

function for God that He wants him to do, and Paul says, God has ~~me~~ made me a servant of His ~~is~~ putting me into the deaconship. Into the ministry to do this work. The word deacon has a very general use. Now as time ~~goes~~ goes on, the word deacon comes to be attached to subordinate officers of the church, who primarily devote themselves to matters of material things, and other words are used for those who devote themselves to the ministry ~~of the~~ of the Word. But our evidence in the N.T. for a man who devotes himself primarily to the ministry of the Word is evidence which is derived from men who are ~~specifically~~ specifically called deacon in that connection. And so it is a development and it is a useful development for ch. govt. to specialize the word in a particular sense. But let us not say that is the Biblical teaching. The Bible lays down principles and gives a few things specifically, but this is not one which is given specifically. What is a deacon. ~~The~~

If you are going to say, we have deacons because the seven were appointed, it would be much more sensible to say, ~~we~~ the apostles appointed seven men for a particular thing. Therefore it is reasonable that we appoint men for the same functions ~~as~~ as they did. The apostles appointed deacons. It is altogether reasonable and proper. Now it is good to have a ~~specific~~ specific name for these. We can't call them the seven, ~~because~~ because there are often more than seven. The apostles said that they appoint them in order that we may devote more time to the ministry, The ~~deaconship~~ deaconship, the Word. But the ~~minister~~ minister is come to be used by the word minister or pastor or other words in English, why not use this word deacon for these. There is no harm in it. But there is great harm if you say that is what the Bible teaches, and that is what we must do because it is the Scriptural teaching.

(question) Oh, say, I spoke of the positions in the Roman Catholic Church, quite specifically, and I didn't mention the word bishop, did I? I mentioned the word archbishop, but not the word bishop. I overlooked it. That is bad. We must now go on to the word bishop. Now we come to I Tim. 3, and we find there that he talks about bishops. ~~Then~~ Then, all of a sudden, he says, likewise also the deacons.(end of record)