

Study Notes for 1 Timothy 3 (Part 2) :8-16

- The Apostle writes in this section about deacons and the qualities that should be seen in their lives. Why do you think it is important for deacons, who mostly offer physical service, to hold to the mysteries of the faith?
- 1 Timothy 3:8-13 covers several qualities that ought to be seen in a deacon. Which one do you think is most important?
- Why was there such a need for church leaders and servants to refrain from drunkenness in the early church?
- If the Apostle Paul was writing TODAY about things that church leaders and servants should stay away from, what would he list?
- What does it mean to hold to the truths of the Gospel with a clear conscience?
- Paul says that men who are under consideration for becoming deacons must first be “tested” (3:10). What kind of test do you think he has in mind?
- 1 Timothy 3:11 lists several qualifications for the wives of deacons. Why do you suppose qualifications are listed for a deacon's wife, but not for pastor/elder/overseer's wife?
- Paul says that deacons who serve well “gain an excellent standing and great assurance in their faith.” Why do you suppose this is? Does this apply only to deacons, or to others as well?
- Paul gives several names to the church in 1 Timothy 3:15. What does each term add to your understanding of the body of Christ?
- It is believed by some that 1 Timothy 3:16 is an ancient hymn composed about Christ. What does each statement teach you about Christ?
- What did you learn from this study that you didn't know before?