Intro:
- Heb. 5:11-14 the responsibility of every Christian is to grow, become spiritually mature
  - those who do that are above reproach and blameless

- 2 Pet. 1:3-11 Peter explains the process of maturing in the Lord, and staying strong
  - vs. 3-4 we are partakers of God’s divine nature, having been granted everything pertaining to life and godliness, through the true knowledge God
  - vs. 5-7 applying all diligence
    - in your faith supply moral excellence
    - and in your moral excellence, knowledge
    - and in your knowledge, self-control
    - and in your self-control, perseverance
    - and in your perseverance, godliness
    - and in your godliness, brotherly kindness
    - and in your brotherly kindness, love
  - vs. 8 if these qualities are increasing, they render us neither useless nor unfruitful in the true knowledge of Jesus Christ
  - mature Christian, above reproach and blameless
  - vs. 10 as long as we practice these things, you will never stumble
  - vs. 11 for in this way the entrance into the eternal kingdom of our Lord Jesus Christ will be abundantly supplied

- series: Portrait of a Christian Who is Above Reproach

Qualifications of elders paint a picture of a Christian who’s above reproach
- 1 Tim. 3:1-7; Tit. 1:5-9 qualifications of elders

2 - PP: summarize qualifications

- qualifications are applicable to all Christians, with few exceptions
  - marriage and having children are optional, personal preference
  - hospitality may not be possible in some circumstances, such as taking care of invalid family members
  - not everyone is apt to teach, but everyone can “help” teach people

- illus.: Paul qualified as elder and deacon, except he wasn’t married and didn’t have children – not married and not have children
  - doesn’t mean he was less of a Christian, or not as valuable as a servant of God, but that his experience and talents lie in other areas than shepherding Christians in a local congregation

- remainder of lesson: take these attribute and discuss individually, which paint a picture of a mature Christian who is above reproach
  - follow 1 Timothy, and add info from Titus as it relates
Mature Christians are aspiring (desiring) to serve God to the best of their abilities (1 Tim.)
- 1 Tim. 3:1 aspire (ambition to do something), desire (strong feeling, want, wish) to be elder
  - mature Christians don’t necessarily aspire to be elders (e.g., women), but they aspire to serve God

- illus.: people have many ambitions
  - some are ambitious professionally, to have a prestigious and high paying job
  - some are ambitious socially, to be the most popular person (e.g., school)
  - but as Christians, our ambitions are first focused on serving God, then focused on earthly things
    - Mk. 12:30 love God with all heart, soul, mind, strength
    - Matt. 6:33 seek first God and His kingdom, worldly things added to us

- 2 Tim. 3:12 desire to live godly
  - Gal. 5:16-17 not desire to live ungodly by fulfilling the desires of the flesh
  - strong feelings, wants and wishes, toward serving God, not toward sin
    - hate sin, abhor evil, flee lusts

- 1 Th. 4:11 ambition to lead a quiet life, attend to own business, work with our hands
  - Ja. 3:14, 16 not have self ambition
    - not in everybody’s business – busybody
      - content to take care of own business, and stay out of everyone elses’

- 2 Cor. 8:11 desire to do good deeds, and must see that we follow through – e.g., Corinthians, benevolence
  - Tit. 2:14 zealous (lit. a zealot, an uncompromising partisan) for good deeds
  - 1 Pet. 3:13 zealous (lit. a zealot, an uncompromising partisan) for what is good

- 2 Cor. 5:9 ambition to please God, whether home or absent (earth or eternity)
  - 2 Cor. 5:1-2 so we groan, desiring to depart this life and go to heaven
    - Phil. 1:23, 24 desire to depart and be with the Lord, but happy to stay on earth for benefit of others
    - Heb. 11:16 desire a better country, heaven

- review above

- thought questions:
  - What are you ambitious for most of all? – desire more than anything else?
  - What do you wake up wanting to do more than anything else in life?
  - What are you striving to obtain more than any other?
Mature Christians are above reproach (blameless) (1 Tim.; Tit.)
- 1 Tim. 3:2a above reproach (blameless): a person to whom a charge of sin cannot be sustained, irreproachable, unrebukable

- 1 Tim. 6:11-14 to be above reproach (blameless) we must
  - vs. 11 flee sin, pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, perseverance, gentleness
  - vs. 12 fight the good fight, taking hold of eternal life
  - vs. 14 keeping the commandments of God – above reproach

