

WHY DEACONS ARE NEEDED
ACTS 6:1-7 / 3-3-19 / AM

I. FIRST, WE SEE THE PROBLEM—V.1.

- A. At this time everyone in the church had pooled their resources and they were distributed as needed.
- B. The problem was that one group felt left out.
 - 1. There were two groups of Jews in the church at Jerusalem.
 - a. There were Jews who were born in Judea.
 - b. There were also Jews born outside of Judea.
 - 2. According to verse one, some Greek Jews felt their widows were being overlooked in the distribution of food and other necessities.
- C. Satan tried to destroy the Christian church from the outside with persecution and martyrdom. Now his approach is to destroy the Christian church from the inside with complaining and disunity.

II. SECOND, WE SEE THE PRIORITY—V.2 & 4.

- A. The Apostles were concerned about meeting the needs of everyone in the church, but they also were committed to prayer and preaching.
- B. Sometimes leaders must say no to “the good” in order to do “the best”
- C. It’s been said but it’s hard to remember that the main thing is to keep the main thing the main thing.

III. THIRD WE SEE THE PROPOSAL—V. 3.

- A. The apostles proposed the church select seven men to meet the daily needs of the people.
- B. The Apostles made it clear they should choose men who would be servants rather than supervisors.
- C. In the proposal the Apostles said look for men who possess two qualities or characteristics to be your deacon.
 - 1. First, they were to be “Godly men”—3b—“... **full of the Spirit...**”
 - 2. Second, they were also to be Gifted men”—3b “...**full of wisdom...**”

IV. **FOURTH, WE SEE THE PROCEDURE.**

- A. First, they chose seven men who possessed the two qualities they were to look for—v.5.
- B. Second, they commissioned these seven man for service—v. 6.

V. **FIFTH, WE SEE THE PRODUCT.**

- A. First, there was a new response to the gospel—7a.

Acts 6:7a

So the word of God spread....

- B. Second, there were people being saved—7b.

Acts 6:7b

.....The number of disciples in Jerusalem increased rapidly.....

- C. Third, there were even unlikely people being saved—7c.

Acts 6:7c

....and a large number of priests became obedient to the faith.

- D. What Satan thought would divide the church actually turned out to unite them.