

Bible Study Series on.....

The First
Letter to

TIMOTHY

13 Lessons

**Prepared by:
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2005

**A
Study
of**

1 Timothy

13 Lessons

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Lesson One

“WARNING AGAINST FALSE DOCTRINES”

(I Timothy 1:1-11)

INTRODUCTION

1. There are strong indications of Paul’s release from his two years of imprisonment at Rome.
 - a) Upon his release, he may have gone to Spain as he had planned.(Romans 15:24,28)
 - b) We are not absolutely sure of Paul’s itinerary, but the following may be possible.
 - c) Upon his return, he could have possibly stopped at Crete.
 - 1—Timothy & Titus were probably with him.
 - 2—He leaves Titus there to continue working with the churches. (Tit. 1:5)
 - d) Paul & Timothy make their way back to Ephesus.
 - 1—Paul leaves Timothy at Ephesus while he went into Macedonia. (I Tim. 1:3)
 - 2—Paul writes this first letter back to Timothy from Macedonia.
 - 3—He also wrote to Titus requested that he come to him in Nicopolis where he planned to spend the winter. (Tit. 3:12)
2. With this brief background, we want to study the first letter of Paul to Timothy.

DISCUSSION

I. SALUTATIONS TO TIMOTHY. (1:1-2)

A. Authorship of the Letter:

- 1) It was customary to begin their letters with who did the writing.
- 2) Paul, an apostle.
 - a) Timothy knew the things in this letter.....so it was not just for his benefit that this letter was written.
 - b) An apostle.....one sent as a personal representative.
 - c) Gives an official tone to the letter....Authority.
- 3) An apostle by the commandment of God (deity).
 - a) Not a position assumed by him, but given to him.
 - b) He was under orders from God.

B. To Timothy:

- 1) His own son in the faith.
 - a) Taught & baptized by Paul.
 - b) Shows an endearment that he had towards Timothy.
 - c) He was a true child of God, born into this family by Paul.
- 2) Greetings:
 - a) Grace---Desired God’s continual favor over his life.
 - b) Mercy---Desired God’s continual mercy over his life.
 - c) Peace---Desired that continual sense of well-being in his life that comes from being right with God.

THE CHARGE CONCERNING FALSE TEACHERS. (1:3-4)

A. Paul left Timothy in Ephesus for a purpose.

- 1) He stated that purpose when he left him.
- 2) But this was a reminder for him, and insight to those who read it.

- 3) Someone had to stay in Ephesus to deal with the dangers of wrong teachings.
- 4) Paul had warned the elders of this before. (Acts 20:28-32)
- 5) He also wrote the Galatian churches to warn of the same dangers. (Gal. 1:6-9)
- 6) All deviations from God's truth must be stopped.

B. Timothy, himself, had to watch carefully what he gave a hearing to.

- 1) Not to listen to Fables (**MUTHOS**---Myth).
 - a) Stories in Jewish history without Scripture background & teaching.
 - b) Rabbinical fabrications.....false ideas.
- 2) Not to listen to Endless Genealogies.
 - a) Tracing lineages to draw false conclusions.
 - b) Such are not of value to the church.
 - c) They do not strengthen one's faith in Christ.
- 3) Reason:
 - a) They cause disputes rather than godly edification.
 - b) The purpose of teaching is to:
 - 1—Instruct & Inform
 - 2—To give correct knowledge of God and His Will
 - 3—To exhort them to put these things into use.
 - 4—So all can be built up in the most holy faith.

III. WHAT IS THE GOAL OF THIS CHARGE? (1:5)

A. To encourage love from a pure heart.

- 1) God's people are to be known for how they love one another.(Jn. 13:35)
- 2) This love must be without hypocrisy....with pure intent.
- 3) This love will be shown by reaching out in concern for others.
- 4) False teachers do not have this love!!!

B. To encourage love from a good conscience.

- 1) We are to teach that which promotes a good conscience void of offense.
- 2) The only way.....obey from the heart the Will of God.

C. To encourage love from a sincere faith.

- 1) Love is to be sincere....but so is our faith.
- 2) We must have strong convictions of God's truth.
- 3) Our faith is not to be a pretended faith.
- 4) This is what these false teachers had.....pretended!!!
- 5) How do we know???

