

"Paul and Timotheus, the servants of Jesus Christ, to all the ~~saints~~ in Jesus Christ which are at Philippi, with the bishops and deacons." Here he is writing to ~~XXXX~~ Philippi, to all the people, but singling out particularly the bishops and deacons. Well now this word translated "bishops" is the same word translated "overseer" in other places. You notice he doesn't say the bishops and the elders. No where in the Scripture do we have any evidence of a difference between bishops and elders. Sometimes you speak of the elders, sometimes you speak of the bishops. In the previous passage you noticed he called the elders and then he spoke of them - "of the flock over which the Holy Spirit hath made you bishops". But here he speaks of the bishops and the deacons at Philippi. Well, of course somebody has reason to believe that at Philippi there were ten churches and each of them had one bishop - well, that would prove that this does not show

(7.) but there is no such evidence. There's no evidence that there was <sup>in</sup> more than one church at Philippi. We looked last time at where he wrote to Timothy and he said a bishop must be such and such and such and such. And he said, "Likewise also the deacons". That seems to differentiate. He tells the requirements for bishop and he tells the requirements for deacons. A bishop mustn't be given to wine but a deacon - it's enough that he's not given to much wine. You see there's a difference. There's a standard for a bishop to have perhaps a little bit more of an outstanding leader than is necessary for a man. But the standards are quite similar. We're given standards for elders in both Timothy and Titus but they're given right after (8.) which seems to suggest too often one a bishop and one a deacon. But there's no such differentiation between elders and bishops. (Student question) Yes, the elder~~x~~ is the type of man. He's an experienced man while the bishop is the name of a function. Elder is a description of a type of man. (Student question) The verse we were just looking at in Acts - in 14 and 15 it speaks of elders but in 20 he calls the elders and then he tells them to feed the flock over which the Lord hath made them bishops. So he's talking to the elders and telling them the Lord has made them bishops