1 Timothy 3

I. Bishops (vv. 1-8)
   A. The Office (v. 1)
      1. Is it an office or a work?
         a. It is literally the overseership.
         b. It is a position ("The position of bishop" -- NKJV)
         c. It is an appointed position. (Tit. 1:5; Acts 14:23)
         d. It is a working position or office.
            (1) "If any man desire the office (or position) of president he desires a good work".
            (2) "If any man desire the presidency he desires a good work.
   B. The Nature of the Office.
      1. "Bishop" (overseer) and "Pastor" (shepherd) refer to nature of the work.
         a. Parallels the relationship of a shepherd to a flock of sheep.
         b. He feeds or tends the flock. (Cf. 1 Peter 5:2).
         c. He oversees (watches over) the church like a shepherd over sheep (Cf. 1 Peter 2:25; 1 Peter 5:3).
         d. He rules house of God like a man over his family. (v. 5, ch 5:17).
         e. He rules well with emphasis on leadership rather than lordship. (1 Pet. 5:3)
         f. He answers to the Chief (arch) Shepherd. (Jesus is our Archbishop)
      2. "Elder" (presbyter) refers to his fitness for the work. (Older, mature, experience).
   C. The Qualifications for the Office.
      1. Qualities of Character.
         a. Blameless
         b. Husband of one wife - Not polygamist
         c. vigilant, temperate (NKJ).
         d. sober, sober-minded.
         e. Given to hospitality, hospitable.
         f. Not given to wine, no brawler (R.V.)
         g. No striker, not violent.
         h. Not given to filthy lucre (Filthy gain), Not greedy for money.
         i. Patient, Gentle.
         j. Not a brawler, not quarrelsome.
         k. Not covetous
         l. Good report of those without.
      2. Qualities of Ability.
         a. Apt to teach.
         b. Rules house well.
            (1) Wife
            (2) Children.
         c. Not a novice.

II. Deacons (vv. 8-10,12-13)
   A. The Office. - service (see NKJV)
   B. The qualifications.

III. Wives (v. 11)

IV. Timothy's Conduct.
   A. Behavior in house of God.
   B. "Living God" probably refers Christ. (v. 16; cf. Acts 20:28)