



The Diaconate: A Full and Equal Order

By James Monroe Barnett

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The Diaconate: A Full and Equal Order By James Monroe Barnett

This book is a highly readable, comprehensive study that has established itself as the definitive work on the diaconate. Drawing upon original sources, the book provides valuable insights into the development of the office of the deacon in the early church and situates it within the context of the church's total ministry. Dr. Barnett contends that a radical change in the nature and understanding of the church's ministry took place in the fourth century. A ministry that had included the whole people of God in a horizontal, organic structure gave way to one that was clerical and hierarchical. This change, among other factors, eventually transformed the diaconate into an inconsequential, transitional office on the way to the priesthood. Responding to the present-day revival of the diaconate in the Roman Catholic, Episcopal, Lutheran, and other churches, Barnett calls for a restoration of the office to its original place as full and equal order, thus re-creating the great symbol of the servant ministry that Christ gave to all the church. James Monroe Barnett, now living in retirement in Omaha, is the former rector of Trinity Episcopal Church, Norfolk, NE.

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Editorial Review

Review

"...James Monroe Barnett's writing on the diaconate has come at a critical time in the history of contemporary Christianity. Its circulation has not been limited to only one denomination of the Christian church and its scholarship is impeccable. The revised edition reflects Barnett's confidence in his thesis... I recommend the book to anyone who is interested in the practice and theology of the ministry of the church, and especially to those who support the renewal of the diaconate." — Kaye Pitman, Director of the Diaconal Formation Program, reviewing for *The Beacon Hill Books Reviewer*, Vo. 2, No. 2, 1996 (Kaye Pitman *The Beacon Hill Books Reviewer*)

"The Diaconate would be a very valuable resource for local churches to study as they struggle to understand and perform their ministry in and to the community. Fortunately, the book is wonderfully readable, as though the author had in mind the wide range of ministering types who in one way or another are deacons in the service of Christ." — Gordon E. Jackson, reviewing for *Journal of Ecumenical Studies*, Summer 1996 (Gordon E. Jackson *Journal of Ecumenical Studies*)

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About the Author

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Users Review

From reader reviews:

Anthony Green:

The experience that you get from *The Diaconate: A Full and Equal Order* will be the more deep you looking the information that hide into the words the more you get considering reading it. It does not mean that this book is hard to be aware of but *The Diaconate: A Full and Equal Order* giving you enjoyment feeling of reading. The writer conveys their point in certain way that can be understood by anyone who read it because the author of this reserve is well-known enough. This book also makes your own vocabulary increase well. Therefore it is easy to understand then can go to you, both in printed or e-book style are available. We advise

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Arnold Browning:

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Ruth Michel:

The Diaconate: A Full and Equal Order can be one of your basic books that are good idea. Most of us recommend that straight away because this book has good vocabulary that could increase your knowledge in language, easy to understand, bit entertaining but delivering the information. The article author giving his/her effort to set every word into enjoyment arrangement in writing The Diaconate: A Full and Equal Order although doesn't forget the main level, giving the reader the hottest and based confirm resource data that maybe you can be one of it. This great information could drawn you into new stage of crucial contemplating.

Rachel Glidewell:

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