

THE OFFICE OF THE DEACON

Acts 6:1-7
I Tim. 3:8-13

I. NEED FOR DEACONS

- A. Origin in Book of Acts
- B. Work in local church

II. MEANING OF WORD DEACON - (Foundation upon which all ministry is built)

- A. Diakoneo - literally means "to be an attendant, to wait upon"
 - 1. Waiting on someone at table (Luke 22:24-27)
 - 2. Serving someone in general way (Mt. 4:11; 27:55; Acts 15:22)
 - 3. Caring or taking care of (II Cor. 3:3; Acts 6:2)
 - 4. Helping or supporting someone (Lu. 8:3 - women minister to Jesus)
 - 5. Translated: minister, serve, administer, office of deacon
- B. Diakonia - service or attendance as a servant
 - 1. Generally of all manner of service (Heb. 1:14 - angels)
 - 2. Service necessary for preparation of meal (Lu. 10:40)
 - 3. Service or function of all NT ministries
 - 4. Used in the sense of aid, support, or distribution of alms and giving to poor (Acts 11:29, Rom. 15:31, I Cor. 8:4)
 - 5. Specific ministry in Body of Christ (Rom. 12:7 - wait on ministry)
 - 6. Translated: serving, ministry, ministration, relief, office, administrations, ministering
- C. Diakonos - waiter, attendant, servant, or minister
 - 1. Servant (John 2:5,9 - wedding at Cana)
 - 2. Civil ruler (Rom. 13:4)
 - 3. Translated: minister, servant, deacon
- D. Diako - root word on which other words built - to run or to hasten on errands

III. QUALIFICATIONS

- A. Moral qualifications
 - 1. Not double-tongued
 - 2. Not given to wine
 - 3. Not greedy of money
 - 4. Blameless
 - 5. Proven
- B. Domestic qualifications
 - 1. Husband of one wife
 - 2. Ruling his own house well
- C. Spiritual qualifications
 - 1. Full of Holy Ghost
 - 2. Full of wisdom

3. Grave - denotes a seriousness of mind and character; inspires reverence
 - a. Denotes seriousness of mind and character which should characterize his whole service; inspires reverence, awe and respect of others
4. Holding the mystery of the faith in a pure conscience

IV. TERM OF OFFICE - As long as do work of a deacon and is qualified under the original requirement for that office

V. HONOR AND REWARD OF DEACONS

- A. Requires diligence, faithfulness, responsiveness, sensitivity, thoroughness, and sacrifice
- B. Preparatory for advancement
 1. Mark served Paul and Barnabas; Timothy served Paul
 2. Stephen and Philip promoted