- illus.: widows and their family above reproach (blameless)
  - 1 Tim. 5:3-8 commanded to prescribe these things regarding widows and their family, so they will be above reproach – blameless of sin, as children who honor their parents – vs. 7, so above reproach
  - vs. 9-16 qualifications of widows who can be put on the list

- Mature Christians are above reproach (blameless):
  - fleeing from sin and pursuing the righteous thing of God
  - fighting the good fight
  - taking hold of eternal life
  - keeping the commandments of God

- thought questions:
  - Are you aspiring to serve God to the best of your ability?
  - Are you above reproach and blameless, fleeing sin and pursuing the things of God with all your might?

- note: things talked about below is a description of a person above reproach – a mature Christian

End Part I: Summary / Inv.
- mature Christians are aspiring to serve God to the best of their ability, and above reproach

- inv.
Beginning: Part II
- Heb. 5:12-14 responsibility to grow and mature, desiring to please God and be above reproach

2 - PP: review qualifications of elders from 1 Tim. and Tit. (SR - 1 Tim. 3:1-7)
- all mature Christians should meet with few exceptions – marriage, children, hospitality in extreme cases
  - series: Portrait of a Christian Who is Above Reproach

A Christian above reproach is in a lawful marriage, if he's married (1 Tim.; Tit.)
- 1 Tim. 3:2a qualification of elder: husband of one wife – in a lawful marriage
  - Christians have the option to marry, but men qualified to be elders must be married
  - Matt. 5:32; 19:9 married, neither individual divorced before unless divorced spouse for fornication (porneia)
  - Christian above reproach who is married will be in a lawful marriage – the husband or wife of one person

- 1 Cor. 7:7, 25-26, 32-35, 36 people who don’t marry have advantages over those who marry
  - illus.: Paul had advantages over other apostles, because he was free from the care and responsibility of a wife
  - we all have different talents and abilities, sometimes because of our station in life
    - if we are unmarried, we have benefits that help us serve the Lord
      - illus.: Paul was free from the care and responsibility of a wife that helped him in service to the Lord in some areas
    - if we are married, we have benefits that help us serve the Lord
      - illus.: Peter had a wife which helped him in service to the Lord in other areas – elder
      - the important thing is not being married or unmarried, but serving the Lord to the best of our ability

- thought question:
  - Are you serving the Lord to the best of your ability, taking advantage of your station in life to the progress of the gospel?
  - Are you a Christian who is above reproach?
A Christian aspiring to serve God, above reproach: lawful marriage if married

- 1 Tim. 3:2a qualification of elder: temperate
  - the Greek word here (nephaleos) directly relates to intoxicates
    - Christians, not intoxicated and therefore sober, vigilant, watchful
    - one who is intoxicated cannot be sober, vigilant, watchful
  - thus, a temperate Christian is vigilant and sober, watchful over his own conduct, and on guard against every form of sin

- 1 Th. 5:4-8 we are to be alert and sober, not like people who get drunk, having faith, love, hope, salvation
- 2 Tim. 4:5 we are sober in all things
- 1 Pet. 1:13 we prepare our minds for action, keeping sober in spirit
- 1 Pet. 4:7 we are sober in spirit for the purpose of prayer, the end of all things is near
- 1 Pet. 5:8 we are sober in spirit, on the alert, devil

- because we are sober, we can be watchful for our souls
  - 2 Jn. 1:8 we are watchful over our souls, that we don’t lost our salvation
- Heb. 13:17a elders watch over our souls, and will give an account

- Are you a Christian who is above reproach and blameless? – temperate, vigilant, watchful, alert

A Christian above reproach is prudent (sober, sober-minded) (1 Tim.; Tit.)
- 1 Tim. 3:2b prudent (sober, sober-minded)
  - Greek (sophron): person of sound mind, controlling his desires and impulses and thus prudent, sensible, sober-minded
  - person not under the control of his passions, but rather in control of his thoughts and feelings

- Tit. 1:8 qualification of elder, sophron translated “sensible” (NASB), “sober” (KJV), “sober-minded” (NKJV) qualification of elder
  - Tit. 2:2 older men “sensible” (sophron)
  - Tit. 2:5 older men “sensible” (sophron)
  - all Christians must be in control of their passions

