

Titus 1:6

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

If any be blameless, the husband of one wife, having faithful children not accused of riot or unruly.

Analysis

If any be blameless (ἀνέγκλητος, anegklētos)—not sinless perfection but a reputation above reproach, free from credible accusation. Public Christian witness matters; leaders' lives must adorn doctrine (2:10). **The husband of one wife** (μιάς γυναικὸς ἀνὴρ, mias gynaikos aner)—literally "a one-woman man," emphasizing marital fidelity and sexual purity. This likely excludes polygamists, divorcees remarried for non-biblical reasons, and those with patterns of sexual sin.

Having faithful children not accused of riot or unruly—πιστά (pista, faithful/believing) children demonstrates effective household leadership. ἄσωτία (asotia, riotous living) and ἀνυπότακτα (anypotakta, insubordinate) indicate moral and behavioral chaos. A man who cannot govern his household cannot shepherd God's household (1 Timothy 3:5). This isn't perfectionism but a pattern of godly family culture.

Historical Context

Greco-Roman culture had low sexual standards; temple prostitution, pederasty, and marital infidelity were common. Against this backdrop, Christian leaders' counter-cultural sexual purity and faithful parenting provided powerful gospel witness. The requirement of believing children assumes sufficient parental age and child maturity for assessment.

Related Passages

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Psalms 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Study Questions

1. Does your life bear the marks of blamelessness—not perfection but a reputation for integrity among believers and unbelievers?
2. Are you "a one-woman man" not just in legal marital status but in thought life, media consumption, and emotional fidelity?
3. What does your children's faith and behavior reveal about your household discipleship and spiritual leadership?

Interlinear Text

εἷ τις ἐστιν ἀνέγκλητος μιᾶς γυναικὸς ἀνὴρ τέκνα
G1487 G5100 **be** **blameless** G1520 **wife** **the husband** **children**
G2076 G410 G1135 G435 G5043

ἔχων πιστά μὴ ἐν κατηγορίᾳ ἄσωτίας ἢ
having **faithful** **not** **accused** G2724 **of riot** **or**
G2192 G4103 G3361 G1722 G810 G2228

ἀνυπότακτα
unruly
G506

Additional Cross-References

1 Timothy 3:12 (Parallel theme): Let the deacons be the husbands of one wife, ruling their children and their own houses well.

Ephesians 5:18 (Parallel theme): And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit;

Ezekiel 44:22 (Parallel theme): Neither shall they take for their wives a widow, nor her that is put away: but they shall take maidens of the seed of the house of Israel, or a widow that had a priest before.

Leviticus 21:7 (Parallel theme): They shall not take a wife that is a whore, or profane; neither shall they take a woman put away from her husband: for he is holy unto his God.

Titus 1:10 (Parallel theme): For there are many unruly and vain talkers and deceivers, specially they of the circumcision:

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