

7 - CONCERNING DEACONS (1 TIMOTHY 3:8-16)

I. The Qualifications of a Deacon (3:8-12)

Biblical Note: Deacon

The word "deacon" means one who serves. The position of deacon was possibly started by the apostles in the Jerusalem church (see Acts 6:1-6). The deacons were selected to care for the physical needs of the congregation. Deacons were leaders in the church. While their qualifications are similar to those of the elders (1 Timothy 3:1-7), their roles are different as deacons are to carry out the practical tasks of running and maintaining the church.

A. Qualifications (3:8-10)

1. Worthy of respect (3:8a)

- Paul states that a deacon must be _____.

2. Sincere (3:8b)

- Paul states that a deacon must be _____.

3. Not addicted (3:8c)

- Paul states that a deacon must not be _____.

4. Concerning money (3:8d)

- Paul states that a deacon must not be _____.

5. A clear conscience (3:9)

- Paul states that a deacon must have _____.

- "The mystery of the faith" refers to the plan of salvation that is _____.

6. Tested (3:10a)

- Paul states that a deacon must first be _____ before serving as a deacon.

7. Above reproach (3:10b)

- A deacon must be _____.

B. Concerning wives (3:11)

1. Reverent (3:11a)

- Paul states that the wife of a deacon must be _____.

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2. Not a gossip (3:11b)

- Paul states that the wife of a deacon must not be _____.

3. Her moderation (3:11c)

- The wife of a deacon must have a lifestyle that is marked by _____.

4. Faithful (3:11d)

- Paul states that the wife of a deacon must be _____.

C. His family (3:12)

1. His marriage (3:12a)

- Paul states that a deacon must be _____.

2. His family (3:12b)

- Paul states that a deacon must _____.

II. The Presence of a Deacon (3:13)

A. A good standing (3:13a)

- Paul states that a deacon who serves well gains _____.

B. A great boldness (3:13b)

- Paul states that a deacon who serves well can _____.

III. The Purpose for Writing (3:14-16)

A. Conduct in the church (3:14-15a)

- Paul is writing this to explain how churches are _____.

B. The nature of the church (3:15b)

- Paul describes the church of living God as _____.

C. The mystery of godliness (3:16)

- The mystery of godliness refers to _____.