

The Work of Deacons

Introduction:

- A. Could you show from the Bible what the work of a deacon is?
 - B. This is an important office in the Lord's church.- 1 Timothy 3:13
 - C. What is the work of a deacon?
- I. All the New Testament terms used to describe the deacon and his work pertain to serving.
- A. *diakonos*: servant, minister, deacon - Matthew 23:11; Philippians 1:1; 1 Timothy 3:8
 - B. *diakoneo*: serve- Matthew 25:44; 1 Timothy 3:10
 - C. *diakonia*: service- Luke 10:40; Acts 6:1
- II. Were the seven men of Acts 6:1-6 deacons?
- A. Of what does the “office of a deacon” consist?
 - 1. “office of a deacon” (1 Timothy 3:10,13) = “serve” (.Acts 6:2)
 - 2. There were also qualifications to be met.- 1 Timothy 3:8-13
 - B. Do the men of Acts 6:1-6 meet these requirements?
 - 1. work - Acts 6:1-2
 - 2. qualifications- Acts 6:3
 - 3. selection- Acts 6:3
 - 4. appointment- Acts 6:3
 - C. Either the seven men of Acts 6:1-6 were deacons, or they were appointed to some other, unknown office in the local church which did the work implied in the phrase “office of a deacon.”
- III. What, then, is the work of deacons?
- A. The primary task of the seven was to discharge the “daily ministration” by serving tables.- Acts 6:1-3
 - B. But by leaving the apostles free to accomplish “the ministry of the word” it is necessarily implied they were charged with the discharge of the physical duties of the church under the oversight of the apostles.- Acts 6:4
 - C. The elders of the church should devote themselves to shepherding and overseeing and assign the physical details to the deacons.- Acts 20:28
 - D. The preacher should not be used as if he were a deacon.- Acts 20:20

Conclusion:

- A. The deacons have the valuable task of discharging the details of physical duties of the church thus leaving the elders free to oversee and shepherd the church and the preacher to preach and teach.
- B. This is a good work that good men should desire.- 1 Timothy 3:13