THE QUESTION

Can a bishop ordain an apostle?

Asked by a THF member on May 18, 2026 · published November 9, 2026 · 8 numbered quotations · the 22 early Christian passages and 129 Bible verses we kept are listed at the back, each with a link.

Read it online: thehistoricfaith.com/early-church-questions/can-a-bishop-ordain-an-apostle

The short answer *Interpretation: our reading of the passages, not their words*

The early writers never describe a bishop ordaining an apostle. The order runs the other way: Christ sent the apostles, and the apostles appointed bishops and deacons. Bishops then ordained clergy and new bishops, and each rank was told to stay within its bounds. Clement of Alexandria adds that a holy life, not human ordination, ranks someone with the apostles.

LIBRARY ONLY	This study was written only from The Historic Faith's library of early-Christian writings and the Bible, never from the web. Every passage we kept from what the library gave is listed at the back, with a link to read it.
HOW IT WAS MADE	Compiled by machine learning from The Historic Faith's library of early-Christian writings and the Bible only. Every quotation was matched word for word against our stored text. Not yet reviewed by The Historic Faith.
SHARING WITH AN AI?	Every quotation here comes from The Historic Faith's library. If you paste this study into an AI, anything it adds beyond these pages comes from that AI, not from us.

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POINT 1 OF 6

Christ sent the apostles, who appointed bishops

Our note · compiled by machine learning · From the text: says what the passages say

Clement of Rome describes a chain of sending: God sent Christ, Christ sent the apostles, and the apostles then appointed bishops and deacons. The apostles stand above the bishops in this order, not below them.

1

"Christ was therefore sent forth by God, and the apostles by Christ. Both these appointments were made in an orderly way, according to the will of God."

later in the same passage

"Thus, preaching through countries and cities, they appointed the first-fruits of their labors, having first proved them by the Spirit, to be bishops and deacons of those who would later believe."

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Clement of Rome,** *First Epistle to the Corinthians* **Source 21, page 6** **Read it in the library ›**
THF's updated English

POINT 2 OF 6

The apostles planned for others to succeed

Our note · compiled by machine learning · From the text: says what the passages say

Clement adds that the apostles foresaw strife over the office of bishop. So they arranged for approved men to take the place of those they had appointed. Successors are named to the bishops, not to the apostles.

2

"For this reason, considering that they had obtained perfect foreknowledge of this, they appointed the ministers previously mentioned, and subsequently instructed that when these ministers passed away, other approved men should succeed them in their ministry."

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Clement of Rome,** *First Epistle to the Corinthians* **Source 22, page 6** **Read it in the library ›**
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POINT 3 OF 6

Churches traced their first bishops to apostles

Our note · compiled by machine learning · From the text: says what the passages say

Tertullian and Irenaeus point to bishops placed by apostles, such as Polycarp by John and Linus at Rome. The apostles do the ordaining; the bishops receive the office from them.

3 "The church of Smyrna records that Polycarp was placed there by John. In the same way, the church of Rome says that Clement was ordained by Peter."

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Tertullian,** *On Prescription Against Heretics* 32 (c. 196–220 AD) **Source 8, page 5** Read it in the library ›
THF's updated English

4 "The blessed apostles, having established and built up the Church, entrusted the role of the episcopate to Linus."

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Irenaeus,** *Against Heresies: Book III* (c. 175–202 AD) **Source 3, page 5** Read it in the library ›
THF's updated English

POINT 4 OF 6

Bishops ordain clergy and other bishops

Our note · compiled by machine learning · From the text: says what the passages say

The church order in the Apostolic Constitutions gives bishops the power to lay on hands and ordain. It also says a new bishop should be ordained by two or three bishops. Nothing here speaks of bishops making apostles.

5 "A bishop gives the blessing, but does not receive the blessing. He lays on hands, ordains, offers, and receives the blessing from bishops, but never from presbyters."

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Apostolic Constitutions** (c. 250–380 AD) **Source 19, page 6** Read it in the library ›
THF's updated English

6 "Let a bishop be ordained by three or two bishops."

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Apostolic Constitutions** (c. 250–380 AD) **Source 20, page 6** Read it in the library ›
THF's updated English

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POINT 5 OF 6

Each rank must stay within its bounds

Our note · compiled by machine learning · From the text: says what the passages say

The same church order warns against mixing up the ranks or handing out authority one does not have. It compares this to Korah and King Uzziah, who took priestly roles God had not given them.

