

BIBLE BAPTIST CHURCH OF ERIE

SERMON OUTLINE

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MAY 5, 2019

The Book of 1 Timothy Series # 9

1 Timothy 3:8-13

The English word *deacon* is a transliteration of the Greek word *diakonos*, which simply means "servant." It is likely that the origin of the deacons is recorded in *Acts 6*.

Kenneth Wuest said, "These church officers (deacons) are charged with the **temporal welfare** of the local church as the bishops were with its **spiritual welfare**."

A God called deacon will be a man of **faith**, a man that is **faithful**, and a man that is **fruitful** in his home and in the world. This passage gives us some requirements of the office of a deacon.

I. THE DEACON'S PERSON (8-10)

A. The Testimony of the Deacon. (8a, C; 9, 10c)

Paul begins this section with "likewise" which is like saying "in the same way as with the bishop." Paul deals first of all with the testimony of the deacon

1. "Grave/Reverent" (NKJV) - This word carries the idea of being serious in mind as well as in character.
2. "Not given to much wine" - (Addicted)
3. **Doctrinally Sound V-9.** A man of the Word and a man of deep convictions.

B. The Tongue of the Deacon (8b) "not double-tongued,"

literally means not guilty of "saying one thing to one and something else to another".

C. The Treasure of the Deacon (8d) "not greedy for money,"

The basic idea is the he is not to be a person who has a dishonorable means of making a living. His integrity is to extend to his financial dealings.

D. The Testing of the Deacon. (10) - It is imperative that these be tested first before they serve as deacons. Like a pastor, he is not to be a "novice" (V-6). "Blameless" - The deacons are to use the office and not abuse the office.

II. THE DEACON'S PARTNER (11)

- A. **Her Character. (11a)** "grave/reverent",
- B. **Her Conversation. (11b)** "not slanderers."
She is not to have a loose tongue that talks.
- C. **Her Control. (11c)** "sober/temperate"
about anybody and everybody.
- D. **Her Consistency. (11d)** "faithful in all things."

III. THE DEACON'S PATTERN (12)

- A. **The Deacon's Marriage to His Wife. (12a)**
"Let deacons be the husband of one wife"
- B. **The Deacon's Maintenance of His Home. (12b)**
"ruling their children and their own houses well."

IV. THE DEACON'S POSITION (13)

- A. **Their Serving of the Church. (13a)**
"For those who have served well as deacons" (NKJV)
- B. **Their Standing in Christ. (13b)** "obtain for themselves a good standing and great boldness in the faith which is in Christ Jesus." (NKJV)

In his book, "When God Whispers Your Name," Max Lucado tells the story of John Eggen, who had never preached a sermon in his life before the Sunday morning when it snowed and the pastor could not make it to church, so he had to preach that morning.