

## Qualifications of Deacons

Text: 1 Timothy 3:8-13

Introduction:

- B. The office of deacon is an important office.- 1 Timothy 3:13
- C. But to fill the office, men must meet divinely ordained qualifications, be selected and be appointed.- 1 Timothy 3:8; Acts 6:3
- D. What are the qualifications of deacons? How should they be selected and appointed?

I. Qualifications:

- A. 1 Timothy 3:8-13
  - 1. grave: seriousness of mind reflected in character and conduct that demand respect
  - 2. not double-tongued: “saying one thing with one person, another with another, with intent to deceive.” (Thayer. 152)
  - 3. not given to much wine: “must not be a drunkard”(Dewelt)- cf. 1 Peter 4:4; 1 Timothy 5:23
  - 4. not greedy of filthy lucre: “eager for base gain” (Thayer . 17) - 1 Timothy 6:10; John 12:1-6
  - 5. Holding the mystery of the faith in a pure conscience: a knowledge of the word of God, steadfast loyalty to it and diligent application of it to one’s own life- cf. Hebrews 5:14
  - 6. the husbands of one wife
  - 7. ruling their children and their own houses well- Ephesians 5:23-25; 6:4
- B. Acts 6:3
  - 1. honest report: “of good reputation” (**NASB**) - cf. Acts 10:22; Hebrews 11:2,39
  - 2. full of the Holy Ghost- Ephesians 5:18-19; Colossians 3:16; Galatians 5:22-23
  - 3. wisdom- James 3:17

II. Selection & Appointment

- A. selected by congregation - Acts 6:3,5
- B. proved ... found blameless - 1 Timothy 3:10
  - 1. proved: “to test, examine, prove, scrutinize to see whether a thing be genuine or not, as metals” (Thayer. 154)
  - 2. blameless: “signifies that which cannot be called to account..., i.e., with nothing laid to one’s charge as the result of public investigation..... It implies not merely acquittal, but the absence of even a charge or accusation against a person” (Vine. 1:131)
- C. appointment- Acts 6:3,6; cf. Titus 1:5

Conclusion:

- A. The office of a deacon is a work which any godly man could desire.- 1 Timothy 3:13
- B. But men must first be qualified.- 1 Timothy 3:8
- C. “Wherefore, brethren, look ye out among you....”