

## A Study About Elders

(Part 22)

### I. Introduction:

- A. The Lord's body, the church is to be without blemish (**Ephesians 5:25-27**).
1. Our part in that is to live faithfully, holy, blamelessly, etc. (**Ephesians 1:3-4**, **Philippians 2:14-16**, and **Titus 2:11-14**).
  2. Yet, we KNOW that of the many "called" (**II Thessalonians 2:14**) few are going to live up to that call (**Matthew 22:14** and **Luke 13:23-24**; cf. **I Timothy 5:24-25**).
- B. The "last days" that we live in started in the first century (**Hebrews 1:1-2**).
1. In these last days we are in perilous times which means it is hard to find holy individuals (**II Timothy 3:1-5**).
  2. These are the days wherein people walk after their own lusts (**II Peter 3:1-3** and **Jude 1:18**).
  3. So, we are about to talk about how an elder must be "holy". In evil days, think about how this is a rare trait.

### II. Body: Holy (**Titus 1:8**).

- A. The term translated "holy" [ἅγιος] means: "Properly, right (by intrinsic or divine character; thus distinguished from # 1342, which refers rather to human statutes and relations; from # 2413, which denotes formal consecration; and from # 40, which relates to purity from defilement), i.e. hallowed (pious, sacred, sure): — holy, mercy, shalt be. Undeified by sin, free from wickedness, religiously observing every moral obligation, pure holy, pious" (Strong's # 3741).
1. This term is used in identification of Christ (**Acts 2:27**, **Acts 13:26-35**, and **Hebrews 7:26**).
  2. In a vision of John, when we read the angels were observing the plagues during a time of apostasy; they referred to God as the only one of this holy being (**Revelation 15:4**).
  3. This word is used to describe how we are supposed to come before the Lord with holy hands (**I Timothy 2:8**; cf. **Isaiah 59:1-3**).
- B. Think about one who is "undefiled" (**Psalms 119:1-3**).
1. This certainly means, right actions; being unspotted (**James 1:21-27**).
  2. Even in a congregation that had become spiritually dead, there were a few that were undefiled (**Revelation 3:1-6**).
- C. A man that is pure; righteous; free from wickedness (**Psalms 1:1-6**, **Psalms 15:1-5**, **Proverbs 13:6**, and **I Timothy 5:22**).
1. Being righteous, in action, is an identifier (**I John 2:29**).
  2. Being pure, opposed to being defiled, has an effect on even the perspective of a person (**Titus 1:15**).

3. This righteousness is what we became when we were converted (**Ephesians 4:22-24**) and have to maintain throughout our earthly lives (**Titus 3:8; 3:14**).

4. If understanding cannot be found in these Scriptures, look to the conduct of God for more definition of this subject (**Psalms 145:17**).

III. Conclusion: *“For God hath not called us unto uncleanness, but unto holiness”* (**I Thessalonians 4:7**).