Intro: As ___________ Jesus is the Head and one and only Husband of the Church, it is of loving care for His precious Bride that He has given us written instruction for the organization, leadership and _____________ of His church.

A. In part one of this teaching, (which was presented on February 2nd [of this year, in case you were wondering]), we learned how the church is to ______________ for the Elders through whom Christ provides for her. Now, as we turn to verses 19-25, we learn how we as Christ’s church are to ______________ the Elders He has given us, _______________ the sinning unrepentant elders which He has not given us, and to _______________ identify those true elders whom He ordained for the care of His church.

I. In writing this Spirit-breathed letter addressed to Timothy the Apostle Paul gives us ___ pdp pem timeless and ever-relevant ___________________ regarding the elders of His church.

A. Provision: As we previously learned the church is to consider those ___________ who serve well ________________ of double honor – especially those elders who work hard at preaching and teaching.

B. Protection: The church is to protect her elders, their honor, and the integrity of their teaching by ________________ so much as entertain an ________________ that is made against them by an individual.

1. To ________________ the accused elder and to protect the ________________ at large those who bring an accusation against an elder are to present it to the eldership for their investigation and oversight.

2. To protect the accused elder and the church at large, ________________ on the nature of the sin, if an elder confesses his sin, ________________ of it then the issue is resolved in Christ and the church is spared the heart-break of fallen leadership.

C. Punishment: A unrepentant sinning elder is to be publicly punished for his sin which includes a public ________________ before the entire church and his ________________ from eldership. He has disqualified himself from eldership and the entire church is to know that to be true. This is the Word of the Lord!

1. The public punishment of the unrepentant sinning elder where he is publically rebuked and removed from office will ___________ Christ’s ________________ to fear sin and obey Him!
2. Whether it be in providing, protecting or punishing an elder, the eldership, deacons, and all the congregation are, in the ever present sight of God and of Jesus Christ and of the holy angels, most solemnly charged to maintain these principles without bias, doing nothing in a spirit of partiality, but treating ____ ____________ before God.

D. In properly identifying who it is whom Christ has gifted and called to be an elder of His church we must move slowly, cautiously, and most ________________, testing the prospective elder over much time, constantly considering the qualities and character an elder is to possess as prescribed in I Timothy 3 and Titus 1. The church’s need for an elder can______ be allowed to cause the church to move in ____________!

1. ____________ health is important to one’s good ________________. And in relation to properly identifying whom God has called to eldership one’s good health will aid them in being patient and deliberate concerning the ________________ of elders.

2. Properly identifying those whom ____________ gifts and calls to be an elder in His church takes patience, diligence, and scriptural adherence. But through a proper time of biblical ________________ the distinction between those who are called and those who are not will become evident. Over time and through testing each ____ is self-______________.

Closing Words: The Lord has given us His Word, and His yoke is easy and not burdensome. The church is here instructed in their provision, protection, punishment, and proper Identification of elders. Christ has prepared the right men for the job! Let us ________________ ____________ as He makes His men known.

What a wonderful teaching for the church, for her order, for her protection, that her elders be ordained of God and not man. Church, we must abide by ________________ _________ and principles. One day we will be gone, and you who take up after us must announce these same things, or Heritage Christian Fellowship will go the way of so many, inventing her own way she will no longer be of Christ!

Do you see how ________________ ____________ His church and guides and directs her? And you who believe are the church, so then, do you see how Christ loves you? And for those who have not trusted in Christ, see! See here the greatness of His love! He gave His life for the well-being of the church, His Bride. Won’t you ________________ ____ __________ today, and share in His wonderfully fulfilling love?

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