7 “Now this is what we all together charge you: let each one remain in the rank appointed to him, and do not go beyond his proper bounds. For these are not ours, but God's.”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Apostolic Constitutions** (c. 250–380 AD) **Source 16, page 6** Read it in the library ›

THF's updated English

POINT 6 OF 6

Being like the apostles comes by holy living

Our note · compiled by machine learning · From the text: says what the passages say

Clement of Alexandria says a believer who lives the Gospel fully may be counted with the apostles. He stresses that this comes from righteousness, not from men ordaining him.

8 “So even now, those who have trained themselves in the Lord's commandments and have lived perfectly, with true knowledge, according to the Gospel, may be counted among the chosen body of the apostles.”

later in the same passage

“He is not such because men ordained him, nor is he considered righteous because he is a presbyter.”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Clement of Alexandria,** *Stromata* 6.13 (c. 190–215 AD) **Source 6, page 5** Read it in the library ›

THF's updated English

THE LIMITS

What these passages don’t tell us

- These passages do not directly ask or answer whether a bishop could ordain an apostle.
- They do not discuss whether anyone after the first apostles may carry the title apostle.
- A word-for-word match shows that a quotation really is in our text. It does not show that our reading of it is right, or who wrote each work.

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WHERE EVERY QUOTE CAME FROM

The Sources

The 22 early Christian passages and 129 Bible verses we kept for this question (repeats and weak or off-topic search hits were left out): early Christian passages first (sources 1–22, grouped by writer, earliest first), then Bible verses in The Faith Once Delivered Bible (sources 23–110, in Bible order), then 41 more verses THF links to these passages, by reference. **Quote 1, page 2** beside a source shows where the study quotes it. Passages are in THF's updated English unless marked "1885 English" (the Roberts–Donaldson translation, public domain). "… [continues online]" marks a passage the library gave only in part. **On paper?** At **thehistoricfaith.com**, Bible verses are in the **Audio Bible** and early Christian writings in the **Library** (search for the title).

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITERS *22 passages from 8 writers*

Didache, *c. 50–120 AD · source 1*

1 *Teaching of the Twelve Apostles* 15 (1885 English) "appoint for yourselves bishops and deacons worthy of the Lord, men meek, and not lovers of money, 1 Timothy 3:4 and truthful and proven… [continues online] **read ›**

Hermas, *c. 90–150 AD · source 2*

2 *Shepherd* (1885 English) "square white stones which fitted exactly into each other, are apostles, bishops, teachers, and deacons, who have lived in godly purity, and have acted as bishops and teachers and deacons… [continues online] **read ›**

Irenaeus, *c. 175–202 AD · sources 3–4*

3 *Against Heresies: Book III* **Quote 4, page 3** blessed apostles, having established and built up the Church, entrusted the role of the episcopate to Linus. Paul mentions Linus in the Epistles to Timothy. Anacletus succeeded him, and after… [continues online] **read ›**

4 *Against Heresies: Book IV* (on point 3) to obey the presbyters in the Church—those who, as I have shown, possess the succession from the apostles; those who, along with the succession of the episcopate, have received… [continues online] **read ›**

Clement of Alexandria, *c. 190–215 AD · sources 5–7*

5 *Stromata* 6.13 (1885 English; on point 6) "the chosen of the chosen are those who by reason of perfect knowledge are called [as the best] from the Church itself, and honoured with the most august glory— the… [continues online] **read ›**

6 *Stromata* 6.13 (1885 English) **Quote 8, page 4** an one is in reality a presbyter of the Church, and a true minister (deacon) of the will of God, if he do and teach what is the Lord's… [continues online] **read ›**

7 *Stromata* 1.1 "gave to the Church some apostles, and some prophets, and some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, for the perfecting of the saints, for… [continues online] **read ›**

Tertullian, *c. 196–220 AD · sources 8–10*

8 *On Prescription Against Heretics* 32 **Quote 3, page 3** "in the middle of the apostolic age, so that they may seem to have been handed down by the apostles because they existed in the time of the apostles, we… [continues online] **read ›**

9 *De Fuga in Persecutione* 13 (1885 English; on point 1) "the apostles, with so much foresight, make the office of overseer of this type, that the occupants might be able to enjoy their rule free from anxiety, under color of… [continues online] **read ›**