IV. THE REASON FOR GIVING THIS STRONG CHARGE. (1:6-7)

A. Because some have strayed away.

- 1) They have turned aside from these True things.
- 2) And are now teaching false things.
- 3) Things that have no value to the saving of the soul.
- 4) Things that destroy, rather than build up the soul.
- 5) They have turn aside unto "vain janglings, Empty chatter, Idle or foolish talk

B. Because they want the position of TEACHER.

- 1) They want to be recognized as knowledgeable teachers of the Law.
- 2) To be looked upon as "Doctors of the Law" (Matt. 23:5-7).

- 3) And the dangers is.....they do not know how to teach the Law properly.
 - 1—They don't even understand what they are trying to teach.
 - 2—Probably just parroting out what they have heard, without checking it.
 - 3—They present themselves as knowledgeable teachers, but they are not.

C. The same is done today.

- 1) Men pose as expert teachers of the Law.
- 2) But all the while totally misusing it.....deceiving people....misleading people.

V. THE CORRECT USE OF LAW IS NOW GIVEN. (1:8-11)

A. Which law?

- 1) Probably the Law of Moses in particular.
- 2) But it would apply to any Law of God....Law in general.

B. The teaching of Law must be done correctly by Christians.

- 1) Yes, it is a guide for life.....rules to govern our lives by.
- 2) Yes, it is given by God for man to know how he ought to live.
- 3) But it also shows how sinful man really is in God's sight.
- 4) It shows that he cannot be made righteous by perfect law-keeping.
- 5) It shows that all men are under condemnation for breaking God's Law.
- 6) It shows man needs a redeemer—The Law foretold it (Gal. 3:19, 24).
- 7) The Law was never intended to make a person just or righteous.
- 8) The law shows who the lawless & disobedient people are.
 - a) The ungodly---those who do not reverence God.
 - b) Sinners....lawbreakers.
 - c) Unholy & Profane---Polluted & worldly.
 - d) Murders---Unnatural treatment of people—even taking their lives.
 - e) Immoral---Women selling themselves, and men with men.
 - f) Men-stealers---slave dealers....exploiting humans for profit.
 - g) Those who lie & perjure themselves.
 - h) And any other thing contrary to sound doctrine.
 - 1—Sound, healthy, that preserves the soul in a good spiritual state.
 - 2—“and such like” Gal. 5:21
 - 3—Anything that is contrary to the glorious gospel of God.
 - 4—That Gospel that was committed to Paul.

CONCLUSION

1. It is important to recognize the dangers of mis-teaching people.
2. Grave responsibilities lie upon the shoulders of those that would be teachers.
3. Jas. 3:1---“*My brethren, be not many masters (teachers), knowing that we shall receive the greater condemnation.*”
4. God wants us to teach His Word, but do it correctly.
5. He wants lost souls, as well as His people, to be taught correctly His Truth.
6. That is what we have striven to do this night!

Lesson Two

**“PAUL’S DEEP GRATITUDE
FOR FORGIVENESS”**

(I Timothy 1:12-20)

INTRODUCTION

1. Paul had special reasons for being grateful:
 - a) He had received the undeserved forgiveness of God;
 - b) He had been appointed a special apostle to preach God’s loving message.
2. Out of this deep feeling of gratitude:
 - a) Paul wanted Timothy to be challenged to appreciate his own situation;
 - b) And to serve God faithfully also.
3. From these admonitions & words to Timothy, we can also be challenged to do the same!

DISCUSSION

I. REASONS FOR EXPRESSING GRATITUDE (1:12-14)

A. He first states the source of His blessings...Jesus Christ!

- 1) Eph. 1:3---“*Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ.*”
- 2) He realized how much Christ had meant to his life.
- 3) He refers to Christ Jesus as LORD.
 - a) We must accept Christ as Savior.
 - b) But we also must accept Him as Lord!
 - c) Paul is expressing that submissive attitude that all Christians should have.

