

A Study About Elders (Part 2)

I. Introduction:

A. Our conduct as saints matters in the sight of God and man (**II Corinthians 8:4; 16-21**).

1. We know that God will judge us on our actions (**Colossians 3:24-25**).
2. The Lord cares how the world sees you (**Matthew 5:14-16**).

B. Understand the balance of being blameless in a world that seeks to place blame, find fault (**Psalms 56:5-6, Psalms 39:1**, and **Luke 20:19-26**).

1. Being blameless doesn't mean people won't lay charges against you (**Matthew 5:10-12**).
2. What it does mean is that those charges are without credibility (**I Peter 2:9-12; 3:16**).

II. Body: Being Blameless (**I Timothy 3:2** and **Titus 1:6; 7**).

A. Elders to be, and all of us as saints, are to live without blame (**II Corinthians 6:14-7:2, Ephesians 1:3-4**, and **II Peter 3:10-14**).

1. Be mindful of how the people of the world see things (**Colossians 4:5-6**).
2. Knowing that being in a sinful world doesn't mean you can fit into this sinful world (**John 17:14-17** and **Romans 12:1-3**).
3. Understand how much teaching you can do with proper living (**I Peter 3:1-4**).

B. Thinking about how the word translated "blameless" (**I Timothy 3:2**) is also translate as "unrebukeable" (**I Timothy 6:14**) and "blameless" (**Titus 1:6; 7**) as "unreproveable" (**Colossians 1:21-22**).

1. Who would need to be rebuked or to be reprovved (**Galatians 2:11-15, I Timothy 5:19-20**, and **Titus 1:10-14**)?
2. So, how does one avoid needing corrected (**Philippians 2:14-16**)?
3. So that we understand something... *If* you err, that doesn't mean you should avoid being reprovved or rebuked (**Proverbs 10:17** and **Proverbs 15:10; 31-32**).

C. The formula to live blamelessly is found in the Scriptures (**Luke 1:5-6**).

1. Righteous before God (**Malachi 3:18, Matthew 23:27-28, Luke 16:15, Romans 10:1-3, Philippians 3:3-11, Titus 2:11-14**, and **I John 2:29**).
2. Walking in all the commandments and ordinances of the Lord (**Matthew 28:18-20, Colossians 1:10, I Thessalonians 4:1-2, I Timothy 5:21, James 2:10-12**, and **I John 2:3-6**).

III. Conclusion: Simply put, all of our conduct should be "*as becometh saints*" (**Ephesians 5:1-5**).