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10 *On Exhortation to Chastity* 4 (1885 English) “apostles have the Holy Spirit properly, who have Him fully, in the operations of prophecy, and the efficacy of (healing) virtues, and the evidences of tongues… [continues online] **read ›**

Cyprian, *c. 248–258 AD · sources 11–15*

11 *Epistles* (on point 4) lies of malicious people and slanderers, but from the judgment of the Lord God, who made him a bishop, and from the testimony of his fellow bishops, whose whole number… [continues online] **read ›**

12 *Epistles* (on point 1) “But deacons ought to remember that the Lord chose apostles, that is, bishops and overseers… [continues online] **read ›**

13 *Epistles* (on point 4) a priest be appointed in the presence of all the assembly. That is, He teaches and shows that the ordination of priests should not be carried out except with the… [continues online] **read ›**

14 *Epistles* (1885 English; on point 4) “that, by the suffrage of the whole brotherhood, and by the sentence of the bishops who had assembled in their presence, and who had written letters to you concerning him… [continues online] **read ›**

15 *Epistles* (on point 3) Lord, whose commands and warnings we ought to keep, describes the honor of a bishop and the order of His Church in the Gospel. He says to Peter: “I say… [continues online] **read ›**

Apostolic Constitutions, *c. 250–380 AD · sources 16–20*

16 *Apostolic Constitutions* **Quote 7, page 4** priests, and Levites were ordained by Moses, the man most beloved by God. By our Savior we apostles, thirteen in number, were ordained. And by the apostles, I James, and… [continues online] **read ›**

17 *Apostolic Constitutions* (on point 4) we, the twelve apostles of the Lord, who are now together, give you these divine constitutions concerning every form of the church. Paul, the chosen vessel, our fellow apostle, is… [continues online] **read ›**

18 *Apostolic Constitutions* (1885 English; on point 1) “constitutions concerning this mystical worship, we, the apostles, do ordain for you, the bishops, presbyters, and deacons… [continues online] **read ›**

19 *Apostolic Constitutions* **Quote 5, page 3** the canons, I also make this constitution. A bishop gives the blessing, but does not receive the blessing. He lays on hands, ordains, offers, and receives the blessing from bishops… [continues online] **read ›**

20 *Apostolic Constitutions* **Quote 6, page 3** Simon the Canaanite, also make a constitution to decide how many bishops should elect a bishop. Let a bishop be ordained by three or two bishops. But if anyone is… [continues online] **read ›**

Clement of Rome · *sources 21–22*

21 *First Epistle to the Corinthians* **Quote 1, page 2** “Thus, preaching through countries and cities, they appointed the first-fruits of… [continues online] **read ›**

22 *First Epistle to the Corinthians* **Quote 2, page 2** “apostles also knew, through our Lord Jesus Christ, that there would be conflict regarding the office of the episcopate. For this reason, considering that they had obtained perfect foreknowledge of… [continues online] **read ›**

THE BIBLE *88 verses, The Faith Once Delivered Bible (Old Testament from the Septuagint), in Bible order*

23 **Genesis 48:14** But Israel stretched out his right hand and laid it on the head of Ephraim, who was the younger, and his left hand on the head of Manasseh, crossing his hands. **read ›**

24 **Exodus 29:10** You shall bring the calf to the doors of the tabernacle of witness, and Aaron and his sons shall lay their hands on the head of the calf before the Lord, by the doors of the tabernacle of witness. **read ›**

25 **Exodus 29:15** You shall take one of the rams, and Aaron and his sons shall lay their hands on the head of the ram. **read ›**

26 **Exodus 29:19** You shall take the second ram, and Aaron and his sons shall lay their hands on the head of the ram. **read ›**

27 **Exodus 29:30** The priest from among his sons who succeeds him, who goes into the tabernacle of witness to minister in the holy place, shall put them on for seven days. **read ›**

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28 **Exodus 40:15** You shall anoint them as you anointed their father, and they shall serve me as priests; and so they shall have an anointing of priesthood forever, throughout their generations." **read ›**

29 **Leviticus 1:4** He shall lay his hand on the head of the burnt offering, that it may be acceptable for him, to make atonement for him. **read ›**

30 **Leviticus 4:15** The elders of the congregation shall lay their hands on the head of the calf before the Lord, and they shall slaughter the calf before the Lord. **read ›**

