Ministers hold the office of **Diakonos** (*dee-ak'-on-os*) which means servant. The term diakonos has been translated as deacon six times in Scripture and is not to be seen as a singular office but as a category for multiple offices for which all ministers occupy. Please see the study on <a href="Church: Forms and Practices">Church: Forms and Practices</a> for a fuller study on this and other key points of Scripture.

## 3011 λειτουργός leitourgos (li-toorg-os')

from 2992 and 2041; a public servant, a minister, a servant:— i.e. a functionary in the Temple or Gospel, or (genitive case) a worshipper (of God) or benefactor (of man):— minister(-ed).

**NAS**-minister (3), ministers (1), servants (1).

AV-minister 4, he that ministers 1; 5

- 1) a public minister, a servant of the state
- 2) a minister, servant
  - 2a) so of military labourers
  - 2b) of the temple
    - 2b1) of one busied with holy things
    - 2b2) of a priest
  - 2c) of the servants of a king

## 3008 λειτουργέω leitourgeo (li-toorg-eh'-o)

from 3011; to serve the state, i.e. by anal. to perform religious service:—**NAS**-minister (1), ministering (2).

**AV**-minister 3: 3

- 1) to serve the state at one's own cost
  - 1a) to assume an office which must be administered at one's own expense
  - 1b) to discharge a public office at one's own cost
  - 1c) to render public service to the state
- 2) to do a service, perform a work
  - 2a) of priests and Levites who were busied with the sacred rites in the tabernacle or the temple
  - 2b) of Christians serving Christ, whether by prayer, or by instructing others concerning the way of salvation, or in some other way
  - 2c) of those who aid others with their resources, and relieve their poverty

## 3009 λειτουργία leitourgia (li-toorg-ee'-ah)

from 3008; a service, a ministry:—

**NAS**-ministry (2), priestly service (1), service (3).

AV-service 3, ministry 2, ministration 1; 6

- 1) a public office which a citizen undertakes to administer at his own expense
- 2) any service
  - 2a) of military service
  - 2b) of the service of workmen
  - 2c) of that done to nature in the cohabitation of man and wife
- 3) biblical usage

- 3a) a service or ministry of the priests relative to the prayers and sacrifices offered to God
- 3b) a gift or benefaction for the relief of the needy

## 3010 λειτουργικός leitourgikos (li-toorg-ik-os')

from the same as 3008; functional publicly ("liturgic"); i.e. beneficient:—ministering. from 3011; of or for service:—

NAS-ministering (1).

AV-ministering 1; 1

1) relating to the performance of service, employed in ministering

## 5256 ὑπηρετέω hupereteo (hoop-ay-ret-eh'-o)

from 5257; to serve as a rower, to minister to, serve:— to be a subordinate, i.e. (by implication) subserve:—minister (unto), serve.

NAS-ministered (1), ministering (1), served (1).

AV-serve 1, minister unto 1, minister 1; 3

- 1) to act as a rower, to row
- 2) to minister, render services

## 5257 ὑπηρέτης huperetes (hoop-ay-ret'-ace)

from 5259 and eretes (a rower); an underling, servant:— a derivative of eresso (to row) an under-oarsman, i.e. (generally) subordinate (assistant, sexton, constable):—minister, officer, servant.

NAS-attendant (1), helper (1), minister (1), officer (1), officers (13), servants (3).

AV-officer 11, minister 5, servant 4; 20

- 1) servant
  - 1a) an underrower, subordinate rower
  - 1b) any one who serves with hands: a servant
    - 1b1) in the NT of the officers and attendants of magistrates as—of the officer who executes penalties
    - 1b2) of the attendants of a king, servants, retinue, the soldiers of a king, of the attendant of a synagogue
    - 1b3) of any one ministering or rendering service
  - 1c) any one who aids another in any work
    - 1c1) an assistant
    - 1c2) of the preacher of the gospel

# **Scriptures**

# 3009 leitourgia li-toorg-ee'-ah (and variations)

Luke 1:23

When the days of his **priestly service <3009 leitourgia>** were ended, he went back

home.

### Acts 13:2

While they were **ministering <3008 leitourgeo>** to the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, "Set apart for Me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them."

### Romans 13:6

For because of this you also pay taxes, for *rulers* are **servants <3011 leitourgos>** of God, devoting themselves to this very thing.

**Note on Romans 13:6** -Those in the work and service of the government (civil, local, state and federal) are there as *servants of God*. This is not to be confused with those who are born again believers in the service of God through His body, the church. This is to demonstrate the sovereignty of God and by no means should be looked upon as God working through governments to replace His church. Governments are the instrument of God and subjects of God to do many things but certainly are used as conduits or instruments of His wrath.

### Romans 15:16

to be a **minister <3011 leitourgos>** of Christ Jesus to the Gentiles, ministering as a priest the gospel of God, so that *my* offering of the Gentiles may become acceptable, sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

## Romans 15:27

Yes, they were pleased *to do so,* and they are indebted to them. For if the Gentiles have shared in their spiritual things, they are indebted to **minister <3008 leitourgeo>** to them also in material things.

### 2 Corinthians 9:12

For the ministry of this **service <3009 leitourgia>** is not only fully supplying the needs of the saints, but is also overflowing through many thanksgivings to God.

