Deacons and Diakonia in Early Christianity
The First Two Centuries
Ed. by Bart J. Koet, Edwina Murphy, and Esko Ryökäs

Published in English.

In German-speaking countries, the role of the diaconate has been strongly influenced by nineteenth-century ideas of diakonia as service towards the poor. As important as the social initiatives stemming from this perspective have been, in order to correctly understand deacons and diakonia in the early church, we must go back to the sources. For this volume, focused on the first two centuries of Christianity, scholars from a range of backgrounds consider the use of diakonos and related words in the New Testament and extra-biblical sources, both Christian and otherwise. These texts reveal what deacons actually did, helping us to understand the past and giving guidance for the present, particularly in ecumenical discussions concerning the ministry.

Survey of contents

Munib Younan: Foreword

A) Introduction
Bart J. Koet/Edwina Murphy/Esko Ryökäs: Assessing the Role and Function of an Assistant: The Deacon in the First Two Centuries of Christianity

B) Biblical Sources

C) The Earliest Christian (Extra-Biblical) Sources

Bart J. Koet
Born 1955; Professor of New Testament Studies and Early Christian Literature, and Dean of Research at the Tilburg School of Catholic Theology.

Edwina Murphy
Born 1970; Lecturer in Church History at Morling College (Australian College of Theology and University of Divinity) in Sydney, Australia.

Esko Ryökäs
Born 1953; Adjunct Professor in Systematic Theology at University of Eastern Finland in Joensuu and docent in Practical Theology at Åbo Akademi University.

Order now:
order@mohrsiebeck.com
Phone: +49 (0)7071-923-17
Fax: +49 (0)7071-51104

Mohr Siebeck GmbH & Co. KG
Postfach 2040
D-72010 Tübingen
info@mohrsiebeck.com
www.mohrsiebeck.com