31 **Leviticus 14:15** Then the priest shall take some of the cup of oil and pour it into the priest's own left hand. **read ›**

32 **Leviticus 14:18** The priest shall put the rest of the oil that is on his hand on the head of the one who is cleansed; and the priest shall make atonement for him before the Lord. **read ›**

33 **Leviticus 14:26** The priest shall pour some of the oil into the priest's own left hand, **read ›**

34 **Leviticus 14:27** and with his right finger the priest shall sprinkle some of the oil that is in his left hand seven times before the Lord. **read ›**

35 **Leviticus 16:21** Aaron shall lay his hands on the head of the live goat and confess over it all the lawless deeds of the children of Israel, all their unrighteous acts, and all their sins; he shall put them on the head of the live goat and send it away into the wilderness by the hand of a man who is ready. **read ›**

36 **Leviticus 16:32** The priest whom they anoint, and whose hands they consecrate to serve as priest after his father, shall make atonement; he shall put on the linen garment, the holy garment. **read ›**

37 **Leviticus 21:10** And the high priest among his brothers, on whose head the anointing oil has been poured, and who has been consecrated to put on the garments, shall not uncover his head, nor tear his garments; **read ›**

38 **Numbers 4:16** Eleazar the son of Aaron the priest is overseer of the oil for the light, the compounded incense, the daily sacrifice, and the anointing oil, with the oversight of the whole tabernacle and of all that is in it, in the holy place, in all the works." **read ›**

39 **Numbers 8:10** And you shall bring the Levites before the Lord, and the children of Israel shall lay their hands on the Levites. **read ›**

40 **Numbers 11:16** Then the Lord said to Moses, "Gather to me seventy men of the elders of Israel, whom you yourself know to be elders of the people and their scribes; and bring them to the tabernacle of witness, and they shall stand there with you. **read ›**

41 **Numbers 15:23** just as the Lord commanded you by the hand of Moses, from the day the Lord gave the command to you and onward throughout your generations, **read ›**

42 **Numbers 27:16** "Let the Lord God of the spirits and of all flesh select a man over this congregation, **read ›**

43 **Numbers 27:18** The Lord spoke to Moses, saying, "Take to yourself Jesus the son of Nun, a man who has the Spirit in him, and lay your hands on him. **read ›**

44 **Numbers 27:23** and he laid his hands on him and appointed him, just as the Lord had commanded Moses. **read ›**

45 **1 Chronicles 9:13** and their brothers, heads of the houses of their families, one thousand seven hundred and sixty, mighty men of valor for the work of the service of the house of God. **read ›**

46 **1 Chronicles 23:28** for he appointed them at the side of Aaron, to minister in the house of the Lord, over the courts, and over the chambers, and over the purification of all the holy things, and over the works of the service of the house of God; **read ›**

47 **2 Chronicles 31:15** by the hand of Odom, Benjamin, Jesus, Shimei, Amariah, and Shecaniah, by the hand of the priests, faithfully, to give to their brothers according to their daily courses, to great and small alike, **read ›**

48 **Ezra 1:2** "Thus says Cyrus king of the Persians: The Lord God of heaven has given me all the kingdoms of the earth, and he himself has charged me to build him a house in Jerusalem, which is in Judea. **read ›**

49 **Ezra 7:2** the son of Shallum, the son of Zadok, the son of Ahitub, **read ›**

50 **Proverbs 10:20** The tongue of the righteous is silver refined by fire, but the heart of the ungodly will fail. **read ›**

51 **Proverbs 11:27** He who devises good things seeks good favor, but evil will overtake him who seeks it. **read ›**

52 **Proverbs 12:20** Deceit is in the heart of him who devises evil, but those who desire peace will be glad. **read ›**

53 **Proverbs 14:17** A hot-tempered man acts without counsel, but a man of sound judgment bears many things. **read ›**

54 **Proverbs 14:19** The evil will fall before the good, and the ungodly will wait at the doors of the righteous. **read ›**

55 **Ecclesiastes 3:20** All go to one place; all came from the dust, and all will return to the dust. **read ›**

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56 **Isaiah 7:6** “We will go up to Judea, and having talked with them we will turn them to our side, and we will make the son of Tabeel king of it,” **read ›**

57 **Isaiah 15:3** Wrap yourselves in sackcloth in her squares, and lament on her rooftops and in her lanes; all of you, wail with weeping. **read ›**

