

NEED FOR CHURCH ORGANIZATION — ACTS 6:1-7

1 THE REASON

Acts 6:1-2,4

¹Now in those days, when the number of the disciples was multiplying, there arose a complaint against the Hebrews by the Hellenists, because their widows were neglected in the daily distribution. ²Then the twelve summoned the multitude of the disciples and said, "It is not desirable that we should leave the word of God and serve tables. ... ⁴but we will give ourselves continually to prayer and to the ministry of the word." (Acts 6:1-2,4)

- The reason they needed to get better organized.



2 THE REQUIREMENTS

Acts 6:3

Therefore, brethren, seek out from among you seven men of good reputation, full of the Holy Spirit and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business; (Acts 6:3)

- What were the requirements for the people?

LEADERSHIP
REQUIREMENTS

1. **They Need to be Men.** God has always used men to lead the church.
2. **"Seek out from among you."** God expects the church to find its own leadership from within its own ranks.
3. **"Of good reputation."** Men whose integrity and reputation are blameless.
4. **Spiritual Men** ("full of the Holy Spirit"). Controlled by the Holy Spirit.
5. **"Full of wisdom."**

- God expects the church to find its own leadership from within its own ranks.
- It should be the people who do the ministry who also lead the ministry.



3 THE ROSTER

Acts 6:5

And the saying pleased the whole multitude. And they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and the Holy Spirit, and Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolas, a proselyte from Antioch, (Acts 6:5)

PEOPLE
CHOSEN

1. **Stephen** - Was an evangelist
2. **Philip** - Was an evangelist
3. **Prochorus** - Never heard of before and never will again
4. **Nicanor** - Never heard of before and never will again
5. **Timon** - Never heard of before and never will again
6. **Parmenas** - Never heard of before and never will again
7. **Nicolas** - Never heard of before and never will again

- All seven names are Greek. The church got together and unanimously chose seven Grecian Jews to lead them.

4 THE RESULTS

Acts 6:6-7

⁶whom they set before the apostles; and when they had prayed, they laid hands on them. ⁷Then the word of God spread, and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests were obedient to the faith. (Acts 6:6-7)

- What Satan tried to sow as discord turned out to be beautiful unity.
- As a result of the Word of God increasing, because the apostles were able to dedicate their time to teaching.
- The church needs to accommodate what the spirit of God is doing by putting enough structure around it to make it effective.