B. He is grateful that God placed him into preaching the Word.

- 1) He was given special mission to preach to Gentiles.
- 2) And it was Christ who gave him the strength & power to accomplish what had been done.
 - a) “Enabled me”---Infused strength
 - b) Clothed Paul with ability to do the work.
- 3) “Counted me faithful” (Trustworthy)
 - a) Christ saw in Paul a trustworthy person.
 - b) He was a man true to his conscience.
 - c) He had a strong desire to do right.
 - d) He knew he would be dependable.

C. This appointment was made in spite of Paul’s strong animosity against the followers of Christ.

- 1) 3 words describe his actions:
 - a) Blasphemer!
 - 1—To speak reproachfully of another.
 - 2—He spoke evil of Jesus.
 - 3—He also tried to get his followers to blaspheme.

4—Acts 26:11---“*I punished them oft in every synagogue, and compelled them to blaspheme.*”

b) Persecutor!

1—He spoke against Christ, and persecuted his followers.

2—Acts 26:10---“*Many of the saints did I shut up in prison.... and when they were put to death, I gave my voice against them.*”

3—Acts 22:4---“*I persecuted this way unto the death, binding and delivering into prisons both men and women.*”

4—He was trying to stop this breakaway from the “true way!”

c) Insolent!

1—He was bitter in his attitude towards Christians.

2—He was injurious---did them harm.

3—Acts 8:3---“*He made havoc of the church*”

4—Acts 9:1---“*Breathing out threatenings and slaughter against the disciples...*”

2) Paul’s repentance is obvious here!

a) A change of heart was obvious.

b) His life changed drastically.

c) He exemplified true repentance.

d) His life became deeply involved in serving Jesus as Lord.

D. Paul obtained mercy from the Lord.

1) NOT because he deserved it....for he didn’t!!

a) God was merciful to him.

b) Allowed him opportunity to obey the gospel. (22:16)

c) So he could be forgiven.

2) Reason one---“I did what I did ignorantly”

a) Ignorance does not excuse us nor save us.

b) Acts 3:17---“*And now brethren, I know that through ignorance ye did it....*”

c) A person can truly want to obey God (as Paul was), but be ignorant of the right way!!

d) But because Paul was sincere....all he needed was to be taught the truth and he would change.

e) This is what Paul did.

f) Romans 10:1-3

g) God wants all men to come to a knowledge of His truth, so they can be saved. I Tim. 2:4

h) God’s mercy has provided this truth for mankind.

i) The honest & sincere will obey it.

3) Reason two---“In unbelief”

a) He had **not** been convinced of the Messiahship of Jesus.

b) But now he was!!

E. Paul describes the Lord's grace as:

- 1) Exceedingly abundant (abounded exceedingly)
 - a) Needed to be for Paul.
 - b) He had been forgiven so much.
 - c) His heart overflowed with thanksgiving.
- 2) With faith & love
 - a) God's grace made faith & love possible for Paul.
 - b) Gal. 5:6---"***Faith working through Love***"
- 3) Which is in Christ Jesus
 - a) Grace, Faith & Love are all found in Christ.
 - b) Acts 4:12---"***Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.***"

II. PAUL EXTOLLS CHRIST FOR HIS MERCY. (1:15-16)**A. "This is a faithful saying"**

- 1) A trustworthy saying.....you can count on it.
- 2) What Paul is about to say is not only important, but is worthy of all men's willing acceptance.
- 3) WHAT??---"That Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners."
 - a) He became a human being living among us.
 - b) When men will recognize & admit they are sinners,
 - c) Then, they are ready to be saved.
- 4) "Of whom I am chief" (foremost)
 - a) Eph. 3:8---"***Who am less than the least of all saints***".
 - b) Paul was able to recognize & admit his sinfulness.
 - c) He showed the humility God requires. Jas. 4:10
 - d) "I was such a sinner that one might doubt whether I could be saved or was worth saving."

B. The great value of Paul receiving mercy.

- 1) Through Paul, God could show his great longsuffering for sinners.
- 2) That even a terrible sinner like Paul could be saved.
- 3) A means of encouraging other sinners to turn and accept God's forgiveness.
- 4) If Christ could save Paul, He could save anyone who would turn to Him.
 - a) Those willing to believe...lean on, depend upon.
 - b) Show an obedient faith. Rom. 6:17-18
- 5) Such faith will lead to everlasting life.

