

To the Ends of the Earth: Session 10

Division

Acts 6:1-7

Questions

1. What obstacles has the church faced so far in the book of Acts?

Persecution: Arrests, forbidden to speak the name of Jesus, beatings

Attack on Holiness with the deceit of Ananias and Sapphires

2. What new obstacle did the church face at the beginning of chapter 6?

Division, Dissension, and Conflict: A complaint arose against the Hebrews because the Hellenists' widows were being neglected in the daily distribution of food.

3. What's the difference between Hebrew and Hellenistic Jews?

Hebrews: Jews spoke Aramaic and prided themselves that there was no foreign element in their lives.

Hellenistic Jews were Jews that had been influenced by Greek culture and spoke the Greek language.

4. How can division hurt a church?

5. What was the apostle's solution to the problem?

The apostles' primary devotion was to prayer and the Word. They recommended that the church appoint seven men to oversee the distribution of food.

6. What qualities were these seven men to have?

Good reputation, full of the Spirit and wisdom

7. Of the seven men chosen, we will learn about Stephen and Phillip, but the rest are virtually unknowns. What should that teach about service to the Lord?

We are to make much of Jesus not ourselves.

8. Are these seven men the first deacons in the church?

If these seven men were not the first deacons, they were certainly forerunners of the deacon ministry.

9. What continues in verse 7?

The word of God continued to increase, and the number of disciples multiplied in Jerusalem. Even the priest became obedient to the faith.