- all Christians must be sensible, sober – in control of their passions – how to. . .
  - 1 Cor. 15:31 die daily
- Col. 3:5 considering the members of his mortal body as dead to immorality
  - Col. 3:1a baptized: raised up with Christ (Col. 2:12)
  - Col. 3:1b seeking the things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God
  - Col. 3:2 mind set on the things above, not on the things that are on earth
  - Col. 3:3 because died (baptized), life is hidden with Christ in God
  - Col. 3:4 reward: when Christ is revealed, we’ll also will be revealed with Him in glory

- Are you a Christian who is above reproach and blameless? – prudent, sober, sober-minded, sensible
  - in control of your passions – thoughts and feelings
A Christian above reproach is **respectable** (1 Tim.)
- 1 Tim. 3:2 respectable (of good behavior)
  - Greek (*kosmios*): seemly, good conduct, modest
  - person who acts and presents himself respectfully – behavior, dress, grooming

- all Christians are to be respectable
  - 1 Tim. 2:9 *kosmios* translated “proper” (NASB), “modest” (KJV, NKJV)
    - respectfully attire that doesn’t bring reproach upon self or Christ
    - illus.: not dressed and adorned like a wild, rebellious pop culture icon – wrong message
  - 1 Cor. 13:5a not act unbecomingly (unseemly)
    - behavior that is proper and graceful, always above reproach
    - illus.: behavior such that people will assume you’re a good and decent person, and possibly a Christian

- Col. 4:5-6 wise conduct toward unbelievers, gracious speech, seasoned with salt
  - 2 Cor. 8:21 have regard for what is honorable, not only in the sight of the Lord, but also in the sight of men
    - conduct and speech that’s respectable (good) in the sight of all men, even unbelievers

- Are you a Christian who is above reproach and blameless? – respectable (good behavior), in the sight of all men, even unbelievers

End Part II: Summary / Inv.
- mature Christians are aspiring to serve God to the best of their ability, and above reproach

- Christian above reproach:
  - in a lawful marriage, if he’s are married
  - temperate – vigilant, watchful, alert
  - prudent – sober, sober-minded, sensible
  - respectable (good behavior) – in the sight of all men, even unbelievers

- inv.
mature Christian aspiring to serve God, above reproach: lawful marriage if married, temperate, prudent, respectable

SR=Tit. 1:5-9

 BinaryTree: Part III
 - Heb. 5:12-14 responsibility to grow and mature, desiring to please God and be above reproach

 - series: Portrait of a Christian Who is Above Reproach

 - review: mature Christian aspiring to serve God, above reproach:  
  - in a lawful marriage, if he’s are married  
  - temperate – vigilant, watchful, alert  
  - prudent – sober, sober-minded, sensible  
  - respectable (good behavior) – in the sight of all men, even unbelievers

 BinaryTree: 2 - PP: review qualifications of elders  
 - point out qualifications from previous lesson  
 - all mature Christians should meet with few exceptions – marriage, children, hospitality in extreme cases
A Christian above reproach is **hospitable** (1 Tim.; Tit.)

- **1 Tim. 3:2 hospitable**
  - friendly reception and treatment of guests, or strangers, in a warm and generous way (Random House Dictionary)

- **1 Pet. 4:9 commanded** to be hospitable, without complaint
  - commanded: not optional, not just what some do, something all do unless prevented by circumstances such as taking care of invalid relative
  - without complaint: attitude - willing, desiring

- **illus.: Gaius**
  - 3 Jn. 1:5-7 acting faithfully, hospitable to brethren, even when strangers, provided needs

- **Why do some Christians “not” want to be hospitable?** – complain
  - takes extra work:
    - have to clean house, keep it reasonably clean, to receive guests
    - have to clean up after people, when they leave
  - don’t want to be “inconvenienced”
    - have people in house, possible living for a few days – illus.: gospel meeting
    - have to share stuff – bed, toys, cars

- pride:
  - not think have good enough house compared to others
  - not want people to come in and mess up what you have
    - accidents happen, thing will be broken and harmed – furniture, floors, walls
  - not want neighbors to see the poor members of the congregation, their cars and dress

- greed / selfishness:
  - want to dedicate time and resources toward self, personal wants, not toward others
    - have to give up other things to be hospitable