III. PAUL EXTOLLS DEITY. (1:17)**A. Glory & honor to be given freely unto:**

- 1) The One who is king, ruler throughout the ages
- 2) Who is immortal (incorruptible)
- 3) Who is invisible (in contrast to idols....Jn. 4:24)
- 4) Who alone is wise (only wise God)
 - a) Who alone is God.
 - b) The unique one of this universe.

B. Honor & glory to be given forever & ever.

- 1) Honor.....deep respect & reverence.
- 2) Glory.....exaltation, praise.
- 3) To be done without ending...on & on & on.....
- 4) Amen...so let it be done!

IV. REASON FOR GIVING THIS CHARGE TO TIMOTHY. (1:18-20)**A. The charge....same as one in verses 3-8.**

- 1) A grave responsibility has been committed to you...guard it well.
- 2) Paul knew he wouldn't be around too much longer.
- 3) Timothy needed to feel this responsibility keenly.

B. Live up to the prophecies previously made concerning you. (I Tim. 4:14)

- 1) Someone had prophesied about Timothy's future usefulness in the kingdom.
- 2) Paul reminds him of God's confidence in him.

C. So that you may war a good warfare.

- 1) Promotion of the kingdom was a constant battle.
- 2) He wanted Timothy to be militant in his efforts.

D. So that you may hold on to faith and a good conscience.

- 1) The weapons of his warfare are given in Eph. 6.
- 2) Here, Paul emphasizes "stand fast in the faith".
- 3) So conduct yourself so that you will have nothing to be ashamed of.
- 4) Those who turn from the truth willfully violate their conscience.
- 5) We are to be guided by a properly taught conscience to avoid hypocrisy.

E. So that you will not make shipwreck of the faith like some have done.

- 1) To put away the faith....put it aside.....is to bring disaster.
- 2) When a good conscience is thrown overboard, shipwreck is sure.
- 3) Two are mentioned as having done this:
 - a) Hymeneus---A false teacher. (II Tim. 2:16-18)
 - b) Alexander---(II Tim. 4:14)
 - c) Whom I have delivered unto Satan "*for the destruction of the flesh, that the spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord Jesus.*"(1 Cor. 5:5)
 - 2—Purpose....to save a soul, not destroy it.
 - 3—Only done by person putting fleshly man to death.
 - d) That they may learn not to blaspheme.

CONCLUSION

- 1) Paul had changed from a Persistent Persecutor to a Powerful Preacher.
- 2) And he was grateful in word & deed for God's love & mercy to him.
- 3) The character of a true servant of God:
 - a) Called by church to serve, not self-appointed.
 - b) He serves by God's grace, not by his own power.
 - c) He seeks God's glory, not his own.
 - d) Has a sense of unworthiness, rather than an arrogant self-conceit.
 - e) He faithfully teaches God's truth, not his own fabrications.

Lesson Three

“PAUL’S EXHORTATIONS TO PRAYER”

(I Timothy 2:1-8)

INTRODUCTION

1. Verse 1:
 - a) Paul instructs Timothy to encourage the church to pray when they come together.
 - b) “I exhort therefore” that this be done.
 - c) It should be considered of primary importance, not secondary!
 - d) A needed exhortation even for us today as well.
3. Paul now begins to give directions on conducting public worship.
 - a) And in particular....those who lead in that worship.
 - b) The contrast will be shown clearly between the role of the man and the woman in such assemblies.

DISCUSSION

I. THE FOUR ASPECTS OF PRAYER MENTIONED:

A. Supplications (requests.....entreaties)

- 1) Earnest pleading of a humble petitioner.
- 2) Phil. 4:6---“*Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.*”

B. Prayers (All-inclusive expression)

- 1) May also be emphasizing coming to God in due reverence.
- 2) Romans 15:30---“*Now I beseech you, brethren, for the Lord Jesus Christ’s sake, and for the love of the Spirit, that ye strive together with me in your prayers to God for me.*”

C. Intercessions

- 1) Special petitions in behalf of another.
- 2) To express concern for others & their needs.
- 3) We intercede for others, not from any merit of our own, but from concern!!!!

