

OFFICES IN THE NEW TESTAMENT CHURCH

I. INTRODUCTION.

- A. The church belongs to Christ.
Matthew 16:18 _____
- B. Jesus is the head of the church.
Colossians 1:18 _____
Ephesians 1:22,23 _____
- C. Jesus is the foundation of the church.
1Corinthians 3:11 _____
- D. Christ has all authority in heaven and earth.
Matthew 28:18 _____
- E. Christ has given gifts to the church.
Ephesians 4:7,11-13 _____
- F. Apostles and prophets (part of the foundation).
Ephesians 2:20 _____
Ephesians 3:5 _____

II. APOSTLES.

- A. Directly commissioned by Christ.
Matthew 10:5 _____
- B. Possessed supernatural gifts.
Matthew 10:8 _____
- C. Necessary to have been with Jesus.
Acts 1:22 _____
- D. Authority covered the whole world.
Matthew 28:19 _____

III. PROPHETS.

- A. After the apostles.
1Corinthians 12:28 _____
- B. Example of Agabus.
Acts 11:28 _____
- C. Example of women prophets.
Acts 21:9,10 _____

IV. ELDERS.

- A. Three important Greek words:
 1. *Presbuteros* is translated as presbyter or elder.
 2. *Episkopos* is translated as bishop or overseer.
 3. *Poimen* is translated as pastor or shepherd.
- B. All three words used.
Acts 20:17,28 _____
1Peter 5:1,2 _____
- C. Two words used.
Titus 1:5-7 _____

D. NT examples of elders show a plurality in each congregation not just one. The preacher serves under the elders, and the elders' authority is only over the congregation they serve in.

E. The Work of Elders:

1. A watchman.
Acts 20:28-31 _____
Hebrews 13:17 _____
2. Mature the church.
Ephesians 4:11-16 _____
3. Discipline.
1Thessalonians 5:12-15 _____
4. Shepherd.
1Peter 5:1-3 _____
6. Prayers for the sick.
James 5:13-18 _____

F. The Qualifications of Elders:

1. Scripture texts are 1Tim. 3:1-7; Titus 1:5-9:
2. "Negative" qualifications:
 - a. Without reproach.
 - b. Not a brawler.
 - c. Not a striker.
 - d. Not contentious.
 - e. Not a lover of money.
 - f. Not a novice.
 - g. Not soon angry.
 - h. Not self-willed.
3. "Positive" qualifications:
 - a. Husband of one wife.
 - b. Temperate.
 - c. Sober-minded.
 - d. Orderly.
 - e. Given to hospitality.
 - f. Apt to teach.
 - g. Gentle.
 - h. Rules well his own house.
 - i. Good testimony from without.
 - j. Self-controlled.
 - k. Holy.
 - l. Lover of good.
 - m. Just.
 - n. Having children that believe.

F. The congregation's responsibility toward the Elders:

1. Esteem them.
1Thessalonians 5:12,13 _____
2. Be subject to them.
Hebrews 13:17 _____
3. Do not accuse them.
1Timothy 5:19 _____
4. Support them.
1Timothy 5:17,18 _____

V. DEACONS.

A. The word *deacon* is a transliteration from the Greek, *diakonos*. The word means, a servant or minister who executes the commands of another.

B. More than one.
Philippians 1:1 _____

C. Special servants.
1Timothy 3:8-13 _____

D. The Work of Deacons:

1. To serve.
Acts 6:1-6 _____
2. Specific tasks.
Acts 6:3 _____

E. The Qualifications of Deacons:

1. See 1Tim. 3:8-10,12,13.
2. "Negative" qualifications:
 - a. Not double-tongued.
 - b. Not given to much wine.
 - c. Not greedy of filthy lucre.
3. "Positive" qualifications:
 - a. Grave (serious).
 - b. Holding the mystery of the faith
in a pure conscience.
 - c. Husband of one wife.
 - d. Ruling his children and house well.
 - e. They are to first be proved.

VI. **EVANGELISTS.**

A. Three important Greek words:

1. *Euangelists* is translated evangelist and means a bringer of good tidings.
2. *Kerux* is translated preacher and means a herald.
3. *Kerusso* is translated preach and means to be a herald, to proclaim after the manner of a herald, to publish, or proclaim openly.

B. The Work of Evangelists:

1. Preach, evangelize.
2Timothy 4:2 _____
2. Edify local church.
Ephesians 4:11-16 _____
3. Appoint elders.
Titus 1:5 _____
4. Defend the faith.
1Timothy 1:3 _____
Titus 1:10-13 _____
5. Train others.
2Timothy 2:2 _____

C. The Qualifications of Evangelists:

1. Diligent, not lazy.
1Timothy 4:15 _____
2Timothy 2:15 _____
2. An example to believers.
1Timothy 4:12 _____
3. Takes heed to himself.
1Timothy 4:16 _____
4. Takes heed to teaching.
1Timothy 4:16 _____
5. Pure.
1Timothy 5:22 _____
6. Steadfast in the faith, loyal to the truth.

- D. The Support of Evangelists:
 - 1. Brethren are indebted to share the wealth.
Romans 15:27 _____
 - 2. Preachers may receive money for their work.
1Corinthians 9:1-14 _____
 - 3. Share with one who teaches.
Galatians 6:6 _____
- E. Clergy and laity:
 - 1. There are no special titles or clothing to be worn for preachers.
 - 2. There is no difference between the clergy or the laity in the scriptures:
 - a. *Kleroo* (root word for clergy) is found in Eph. 1:11 and refers to all Christians.
 - b. *Laos* (root word for laity) is found in 1Pet. 2:9 and refers to all Christians.

VII. TEACHERS.

- A. Teachers of the word of God are an important part of the church.
- B. Examples of those who teach:
 - 1. Along with prophets.
Acts 13:1 _____
 - 2. Teachers.
1Corinthians 12:28,29 _____
 - 3. Exercise your gift.
Romans 12:7 _____
- C. Special instructions:
 - 1. Not many are to be teachers.
James 3:1 _____
 - 2. Not hypocrites.
Romans 2:20 _____
 - 3. Understand the word.
1Timothy 1:7 _____
 - 4. Won't tickle ears.
2Timothy 4:3 _____

VIII. NOTES.

IX. MATCHING.

Based on this lesson and the scriptures discussed match the following phrase or central idea on the left with the appropriate scripture on the right. You may wish to review all the scriptures listed above before taking this test.

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| _____ | 1. An elder is a watchman of the flock. | A. 2Tim. 4:2. |
| _____ | 2. Jesus is the Chief Shepherd. | B. 2Tim. 2:2. |
| _____ | 3. Qualifications for deacons. | C. 1Peter 5:1-5. |
| _____ | 4. Preach the word in and out of season. | D. James 3:1. |
| _____ | 5. Apostles authority is world-wide. | E. Acts 20:28-31. |
| _____ | 6. A New Testament prophet. | F. Acts 6:1-6. |
| _____ | 7. Preachers train others to teach. | G. Acts 11:28. |
| _____ | 8. Not many should be teachers. | H. 1Tim. 3:8-10,12,13. |
| _____ | 9. Preachers may be paid for their work. | I. 1Cor. 9:1-14. |
| _____ | 10. The calling of the first deacons. | J. Mt. 28:19. |