1 Tim 5:17-6:2

¹⁷ The elders who rule well are to be considered worthy of double honor, especially those who work hard at preaching and teaching. 18 For the Scripture says, "You shall not muzzle THE OX WHILE HE IS THRESHING," and "The laborer is worthy of his wages." ¹⁹ Do not receive an accusation against an elder except on the basis of two or three witnesses. ²⁰ Those who continue in sin, rebuke in the presence of all, so that the rest also will be fearful of sinning. 21 I solemnly charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus and of His chosen angels, to maintain these principles without bias, doing nothing in a spirit of partiality. ²² Do not lay hands upon anyone too hastily and thereby share responsibility for the sins of others; keep yourself free from sin. ²³ No longer drink water exclusively, but use a little wine for the sake of your stomach and your frequent ailments. ²⁴ The sins of some men are quite evident, going before them to judgment; for others, their sins follow after. ²⁵ Likewise also, deeds that are good are quite evident, and those which are otherwise cannot be concealed.

6 All who are under the yoke as slaves are to regard their own masters as worthy of all honor so that the name of God and *our* doctrine will not be spoken against. ² Those who have believers as their masters must not be disrespectful to them because they are brethren, but must serve them all the more, because those who partake of the benefit are believers and beloved. Teach and preach these *principles*.

Further Instructions

In this section of text, Timothy is given further instruction concerning elders. These thoughts fall into two sections.

1. Elders who do well (17-18)

- these work hard (exert one's self to the point of weariness)
- they are worthy of financial compensation (18)
- Paul quotes from Deut and from Luke

Separating the Deuteronomy and Luke quote with the word "and" shows what principles?

Three "Do Nots"

1. Do not receive accusation

witnesses (19)

2. Do not be partial (21)

(22)

except by several

3. Do not quickly appoint others

2. Elders that do not do well (19-20)

- accusations are brought by several witnesses
- Possibly a link to Acts 20:28-30
- (a) this reminds us that we are all governed by the same rule
- (b) no double standards or bending the rules for some
 - those that continue in sin are to be rebuked publically

What is the danger of appointing someone too quickly?

3. Paul tells Timothy to drink wine as a form of medicine (23)

Can Paul's words to Timothy justify social drinking?

- The apostle had to tell Timothy it was ok to do this

4. Before and after (24-25)

Some deeds are known and evident and others are hidden and secret—this is true of sins as good deeds—but all things are known by God

What is the danger of secret sins (Ps 90:8)?

5. Living Honorably (6:1-2)

- Much is said in the N.T. about the slave/master relationship -
- the Christian slaves were to conduct themselves in a way that would honor the faith

Why didn't Christianity condemn slavery?