- unwilling to change (repent):
  - to be a Christian, we have to change and not live like the world (Lk. 13:3)
  - some Christians are unwilling to repent, and be hospitable to the saints – lifestyle change

- **Rom. 12:13 practice hospitality**
  - practice (dioke) (Rom. 12:13): to seek after eagerly, earnestly endeavor to acquire

- **illus.: R - Rom. 14:19 “pursue”** (to seek after eagerly, earnestly endeavor to acquire) things make for peace – “pursue” hospitality

- **illus.: R - Phil. 3:12, 14 “press on”** (to seek after eagerly, earnestly endeavor to acquire), eternal life, prize – athletic metaphor, running race – “press on” to hospitality

- note: dioke (dee-o’-ko) is also used in a bad way of those who pursue Christians to harm them, translated “persecute”
  - Christians pursue righteousness with God, and pursue one another for good (hospitality), **while the world pursues** them for bad (persecute them)
  - 2 Tim 3:12 “Indeed, all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will be **persecuted (dioke).”**

- practicing hospitality to the saints is a mark of being a Christian, and sets us apart from the world

- Are you a Christian who is above reproach and blameless? - practicing hospitality, without complaining
A Christian above reproach is **not addicted to wine** (1 Tim.; Tit.)
- 1 Tim. 3:3a not addicted to wine
  - wine referenced in this Greek word (*oinos*) is not strong wine (*gleukos*) and typically has a 2-3% alcohol content with a max of 5% alcohol
    - it was typically mixed with water, diluting it so that there was almost no alcohol in the drink
- *paroinos* (*par'-oy-nos*): denotes one who sits long at his wine (*oinos*), thus is addicted
  - NASB: “addicted to wine”
  - NKJ: “given to wine” (given himself over to it, and the behaviors associated with one who is addicted)
  - ASV: “brawler” (one who sits long at his wine is a brawler, noisy fighter or quarreler)
  - one would have to drink a long time to become drunk with this wine (*oinos*), which was 2-3% alcohol when not mixed with water

- Christians above reproach aren’t addicted to wine:
  - 1 Pet. 4:3 not drunk, not carousing (wild drinking parties), not drinking parties (mild drinking parties)
    - not going to parties where there is drinking, even if they don’t drink
  - 1 Tim. 3:2 temperate: not intoxicated to any degree (buzz)
    - thus are vigilant, sober, watchful, alert, on guard against every form of sin
  - 2 Cor. 6:14; Eph. 5:11 Christians expose darkness, not party with darkness

- **illus.: Timothy**, who was above reproach
  - 1 Tim. 5:23 Timothy apparently didn’t drink wine, but because of stomach problems Paul told him to, “use a little wine for the sake of your stomach and your frequent ailments”

- Are you a Christian **who is above reproach and blameless**? - temperate, never intoxicated, and certainly not addicted to any intoxicant
- General character traits of a Christian above reproach – 1 Tim. 3 and Tit. not exactly the same, but both describe the character of a man qualified to be an elder (above reproach)
- all Christians should have these characteristics, not just men qualified to be elders
- shows maturity and character

- not pugnacious (striker), one who is ready to fight and quarrel at all times (1 Tim.3:3; Tit. 1:7)
- not going around angry all the time, picking fights and being argumentative
- illus.: not living a “soap opera” life – on TV and radio and in movies “macho” characters often act this way

- not self-willed (Tit. 1:7)
- mostly interested in pleasing Himself, not God, and thus not his neighbor
- wants things his way, and none other
- would lord himself and his will over others
- 2 Pet. 2:10 false teachers are self-willed, not elders of the Lord’s church

- not quick-tempered (Tit. 1:7)
- in control of his emotions, and thus in control of his temper
- anger is controlled, thus he is able to lead God’s people
- Eph. 4:26 not let sun go down on his anger

- loves what is good (Tit.)
- affections toward good, not evil
- 1 Cor. 13:6 love, doesn’t rejoice in unrighteousness, but rejoices with the truth
- illus.: Lot, oppressed by conduct of the wicked – cf. us today? – music, TV, movies, friends, co-workers

- just (Tit. 1:8)
- living by the laws of God, and making judgments in accord with those laws
- puts God’s word 1st in everything
- honest about himself and properly analyzing himself with God’s word
- thus can apply God’s word in other areas when judgments must be made

