

Deacons (2)

1 Timothy 3:8-13

Introduction: Today we continue with our study on Deacons. We will look at the qualifications for deacons and their wives.

I. Qualifications Of Deacons.

- A. Reverent (Grave, KJV).
 - 1. “August, venerable, reverend; to be venerated for character, honorable.”
 - 2. A deacon is an honorable man; one who is serious, dignified.
- B. Not double-tongued.
 - 1. Really means not using “double-speech.”
 - 2. Must not say one thing to one and another thing to some one else.
 - 3. A straight-forward man.
- C. Not given to much wine.
 - 1. New Testament wine was not necessarily always alcoholic.
 - 2. Must not give even the impression of being a drunkard.
- D. Not greedy for money (filthy lucre, KJV).
 - 1. Money obtained dishonestly.
 - 2. May mean greedy, but more likely means shift.
 - 3. Loose with truth, untrustworthy.
- E. Holding the mystery of the faith with a pure conscience.
 - 1. The faith that has been revealed (**Col. 1:24-29**).
 - 2. Firm in convictions, not “wishy-washy.”
- F. First be tested (proved, KJV).
 - 1. Have demonstrated a willing disposition.
 - 2. Have pitched in without being asked or begged.
- G. Blameless.
 - 1. “Against whom no evil charge can be sustained”
 - 2. Must be an established charge (**2 Cor. 13:1**).
- H. The husband of one wife.
 - 1. Reads same as for elder (**1 Tim. 3:2; Titus 1:6**).
 - 2. Rules out single man.
 - 3. Whatever the New Testament says this is.
 - 4. Legally and lawfully married.
- I. Ruling their children and their own houses well.
 - 1. As examples of ability to serve through leading.
 - 2. A family under control because he is in control and is also in control of himself.

II. Qualifications Of Deacon's Wife.

- A.** Faithful in all things.
 - 1.** Implies a Christian.
 - 2.** Trusted and reliable.
 - 3.** Faithful in worship and in life.
- B.** Reverent (Grave, KJV). {Same as for husband}.
- C.** Not slanderous.
 - 1.** Can't be fault finders.
 - 2.** Must not make false accusations.
 - 3.** Must be discreet about husband's activities in service.
- D.** Temperate (Sober, KJV).
 - 1.** A well-balanced person.
 - 2.** Practices moderation.
 - 3.** Self-controlled.

Conclusion: There are a number of churches being led by elders who do not have deacons. The church at Tuckerman is one of them. We have men here who are qualified. Will they serve?

“Therefore, brethren, seek out from among you seven men of good reputation, full of the Holy Spirit and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business” (Acts 6:3).