

## 1 Timothy

### Chapter 3:8ff

#### II. Deacons

A. Interpretation: “to serve tables”

B. Qualifications

1. Grave – reverent, serious
2. Not double tongued – unstable, Jas. 1:5, 6
3. Not given to much wine – 3:5; Titus 1:7
  - a. Impedes one’s thoughts – Prov. 22:1
  - b. The emphasis isn’t that Deacons can and Elders cannot and deacons can.
  - c. Not greedy of filthy lucre –
  - d. Pure Conscience (the mystery of the faith)
    1.  *Holding* implies
    2. The *mystery* that is held is
  - e. Proven (tested)
    1. Deacons are to be proven *first* as well as the Elders
      - a. The preacher is to test them first before “laying his hands on them (3: (3:
        - b.  *Proven* minimizes blaming after they are ordained
        - c. Duties should be given in accordance to stages or development (3: 2 Tim. 2:2) – This can minimize pride which can lead to a snare and reproach.
      2. After they have been proven “then” they can hold the office
        - a. Testing allows for evaluation of talent.
        - b. Testing allows for evaluation of desire.
        - c. Testing allows for development of skills.
        - b. Testing reveals one’s disposition of life.

C. Work

1. Purchase a good degree
2. Purchase great boldness in the faith

#### II. Purpose for Writing

A. The Role of the Preacher

1. Behavior in the house of God
  - a. The church of the living God
  - b. Pillar and ground of the truth
2. The mystery of godliness