- devout (holy) (Tit. 1:8)
- having set self apart for service to God
- 1 Pet. 1:13-15 prepared mind for action, as obedient child, holy in all behavior

- self-controlled (temperate) (Tit. 1:8)
- exercising strong control over self, passions – curbing and restraining self
- 1 Cor. 9:25 exercising self-control in all things
- Heb. 5:14 trained senses to discern between good and evil, and living as faithful child of God

- gentle (1 Tim. 3:3)
- fair, mild, and gentle manner – not rough, violent, harsh, severe
- approachable, others aren’t afraid to talk to, even when they’ve done something wrong
- Phil. 4:5 our gentleness is to be known by all men
- **peaceable** (not a brawler, not contentious) *(1 Tim. 3:3)*
  - *not given to contention or quarreling* – not one who likes to argue all the time
  - *2 Tim. 2:24* Lord's bond-servant must **not be quarrelsome**, but be **kind to all**, able to teach, **patient when wronged**

- **free from the love of money** (not covetous) *(1 Tim. 3:3)*
  - *affections are not directed toward money, but the things of the Lord*
    - though we need love, our affections are not on financial matters
  - *involved with work of church and work in kingdom*
    - not so busy chasing financial gain, as to neglect work in kingdom – illus.: elder
  - *Heb. 13:5* make sure that your **character is free from the love of money, being content** with what you have

- **not fond of sordid gain** (filthy lucre) *(Tit. 1:7; 1 Tim. 3:3 KJ)*
  - not desire financial gain through sinful means
  - doesn’t love money, and would not be party to sin in order to get it

- Are you a Christian who is **above reproach and blameless**? - do you have the basic character of a Christian who is above reproach
  - review PP

  - do you need to change anything in your life, so you can be above reproach

**End Part III: Summary / Inv.**
- mature Christians are aspiring to serve God to the best of their ability, and above reproach

- **Christian above reproach:**
  - in a lawful marriage, if he’s are married
  - **temperate** – vigilant, watchful, alert
  - **prudent** – sober, sober-minded, sensible
  - **respectable (good behavior)** – in the sight of all men, even unbelievers
  - **hospitable** – friendly reception and treatment of guests, or strangers
  - **not addicted to wine (intoxicants)**
  - **behavior befitting a Christian**

- inv.
mature Christian aspiring to serve God, above reproach: lawful marriage if married, temperate, prudent, respectable, not addicted to wine, character, peaceable, free from the love of money, not fond of sordid gain

SR=1 Tim. 3:1-7

➤ Beginning: Part IV
- Heb. 5:12-14 responsibility to grow and mature, desiring to please God and be above reproach

- series: Portrait of a Christian Who is Above Reproach

- review: mature Christian aspiring to serve God, above reproach:
  - in a lawful marriage, if he’s are married
  - temperate – vigilant, watchful, alert
  - prudent – sober, sober-minded, sensible
  - respectable (good behavior) – in the sight of all men, even unbelievers
  - living a moral life as God directs in His word

➤ 2 - PP: review qualifications of elders
- point out qualifications from previous lesson
- all mature Christians should meet with few exceptions – marriage, children, hospitality in extreme cases

➤ A Christian above reproach manages (rules) his household well, having children who believe
- Christians have the option to have children, but men qualified to be elders must have children

- 1 Tim. 3:4-5; Tit. 1:6 experience managing household well, so that children are faithful Christians, prerequisite for shepherding house of God
  - father’s behavior: dignity (gravity) – not yelling, screaming, provoking to wrath, etc.
  - children’s behavior: not accused of dissipation (riot) or rebellion
  - # of children: 4 major positions in the church, interpreting qualification, word “children”
    - must have at least 1 child, and all children must be Christians
    - must have at least 1 child, and only one has to the a Christian
    - must have 2 or more children, and all children must be Christians
    - must have 2 or more children, and all children must be Christians
  - position of elders at SL:
    - must have at least 1 child, and all children must be Christians

- man needs experience as a spiritual shepherd in his home, prepares him to be a shepherd of the Lord’s church
  - it shows that he’s qualified and able as a spiritual leader, by the way he’s raised his family

- this qualification gives us insight into best way to manage our households (wife, children) – as elders shepherd a congregation
  - 1 Pet. 5:4 Jesus is the Chief Shepherd
  - if Jesus, as Lord, shepherds us, we should shepherd others under our authority