58 **Amos 9:2** If they hide themselves in Hades, from there my hand shall drag them up; and if they go up to heaven, from there I will bring them down. **read ›**

59 **1 Esdras 1:2** having set the priests in their robes by their daily courses in the temple of the Lord. **read ›**

60 **1 Esdras 5:40** And Nehemiah and Attharias told them not to share in the holy things until a high priest should arise clothed with the Manifestation and the Truth. **read ›**

61 **1 Esdras 7:2** supervised the holy works very carefully, working together with the elders of the Jews and the temple officials. **read ›**

62 **1 Esdras 8:46** commanding them to speak to Loddaeus and his brothers and the treasurers at that place, to send us men to serve as priests in the house of our Lord. **read ›**

63 **1 Esdras 9:47** All the multitude answered, “Amen”; and lifting up their hands they fell to the ground and worshiped the Lord. **read ›**

64 **Wisdom of Solomon 9:2** and by your wisdom formed man, to have dominion over the creatures made by you, **read ›**

65 **Wisdom of Sirach 10:20** Among brothers their leader is honored, and those who fear the Lord in his eyes. **read ›**

66 **Wisdom of Sirach 45:15** Moses filled his hands and anointed him with holy oil; it became for him an everlasting covenant, and for his seed for the days of heaven, to minister to the Lord and to serve as priest together, and to bless his people in his name. **read ›**

67 **Wisdom of Sirach 48:8** you anointed kings for retribution, and prophets as successors after him; **read ›**

68 **Susanna 1:34** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

69 **1 Maccabees 3:55** After this Judas appointed leaders of the people, commanders of thousands and of hundreds and of fifties and of tens. **read ›**

70 **1 Maccabees 10:20** And now we have appointed you today to be high priest of your nation and to be called the king’s friend” (and he sent him a purple robe and a crown of gold) “and to take our side and keep friendship with us.” **read ›**

71 **1 Maccabees 11:27** He confirmed him in the high priesthood and in all the other honors he had held before, and had him counted among his first friends. **read ›**

72 **1 Maccabees 12:20** “Oniares king of the Spartans to Onias the high priest, greeting. **read ›**

73 **1 Maccabees 14:17** But when they heard that Simon his brother had become high priest in his place and was ruling over the country and the cities in it, **read ›**

74 **1 Maccabees 14:19** And these were read before the assembly in Jerusalem. **read ›**

75 **1 Maccabees 14:38** And King Demetrius confirmed him in the high priesthood accordingly, **read ›**

76 **1 Maccabees 14:41** and that the Jews and the priests were well pleased that Simon should be their leader and high priest forever, until a faithful prophet should arise; **read ›**

77 **1 Maccabees 14:42** and that he should be general over them, and that he should take charge of the sanctuary, to appoint men over its works and over the country and over the weapons and over the strongholds; **read ›**

78 **1 Maccabees 14:47** Simon accepted, and agreed to be high priest, and to be general and ethnarch of the Jews and of the priests, and to preside over them all. **read ›**

79 **2 Maccabees 3:20** And all of them, stretching out their hands toward heaven, made their plea. **read ›**

80 **2 Maccabees 14:13** giving orders to kill Judas himself, to scatter those with him, and to install Alcimus as high priest of the greatest temple. **read ›**

81 **4 Maccabees 4:18** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

82 **4 Maccabees 7:6** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

83 **4 Maccabees 15:3** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

84 **1 Enoch 9:5** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

85 **1 Enoch 10:20** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

86 **Mark 3:14** He appointed twelve, that they might be with him, and that he might send them out to preach **read ›**

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87 **Acts 1:20** “For it is written in the book of Psalms: Let his dwelling be made desolate, and let there be no one to dwell in it; and: Let another take his office of overseer. **read ›**

88 **Acts 1:22** beginning with the baptism of John until the day he was taken up from us, one of these must become a witness with us of his resurrection.” **read ›**

89 **Acts 6:3** Therefore, brothers, select from among you seven men of good reputation, full of the Holy Spirit and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this work. **read ›**

90 **Acts 6:6** whom they set before the apostles. When they had prayed, they laid their hands on them. **read ›**

91 **Acts 8:17** Then they laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit. **read ›**

