

Lesson 15 The Qualifications and Work of a Deacon

1 Tim. 3:8-13

“Likewise deacons must be reverent, not double-tongued, not given to much wine, not greedy for money...”



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What is A Deacon?

- Anglicized form of the Greek word diakonos, meaning a "runner," "messenger," "servant."
- The Bible does not exactly specify what the duties of deacons should be.
- As “servants” of the church – one that promotes the welfare and prosperity of the local church by carrying out assigned tasks.

II. The Deacon's qualifications (I Timothy 3:8-13).

Before reviewing the qualifications listed, we need to recognize two facts.

- These qualifications are listed in order to qualify not disqualify men.
- In general, the qualifications are growth-oriented.

Paul listed nine indicators of men who could fill the office of deacon.

- “Reverent”
- “Not double-tongued”
- “Not given to much wine”
- “Not greedy for money”
- “Holding the mystery of the faith with a pure conscience”
- “Being found blameless”
- “Husbands of one wife”
- “Ruling their children and their own houses well”
- “Their wives must be reverent, not slanderers, temperate, faithful in all things.”

III. The Work of Deacons.

Some misconceptions.

- Elders are over spiritual matters, deacons are over physical matters.
- Elders are the only ones charged with the responsibility of rule and oversight.
- Deacons are not junior elders.

Conclusion

- A church **needs both** elders and deacons.
- To be selected to serve as a deacon is an honor **but it is not an honorary position.**
- They have a special incentive given them in 1 Timothy 3:13-"For those who have served well as deacons **obtain for themselves a good standing** and great boldness in the faith which is in Christ Jesus."