- Are you a Christian who is above reproach and blameless? – raising children in the Lord
  - some kids don’t respect parents, and nothing can be done - OT stoned - but most trainable
mature Christian aspiring to serve God, above reproach: lawful marriage if married, temperate, prudent, respectable, not addicted to wine, character, peaceable, free from the love of money, not fond of sordid gain, managing household well, children who are Christians

A Christian above reproach is **holding fast the faithful word**

- **Tit. 1:9a** holding fast the faithful word
  - “holding fast” means to *hold oneself face to face with, to cling to* (Robertson) – for dear life (eternal)
  - *illus.: rodeo, riding a bucking horse, holding on for dear life* – paint picture
  - **Lk. 8:15** parable of the sower, good soil holds fast to the seed (word), bears fruit with perseverance

- **Phil. 2:16; Col. 2:19a** hold fast to word of life, and Jesus (head) – let go of word, lose soul – cf. rodeo
  - **1 Th. 5:21** examine everything carefully; *hold fast to that which is good*
  - **1 Tim. 6:3** the doctrine *conforming to godliness* – actions, behavior, above reproach
  - **Heb. 4:14** hold fast our confession – Jesus Son of God
  - **Rev. 2:13** hold fast to Jesus’ name, and did not deny His faith
  - **Rev. 2:25** hold fast until Jesus comes
  - **Rev. 3:11** hold fast what you have, so that no one will take your crown – hold fast or give up salvation

- **illus.: Esau** – not hold fast, not saved, tears
  - **Heb. 12:15-17** Esau didn’t hold fast to his birthright, gave it up for a single meal (stew)
  - **Heb. 12:18-21** “For”, we have not come to . . .
  - **Heb. 12:22-24** “But you have come to Mount Zion. . .
  - **Heb. 12:28-29** hold fast, reverence and awe, if not punished by God (consuming fire)

- **Tit. 1:9-14** the work all mature Christians should do, equipped with God’s word
  - **exhort** in sound doctrine
  - **refute** those who contradict
  - **silencing false teachers** by convicting them with the truth
  - **reproving** severely false teachers

- **Are you a Christian who is above reproach and blameless?**
  - holding fast to word, Jesus, confession, birthright as child of God, teaching and exhorting, refuting false doctrine

A Christian above reproach has a **good reputation with those outside the church** – unbelievers

- **1 Tim. 3:7a** good reputation with everyone, including unbelievers
  - if we’re not above reproach, we’ll fall into the reproach and the snare of the devil
  - when we exhort, refute, and reprove properly, we have a good reputation among people who don’t believe

- **how? by doing all the things talked about in this series**
  - all Christians above reproach have a good reputation with unbelievers – makes us evangelistic

- **Are you a Christian who is above reproach and blameless?**
  - good reputation with everyone, including unbelievers
Men qualified to be elders are also able to teach, and not new converts
- 1 Tim. 3:2b, 6a able to teach, not a new convert
  - Christians: all able to teach in some fashion
  - elders: must formally teach and publically exhort, refute, reprove – can’t be new converts

- Heb. 5:11-14 the responsibility of every Christian is to grow, become spiritually mature
  - those who do that are above reproach and blameless

- 2 Pet. 1:3-11 Peter explains the process of maturing in the Lord, and staying strong
  - vs. 3-4 we are partakers of God’s divine nature, having been granted everything pertaining to life and godliness, through the true knowledge God
  - vs. 5-7 applying all diligence
    - in your faith supply moral excellence
    - and in your moral excellence, knowledge
    - and in your knowledge, self-control
    - and in your self-control, perseverance
    - and in your perseverance, godliness
    - and in your godliness, brotherly kindness
    - and in your brotherly kindness, love
  - vs. 8 if these qualities are increasing, they render us neither useless nor unfruitful in the true knowledge of Jesus Christ
    - mature Christian, above reproach and blameless
  - vs. 10 as long as we practice these things, you will never stumble
  - vs. 11 for in this way the entrance into the eternal kingdom of our Lord Jesus Christ will be abundantly supplied

- series: Portrait of a Christian Who is Above Reproach

- Are you a Christian above reproach?
  - if not, what changes should you make today
  - if you are, you are showing Christ to the world, and have a home awaiting you in heaven

Inv.
- inv.: begin today by becoming a Christian