

Big D, little d
The issue on the deaconess

Big D, little d

The issue on deaconesses

Women's rights and their activists have infiltrated the Church, and perverted God's plan for its structure.

Women now play the role of the preacher (pastor)

The role of an Elder

The role of a Deacon

They have been given more and more responsibilities and more and more authority.

Jane is our minister of music, youth group, bible classes, etc.

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The issue on deaconesses

I Timothy 3 : 8 – 13

Likewise deacons must be reverent, not double-tongued, not given to much wine, not greedy for money, holding the mystery of the faith with a pure conscience. But let these also first be tested; then let them serve as deacons, being found blameless. Likewise, their wives must be reverent, not slanderers, temperate, faithful in all things. Let deacons be the husbands of one wife, ruling their children and their own houses well. For those who have served well as deacons obtain for themselves a good standing and great boldness in the faith which is in Christ Jesus.

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I Timothy 3 : 8 – 13

Qualifications

Reverent, not double-tongue, not given to much wine, not greedy for money, holding the mystery of the faith with a pure conscience, found blameless

Likewise, their wives must be reverent, not slanderers, temperate, faithful in all things.

Who is referred to as their?

Can “their” have a wife if “their can be a woman?

Let deacons be the husbands of one wife, ruling their children and their own houses well.

Can a deacon be the wife of one husband?

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Based on, I Timothy 3 : 8 – 13, can a Deacon be a woman?

No

So why is this an issue?

Romans 16 : 1 – 2

“I commend to you Phoebe our sister, who is a servant of the church in Cenchrea”

“I commend to you our sister Phoebe, a deacon of the church in Cenchreae.” NIV

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Phoebe a servant or a deaconess?

‘diakonos’ – probably from ‘diako’ (obsolete, to run on errands); an attendant, that is, (generally) a waiter (at table or in other menial duties); one who executes the commands of another, especially of a master, a servant, attendant, minister

I Timothy 3 : 8 – 13

‘diakonos’

So what is the difference?

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What does the word Apostle mean?

‘apostolos’ – a delegate; specifically an ambassador of the Gospel; one sent forth with orders

‘apostello’ – set apart, that is, (by implication) to send out (properly on a mission)

Matthew 10 : 2 – 5

Romans 1 : 1; I Peter 1 : 1

“Paul...called to be an apostle...” “Peter, an apostle...”

Hebrews 3 : 1

“...the Apostle and High Priest...Christ Jesus”

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Can the word apostle signify a different group?

Acts 14 : 14

“But when the apostles Barnabas and Paul heard this, they tore their clothes and ran in among the multitude, crying out “

How is Barnabas an apostle?

Does Barnabas meet the requirements as set forth by Peter in Acts 1 : 21 – 22?

Barnabas is an apostle not an Apostle.

Barnabas is one sent.

Acts 13 : 2 – 3

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What is an Elder?

I Timothy 3 : 1 – 7; Titus 1 : 5 – 9

“...a bishop...” (overseer) “...elders...”

‘episkope’ - inspection (for relief); by implication
superintendence

‘presbuteros’ - older; as noun, a senior; specifically an
Israelite Sanhedrist (also figuratively, member of the
celestial council) or Christian “presbyter”

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What is an Elder?

I Peter 5 : 2

“Shepherd...overseers...”

‘poimaino’ – to tend as a shepherd; feed, to tend, keep sheep

‘poimen’ – a shepherd; he to whose care and control others have committed themselves, and whose precepts they follow

‘episkopeo’ - to oversee; by implication to beware

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Can the word elder signify a different group?

I Timothy 5 : 19

“...an accusation against an elder...”

II John 1 : 1; III John 1 : 1

John refers to himself as “The Elder...”

The word elder can represent a person of age over another; where as the word Elder represents a person who has met the qualifications and is in the office of an Elder over the congregation.

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What is an Angel?

Genesis 16 : 7, 9 – 11

‘malak’ (h) – to dispatch as a deputy; a messenger; specifically of God

Matthew 1 : 20

‘aggelos’ (g) - a messenger; especially an “angel”

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Can the word angel signify a different group?

Acts 12 : 13 – 15

“You are beside yourself!...It is his angel.”

James 2 : 25

“...received the messengers (aggelos)...”

The word angel represents a man / woman who is nothing more than a messenger for God. The word Angel represents a heavenly being who is bringing a message for God.

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What is a Deacon?

As discussed at the beginning it is a servant.

There are Deacons...men who are serving in that capacity for the Church under the direction of an Eldership. This position in the Church comes with requirements in order to fill it.

There are deacons...people (men or women) who serve individuals under their own direction. This is not a position nor is there any requirements in order to fill it.

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Phoebe a servant or a deaconess?

Yes – she is both.

She is a servant to Paul (an individual) making her a deaconess.

But seeing that she is a woman is not a Deaconess.

Acts 9 : 36 – 38

Romans 16 : 3 – 15

Philippians 4 : 2 – 3