

August 30, 2015
Sermon
Lesson 12
1 Timothy 3:8-13

ORDER IN THE CHURCH—PART III (DEACONS)

Main Idea: God's church must be served by deacons who serve well!

- Concept of servanthood (deaconhood)
 - Characteristic of Christ (Matt 20:28; Mk 10:45)
 - Characteristic of the Apostles (1 Cor 3:5)
 - Characteristic of every Christian (Matt 20:26; Mk 10:45)
 - Special characteristic of the church office of “deacon” (Phil 1:1; 1 Tim 3:8)
- Concept of deaconhood
 - Prototype of deaconhood in the early Church (Acts 6:1-4)
 - Distinction between elder/deacon (overseer/servant) (Phi 1:1; 1 Tim 3:8-13)
- Qualifications
 - Shared qualifications (with the elder/bishop)
 - “Above reproach” (2, 10); “Husband of one wife” (3, 12); “Not addicted to wine” (3, 8); “Not a lover of money” (3, 8); “Manage households well” (4-5, 12)
 - Elder qualifications not specified for deacons
 - “Sober-minded” (2); “Respectable” (2); “Hospitable” (2); “Able to teach” (2); “Not violent” (3); “Gentle” (3); “Not quarrelsome” (3); “Not a recent convert” (6); “Well thought of by outsiders” (7)
- Distinct deacon qualifications
 - “Dignified” (8)
 - “Not double-tongued” (8)
 - “Holding the mystery of the faith with a clear conscience” (9)
 - Wives must also be qualified (11)
 - ✦ “Dignified”; “Not slanderers”; “Sober-minded”; “Faithful in all things” (11)

*May God continue to raise up the deacons
by which the Church will grow and thrive and glorify God!*