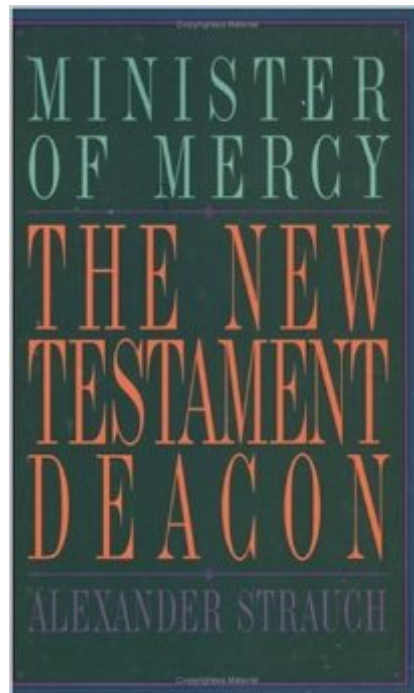


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# The New Testament Deacon: The Church's Minister Of Mercy



## Synopsis

Our heartfelt burden is to help deacons get out of the boardroom and building-maintenance mentality and into the people-serving mentality. Deacons, as the New testament teaches and as some of the sixteenth-century reformers discovered, are to be involved in a compassionate ministry of caring for the poor and needy. The deacons' ministry, therefore, is one that no Christ-centered, New Testament church can afford to neglect. It's through the deacons' ministry that we make Christ's love a reality for many people. A ground-breaking study of all the biblical texts on the subject, *The New Testament Deacon: Minister of Mercy* will help you build a strong ministry in your church. This book and its companion work *The New Testament Deacon Study Guide*, are widely used materials for training and equipping deacons.

## Book Information

Paperback: 191 pages

Publisher: Lewis & Roth Publishers; 1st Edition edition (October 1, 1992)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0936083077

ISBN-13: 978-0936083070

Product Dimensions: 5.4 x 0.6 x 8.3 inches

Shipping Weight: 8.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (39 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #90,022 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #61 in [Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Churches & Church Leadership > Church Administration](#) #72 in [Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Christian Living > Leadership](#) #2779 in [Books > Religion & Spirituality > Religious Studies](#)

## Customer Reviews

I have great respect for Alexander Strauch. His book "Biblical Eldership" has not only been tremendously influential in my own life and ministry, it has helped to bring solid, healthy, biblical leadership structure to churches all over the world. I believe "Biblical Eldership" has had--and is still having--an historically significant impact on the evangelical church. I expect it to be remembered as a classic work of pastoral theology. But that's "Biblical Eldership;" I'm now reviewing "The New Testament Deacon." And, I have to admit, despite my admiration for Alexander Strauch as a leader and a biblical exegete, I'm somewhat disappointed with this book. Now, there is much of value included here. Strauch rightly counters the idea that deacons are ruling executives or building and

property managers. He stresses the need for pastoral elders to devote themselves to the priorities of their ministry without being drawn into needs that are real but distracting. He notes the need for effective organization in the church. He also gives us much helpful background information specifically regarding deacons. Discussions of the Greek wording, how deacons relate to overseers/elders, the scriptural qualifications for deacons, etc. are all illuminating (though many will disagree with his views concerning female deacons). Most of his exegesis of Acts 6 is sound, although he interjects a distinction between ministry of "word" and "deed" that isn't really borne out by Scripture even considering the references he gives--certainly not enough to extrapolate the nature of church offices. Practically everyone will agree that the office of deacon is normative for the church today.

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