

ACTS OF THE APOSTLES

The seven deacons

6¹In those days, as the number of disciples grew, the so-called *Hellenists* complained against the so-called *Hebrews*, because their widows were being neglected in the daily distribution. ²So the Twelve summoned the whole body of disciples together and said:

—It is not right that we should neglect the word of God to serve at tables. ³So, friends, choose from among yourselves seven respected men full of Spirit and wisdom, that we may appoint them to this task. ⁴As for us, we shall give ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the Word.

⁵The whole community agreed and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and Holy Spirit; Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenus and Nicolaus of Antioch who was a proselyte. ⁶They presented these men to the apostles who first prayed over them and then laid hands upon them.

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