



The Role And Responsibilities Of Deacons

1 Timothy 3:8-13

What Is A Deacon?

- Thayers Greek Dictionary - *diakonos*-
“one who executes the commands of another, especially of a master, a servant, an attendant, a minister”
 - the servant of a king
 - a deacon, one who, by virtue of the office assigned to him by the church, cares for the poor and has charge of and distributes the money collected for their use
 - a waiter, one who serves food and drink

How *Diakonos* Is Used

- Matthew 20:25,26 — “But Jesus called them to him and said, ‘You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. It shall not be so among you. But whoever would be great among you must be your servant (*diakonos*).’”

How *Diakonos* Is Used

- Matthew 22:11-13 – “But when the king came in to look at the guests, he saw there a man who had no wedding garment. And he said to him, 'Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding garment?' And he was speechless. Then the king said to the attendants, (*diakonos*) 'Bind him hand and foot and cast him into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’”

How *Diakonos* Is Used

- John 2:5 – “His mother said to the servants (*diakonos*), “Do whatever he tells you.”

Kinds Of Deacons

- Kingdom Rulers – Romans 13:1-4 – “Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God. Therefore whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment. For rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but to bad. Would you have no fear of the one who is in authority? Then do what is good, and you will receive his approval, for he is God's servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword in vain. For he is the **servant** (*diakonos*) of God, an avenger who carries out God's wrath on the wrongdoer.

Kinds Of Deacons

- Jesus – Romans 15:5-8 – “May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. For I tell you that Christ became a **servant** (diakonos) to the circumcised to show God's truthfulness, in order to confirm the promises given to the patriarchs.”

Kinds Of Deacons

- Women – Romans 16:1,2 – “I commend to you our sister Phoebe, a **servant** (*diakonos*) of the church at Cenchreae, that you may welcome her in the Lord in a way worthy of the saints, and help her in whatever she may need from you, for she has been a patron of many and of myself as well.”

Other Deacons

- Timothy – “A minister (*diakonos*) of God” in
1 Thessalonians 3:2
- Paul – “a minister (*diakonos*) according to the
stewardship from God that was given to me for
you, to make the word of God fully known,”
Colossians 1:25
- The Hebrew People – “Are they servants
(*diakonos*) of Christ? I am a better one--I am
talking like a madman--with far greater labors,
far more imprisonments, with countless
beatings, and often near death. 2 Cor. 11:23

The Men Of The *Diakonia*

- “Paul and Timothy, servants of Christ Jesus, To all the saints in Christ Jesus who are at Philippi, with the overseers and **deacons.**” Philippians 1:1
- 1 Timothy 3:8-13

Who Were These Men?

- They were men who carried out the *diakonia*.
- Acts 6:1-4 “Now in these days when the disciples were increasing in number, a complaint by the Hellenists arose against the Hebrews because their widows were being neglected in the daily distribution (*diakonia*). And the twelve summoned the full number of the disciples and said, “It is not right that we should give up preaching the word of God to serve tables. Therefore, brothers, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we will appoint to this duty. But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry (*diakonia*) of the word.”

What Was A Deacon's Work?

- Not Just Table Servers!
- They held the mystery of faith – 1 Timothy 3:9
- They served the Lord and His Church –
1 Timothy 3:10
- They assisted the elders in their work.
- They assist the spiritually weak as well as the strong.
- They are helpers for you.
- One considering the role must remember that to decide to be a deacon, is to decide to serve!

The Kind Of Deacons We Need

- A man who can keep a confidence.
- A man who finishes a work he starts.
- A man who is individually productive.
- A man who is spiritually minded.
- A man who is able to listen.
- A man who has a vision for the church.
- A man who is flexible in his submission to the elders and church he serves.
- A man who is not dictatorial in nature.
- A man who looks for the positive, not on the negative.
- A man who is of faith, communicating with God.