 Timothy 2:12
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I. The Qualifications for Elders (3:1-7)

II. The Qualifications for Deacons (3:8-13)
   1) The Character of a Deacon  (3:8-10)
   2) The Home Life of a Deacon  (3:11-12)
   3) The Rewards of a Deacon  (3:13)

III. The Mystery of Godliness (3:14-16)
Can a woman be a deacon?

γυνή: woman/wife

• “wives” (ESV, KJV, NKJV, HCSB, NET, NLT). This would refer to the wives of the deacons.
• “women” (NAS, NIV). This would refer to women deacons.
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