

## Didache texts 1

**Didache 15:** Therefore, appoint (Χειροτονησατε) for ourselves **bishops** and **deacons** (επισκοπους και διακονους) worthy of the Lord, men meek, and not lovers of money, and truthful and proven; for they minister to you, (υμιν γαρ λειτουργουσι), even they (αυτοι), the ministry (λειτουργια) of **prophets** and teachers. Despise them not therefore, for they are your honored ones, together with the **prophets** and teachers.

**1 Timothy 3<sup>1</sup>** This *is* a faithful saying: If a man aspires to the episcopate (ει τις επισκοπης ορεγεται), he desires a good work. <sup>2</sup> A bishop, then, must be (δει ουν τον επισκοπον) blameless, *etc* <sup>8</sup> Likewise deacons (διακονους) [are to be] reverent, not double-tongued, not given to much wine, not greedy for money, *etc*

**Titus 1<sup>5</sup>** For this reason I left you in Crete, that you should set in order the things that are lacking, and establish elders (πρεσβυτερους) in every city as I commanded you— <sup>6</sup> if a man is blameless, the husband of one wife, having faithful children not accused of dissipation or insubordination. <sup>7</sup> For a bishop must be (δει γαρ τον επισκοπον) blameless, *etc*

**Acts 20<sup>17</sup>** From Miletus [Paul] sent to Ephesus and called for the elders (πρεσβυτερους) of the church. <sup>18</sup> And when they had come to him, he said to them: . . . <sup>28</sup> Therefore take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you bishops (επισκοπους), to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood.

**First Clement 42<sup>4</sup>** So preaching everywhere in country and town, they appointed their first fruits, when they had proved them by the Spirit, to be bishops and deacons (επισκοπους και διακονους) unto them that should believe. <sup>5</sup> And this they did in no new fashion; for indeed it had been written concerning bishops and deacons (περι επισκοπων και διακωνων) from very ancient times; for thus says the Scripture in a certain place, I will appoint their bishops (επισκοπους) in righteousness and their deacons (διακονους) in faith (Isaiah 60.17).

**Didache 1:** There are two ways, one of life and one of death; but a great difference between the two ways. The way of life, then, is this: First, you shall **love** God who made you; second, your neighbor as yourself; and all things whatsoever you would should not occur to you, do not also do to another. And of these sayings the teaching is this: Bless those who curse you, and **pray** for your enemies, and **fast** for those who **persecute** you. For what reward is there, if you **love** those who **love** you? Do not also the **Gentiles** do the same? But **love** those who **hate** you, and you shall not have an enemy. Abstain from fleshly and worldly **lusts**. If someone gives you a blow upon your right cheek, turn to him the other also, and you shall be **perfect**. If someone compels you for one mile, go with him two. If someone takes away your cloak, give him also your coat. If someone takes from you what is yours, ask it not back, for indeed you are not able. Give to every one that asks you, and ask it not back; for the Father wills that to all should be given of our own blessings. Blessed is he that gives according to the commandment; for he is guiltless. Woe to him that receives; for if one having need receives, he is guiltless; but he that receives not having need, shall pay the penalty, why he received and for what, and, coming into difficulties, he shall be examined concerning the things which he has done, and he shall not escape thence until he pay back the last farthing (cf. Mt 5.26). But also now concerning this, it has been said, Let your **alms** sweat in your hands, until you **know** to whom you should give.