92 **Acts 8:18** Now when Simon saw that the Holy Spirit was given through the laying on of the apostles’ hands, he offered them money, **read ›**

93 **Acts 8:19** saying, “Give me this authority too, so that anyone on whom I lay my hands may receive the Holy Spirit.” **read ›**

94 **Acts 9:14** Here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who call on your name.” **read ›**

95 **Acts 9:17** Ananias departed and entered into the house. Laying his hands on him, he said, “Brother Saul, the Lord, who appeared to you on the road by which you came, has sent me that you may receive your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit.” **read ›**

96 **Acts 13:3** Then, when they had fasted and prayed and laid their hands on them, they sent them away. **read ›**

97 **Acts 14:23** They appointed elders for them in every church and, after prayer with fasting, commended them to the Lord in whom they had believed. **read ›**

98 **Acts 15:2** After considerable dissension and debate between Paul and Barnabas and these men, Paul and Barnabas and some others from among them were appointed to go up to the apostles and elders in Jerusalem about this question. **read ›**

99 **Acts 15:22** Then the apostles and elders, with the whole church, decided to choose men from among them and send them to Antioch with Paul and Barnabas: Judas called Barsabbas and Silas, leading men among the brothers. **read ›**

100 **1 Corinthians 9:2** If to others I am not an apostle, yet at least I am to you; for you are the seal of my apostleship in the Lord. **read ›**

101 **1 Corinthians 12:28** God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, administrations, and kinds of tongues. **read ›**

102 **Ephesians 4:11** He gave some to be apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, shepherds and teachers; **read ›**

103 **1 Timothy 2:7** for which I was appointed a preacher and an apostle—I speak the truth in Christ, I do not lie—a teacher of the Gentiles in faithfulness and truth. **read ›**

104 **1 Timothy 3:1** The saying is trustworthy: if anyone aspires to the office of bishop, he desires a good work. **read ›**

105 **1 Timothy 3:2** The bishop therefore must be above reproach, the husband of one wife, temperate, self-controlled, orderly, hospitable, able to teach; **read ›**

106 **1 Timothy 4:14** Do not neglect the gift that is in you, which was given to you by prophecy with the laying on of the hands of the elders. **read ›**

107 **1 Timothy 5:22** Lay hands hastily on no one. Do not be a participant in other people’s sins. Keep yourself pure. **read ›**

108 **2 Timothy 1:11** For this I was appointed as a preacher, an apostle, and a teacher of the Gentiles. **read ›**

109 **Titus 1:5** I left you in Crete for this reason, that you would set in order the things that were lacking and appoint elders in every city, as I directed you— **read ›**

110 **Titus 1:7** For a bishop must be blameless as God’s steward, not self-willed, not quick-tempered, not given to wine, not violent, not greedy for dishonest gain, **read ›**

ALSO LINKED BY THF TO THESE PASSAGES *41 verses, by reference*

Partly machine-linked: related to the passages, not always quoted in them. Each reference links to the verse in our audio Bible.

Isaiah 60:17 · 63:3

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Matthew 5:6 · 5:42 · 10:5
Mark 7:9 · 12:39
Luke 8:17 · 10:16 · 11:23 · 12:2 · 12:47 · 12:50 · 16:9 · 20:46
John 20:22
Acts 1:8 · 9:5
1 Corinthians 6:10 · 7:27 · 9:25 · 14:33 · 15:6 · 15:41
Galatians 3:27 · 6:1
Ephesians 2:20 · 4:2 · 4:13
Philippians 1:18 · 2:2 · 3:16
1 Thessalonians 4:17
1 Timothy 3:4 · 6:16
Titus 2:14
Hebrews 6:6
1 Peter 2:5
1 John 2:27
Revelation 4:4 · 11:16

Searched: Ante-Nicene Fathers volumes 1–9 and the Bible, including the Septuagint.

ABOUT THIS STUDY

A THF member asked “Can a bishop ordain an apostle?” on May 18, 2026. The Historic Faith answered it as a public study on November 9, 2026.

Library only. This study was written only from The Historic Faith’s library of early-Christian writings and the Bible, never from the web. Every passage we kept from what the library gave is listed above, with a link to read it.

How it was made. Compiled by machine learning from The Historic Faith’s library of early-Christian writings and the Bible only. Every quotation was matched word for word against our stored text. Not yet reviewed by The Historic Faith.

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THE END OF THIS STUDY