



The Biblical Deaconess

1 TIMOTHY 3:11

I. Dividing the work

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“I commend to you Phoebe our sister, who is a servant of the church in Cenchrea, ² that you may receive her in the Lord in a manner worthy of the saints, and assist her in whatever business she has need of you; for indeed she has been a helper of many and of myself also.”

Romans 16:1-2

I. Dividing the work

“I implore Euodia and I implore Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. ³ And I urge you also, true companion, help these women who labored with me in the gospel, with Clement also, and the rest of my fellow workers, whose names are in the Book of Life.”

Philippians 4:2-3

II. The deaconess' qualifications

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Reverent—worthy of respect

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Not slanderers—speaks wisely and lovingly

II. The deaconess' qualifications

“Indeed, we put bits in horses’ mouths that they may obey us, and we turn their whole body. ⁴ Look also at ships: although they are so large and are driven by fierce winds, they are turned by a very small rudder wherever the pilot desires. ⁵ Even so the tongue is a little member and boasts great things. See how great a forest a little fire kindles!

II. The deaconess' qualifications

⁶ And the tongue is a fire, a world of iniquity. The tongue is so set among our members that it defiles the whole body, and sets on fire the course of nature; and it is set on fire by hell. ⁷ For every kind of beast and bird, of reptile and creature of the sea, is tamed and has been tamed by mankind.

II. The deaconess' qualifications

⁸ But no man can tame the tongue. It is an unruly evil, full of deadly poison”

James 3:3–8

II. The deaconess' qualifications

“You shall not go about as a slanderer among your people, and you are not to act against the life of your neighbor; I am the Lord”

Leviticus 19:16

II. The deaconess' qualifications

“Whoever secretly slanders his neighbor, him I will destroy”

Psalm 101:5

II. The deaconess' qualifications

“Whoever hides hatred has lying lips, and whoever spreads slander is a fool”

Proverbs 10:18

II. The deaconess' qualifications

“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God”

Matthew 5:9

II. The deaconess' qualifications

Reverent—worthy of respect

Not slanderers—speaks wisely and lovingly

Temperate—balanced judgment and self-control

II. The deaconess' qualifications

Reverent—worthy of respect

Not slanderers—speaks wisely and lovingly

Temperate—balanced judgment and self-control

Faithful in all things—fulfills her Christian duty in every area of life

II. The deaconess' qualifications

“Confidence in an unfaithful man [or woman] in time of trouble is like a bad tooth and a foot out of joint”

Proverbs 25:19

III. The deaconess' role

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“But as for you, speak the things which are proper for sound doctrine: ² that the older men be sober, reverent, temperate, sound in faith, in love, in patience; ³ the older women likewise, that they be reverent in behavior, not slanderers, not given to much wine, teachers of good things—

III. The deaconess' role

⁴ that they admonish the young women to love their husbands, to love their children, ⁵ to be discreet, chaste, homemakers, good, obedient to their own husbands, that the word of God may not be blasphemed.”

Titus 2:1-5

III. The deaconess' role

*“For of this sort are those who creep into households and make captives of **gullible women** loaded down with sins, led away by various lusts”*

2 Timothy 3:6