



9/3/2023 PM

Introduction:

I. CONFRONTING SIN IN THE CHURCH FAMILY (vs. 1-2)

A. With Older Men (vs. 1a)

“do not sharply rebuke an older man”

“but rather appeal to him as a father”

B. With Younger Men (vs. 1b)

“appeal...to the younger men as brothers”

C. With Older Women (vs. 2a)

“appeal to...the older women as mothers”

D. With Younger Women (vs. 2b)

“appeal to...the younger women as sisters, in all purity”

II. CARING FOR WIDOWS IN THE CHURCH FAMILY (vs. 3-16)

A. The Support Principle (vs. 3-8)

1. The Widow's Resources (vs. 3-4)

“honor widows who are widows indeed”

Exodus 22:22-24
Deuteronomy 27:19
Psalm 68:5-6; 146:9
Isaiah 1:17
James 1:27

“but if any widow has children or grandchildren, they must first learn to practice piety in regard to their own family and to make some return to their parents”

“for this is acceptable in the sight of God”

2. The Widow's Reliability (vs. 5-6)

“Now she who is a widow indeed...”

“but she who gives herself to wanton pleasure is dead even while she lives”

3. The Widow's Relatives (vs. 7-8)

"prescribe these things as well, so that they may be above reproach"

"but if anyone does not provide for his own, and especially for those of his household, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever."

B. The Service Program (vs. 9-10)

1. Her Reception (vs. 9)

"a widow is to be put on the list only if she is not less than sixty years old, having been the wife of one man"

2. Her Reputation (vs. 10)

"having a reputation for good works..." (Titus 2:3-5)

C. The Selection Process (vs. 11-16)

1. The Obligation to Refuse Some (vs. 11-13)

"but refuse to put younger widows on the list, for when they feel sensual desires in disregard of Christ, they want to get married..."

"thus incurring condemnation, because they have set aside their previous pledge"

"at the same time they also learn to be idle, as they go around from house to house; and not merely idle, but also gossips and busybodies, talking about things not proper to mention"

2. The Obligation to Advise Others (vs. 14-15)

"Therefore, I want younger widows to get married, bear children, keep house..."

"and give the enemy no occasion for reproach; ¹⁵ for some have already turned aside to follow Satan."

3. The Obligation to Enlist Helpers (vs. 16)

"If any woman who is a believer has dependent widows, she must assist them..."

"and the church must not be burdened, so that it may assist those who are widows indeed"

Conclusion:

- 1) Godly families are at the heart of a godly church.
- 2) Godly individuals have a responsibility to care for elderly parents, especially widows.
- 3) Godly churches have a responsibility to care for the elderly who are bereft.
- 4) Godly elderly people can make a valuable contribution to the cause of Christ.