

THE ROLE OF A DEACON

July 20, 2025

Acts 6:1-7 (NASB95)

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1. DEACONS MUST BE HONORABLE DISCIPLES.

Acts 6:1–7 (NASB95) ¹Now at this time while the disciples were increasing in number, a complaint arose on the part of the Hellenistic Jews against the native Hebrews, because their widows were being overlooked in the daily serving of food. ²So the twelve summoned the congregation of the disciples and said, “It is not desirable for us to neglect the word of God in order to serve tables. ³“Therefore, brethren, select from among you seven men of good reputation, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we may put in charge of this task. ⁴“But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word.”

2. DEACONS MUST BE PRAYERFULLY CHOSEN.

⁵The statement found approval with the whole congregation; and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas and Nicolas, a proselyte from Antioch. ⁶And these they brought before the apostles; and after praying, they laid their hands on them.

3. DEACONS WILL BE KINGDOM CATALYSTS.

⁷The word of God kept on spreading; and the number of the disciples continued to increase greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests were becoming obedient to the faith.