### Philippians 2:17

But even if I am being poured out as a drink offering upon the sacrifice and **service** <3009 leitourgia> of your faith, I rejoice and share my joy with you all.

### Philippians 2:25

But I thought it necessary to send to you Epaphroditus, my brother and fellow worker and fellow soldier, who is also your messenger and **minister <3011 leitourgos>** to my need;

# Philippians 2:30

because he came close to death for the work of Christ, risking his life to complete what was deficient in your **service <3009 leitourgia>** to me.

### Hebrews 1:7

And of the angels He says, "WHO MAKES HIS ANGELS WINDS, AND HIS

## MINISTERS <3011 leitourgos> A FLAME OF FIRE."

Hebrews 1:14

Are they not all **ministering <3010 leitourgikos>** spirits, sent out to render service for the sake of those who will inherit salvation?

Hebrews 8:2

a **minister <3011 leitourgos>** in the sanctuary and in the true tabernacle, which the Lord pitched, not man.

Hebrews 8:6

But now He has obtained a more excellent **ministry <3009 leitourgia>**, by as much as He is also the mediator of a better covenant, which has been enacted on better promises.

Hebrews 9:21

And in the same way he sprinkled both the tabernacle and all the vessels of the **ministry <3009 leitourgia>** with the blood.

Hebrews 10:11

Every priest stands daily **ministering <3008 leitourgeo>** and offering time after time the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins;

## 5257 huperetes (hoop-ay-ret'-ace) and 5256

Matthew 5:25

"Make friends quickly with your opponent at law while you are with him on the way, so that your opponent may not hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the **officer** <5257 huperetes>, and you be thrown into prison.

Matthew 26:58

But Peter was following Him at a distance as far as the courtyard of the high priest, and entered in, and sat down with the **officers <5257 huperetes>** to see the outcome.

Mark 14:54

Peter had followed Him at a distance, right into the courtyard of the high priest; and he was sitting with the **officers <5257 huperetes>** and warming himself at the fire.

Mark 14:65

Some began to spit at Him, and to blindfold Him, and to beat Him with their fists, and to say to Him, "Prophesy!" And the **officers <5257 huperetes>** received Him with slaps *in the face.* 

### Luke 1:2

just as they were handed down to us by those who from the beginning were eyewitnesses and **servants <5257 huperetes>** of the word,

### Luke 4:20

And He closed the book, gave it back to the **attendant <5257 huperetes>** and sat down; and the eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on Him.

### John 7:32

The Pharisees heard the crowd muttering these things about Him, and the chief priests and the Pharisees sent **officers <5257 huperetes>** to seize Him.

### John 7:45

The **officers <5257 huperetes>** then came to the chief priests and Pharisees, and they said to them, "Why did you not bring Him?"

### John 7:46

The **officers <5257 huperetes>** answered, "Never has a man spoken the way this man speaks."

### John 18:3

Judas then, having received the *Roman* cohort and **officers <5257 huperetes>** from the chief priests and the Pharisees, \*came there with lanterns and torches and weapons.

### John 18:12

So the *Roman* cohort and the commander and the **officers <5257 huperetes>** of the Jews, arrested Jesus and bound Him,

## John 18:18

Now the slaves and the **officers <5257 huperetes>** were standing *there*, having made a charcoal fire, for it was cold and they were warming themselves; and Peter was also with them, standing and warming himself.

#### John 18:22

When He had said this, one of the **officers <5257 huperetes>** standing nearby struck Jesus, saying, "Is that the way You answer the high priest?"

### John 18:36

Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not of this world. If My kingdom were of this world, then My **servants <5257 huperetes>** would be fighting so that I would not be handed over to the Jews; but as it is, My kingdom is not of this realm."

### John 19:6

So when the chief priests and the officers <5257 huperetes> saw Him, they cried out

saying, "Crucify, crucify!" Pilate \*said to them, "Take Him yourselves and crucify Him, for I find no guilt in Him."

### Acts 5:22

But the **officers <5257 huperetes>** who came did not find them in the prison; and they returned and reported back,

### Acts 5:26

Then the captain went along with the **officers <5257 huperetes>** and *proceeded* to bring them *back* without violence (for they were afraid of the people, that they might be stoned).

### Acts 13:5

When they reached Salamis, they *began* to proclaim the word of God in the synagogues of the Jews; and they also had John as their **helper <5257 huperetes>**.

### Acts 13:36

"For David, after he had **served <5256 hupereteo>** the purpose of God in his own generation, fell asleep, and was laid among his fathers and underwent decay;

### Acts 20:34

"You yourselves know that these hands **ministered <5256 hupereteo>** to my *own* needs and to the men who were with me.

### Acts 24:23

Then he gave orders to the centurion for him to be kept in custody and *yet* have *some* freedom, and not to prevent any of his friends from **ministering <5256 hupereteo>** to him.

### Acts 26:16

'But get up and stand on your feet; for this purpose I have appeared to you, to appoint you a **minister <5257 huperetes>** and a witness not only to the things which you have seen, but also to the things in which I will appear to you;

### 1 Corinthians 4:1

Let a man regard us in this manner, as **servants <5257 huperetes>** of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God.