D. With thanksgiving.

- 1) From a sense of gratitude for what God has already done.
- 2) His mercy, goodness, kindness, forgiveness, care over us.
- 3) Most of all that God has provided a way of salvation.

II. FOR WHOM SHOULD WE PRAY?

A. “All men”

- 1) This is the generic word for “mankind” or “humankind”.
- 2) As opposed to the narrow & bigoted attitudes.
- 3) For learned & unlearned.
- 4) For rich, poor, black, white, red, yellow.
- 5) For male & female.
- 6) Christian & non-Christian.
- 7) For all need God’s grace & mercy.

B. “Kings and all in Authority”

- 1) Rulers & leading people who affect lives of masses.
- 2) Reason...because they need our prayers.
- 3) Both the good and bad.
- 4) Civil & world affairs evidently can be influenced by our prayers to God.

III. PURPOSE OF PRAYER (WHY PRAY FOR SUCH?)

A. So that God’s people might lead a quiet & peaceable life.

- 1) So rulers will allow God’s people to worship & serve Him without persecution.
- 2) Quiet---Tranquility from without (no disturbances)
- 3) Peaceable---Tranquility from within (assurance).
- 4) Protect us from oppression that makes life easier.

B. “In all godliness & honesty”

- 1) Godliness---devoutness, fulfilling duties to God.
- 2) Honesty---Gravity, decorum, dignity, decency.
---Honorableness, seriousness of purpose.

C. Such has the approval of God.

- 1) This is what God wants...it is good & acceptable.
- 2) God is greatly pleased that His children have the same concerns that he has of his creatures.

D. Because God wants all men to be saved.

- 1) He is Savior...his very nature is to save.
- 2) He wants all men to be saved.
 - a) His grace & mercy is extended to all without distinction.
 - b) He has commissioned His gospel to be preached to every creature, all nations. Mk. 16:15
- 3) This salvation comes by men coming to a knowledge of the truth.
 - a) If man is not saved....it is his own fault.
 - b) It is a great sin to choose to reject one’s only hope of eternal redemption.
 - c) Men must believe & obey this gospel (truth).

IV. NOW CONCERNING THIS SALVATION:

A. It comes from the ONE GOD of heaven.

- 1) Not many gods, but the one true God.
- 2) The one who created us in his own image.
- 3) The same God of the Old Testament that Jews worshipped.
- 4) The one God who wants to save us...His creatures.

B. It is made possible by the ONE MEDIATOR between God and Man.

- 1) Not many mediators, but one only....
- 2) A mediator is one who intervenes between two parties.
- 3) Jesus is the perfect mediator between God and man:
 - a) Since He is both God & man himself.
 - b) Heb. 2:14-18

- c) A mediator is one who brings peace....Jesus is our means of peace with God.

C. His death made this redemption possible.

- 1) Restoration of harmony now made possible.
- 2) He gave himself a ransom for all.
 - a) Ransom---to give one's life for another.
 - b) Mk. 10:45---***“For even the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many.”***
- 3) Pray to this ONE GOD for all men to be saved because Jesus has provided the means for that salvation.
- 4) Unfortunately, Salvation is to be offered to all, but not all will accept it.
 - a) The ransom of Christ must be appropriated.
 - b) The ransom is adequate for all who will accept it.
- 5) Such great news was not fully manifested until the coming of Christ.
 - a) Gal. 4:4-5
 - b) That this was not for Jews only, but for all men.
 - c) It is now in the process of being made known.

D. Which message has been given through Paul:

- 1) Who is a preacher of this message.
 - a) Paul had not appointed himself to preach, but God!
 - b) So, he proclaims that message & only that message.
- 2) Who was also appointed an apostle.
 - a) One especially sent to the Gentile world.
 - b) God took special steps to see that this was done.
- 3) Paul affirms with an oath that this is the truth.
- 4) And if God went to all this trouble, then we should pray for them.
- 5) Do as Paul—instruct in faith & knowledge of God's great message to the lost.

CONCLUSION

1. Verse 8---**“I will therefore that men pray everywhere”.**

- a) Men---Aner---male.
 - 1—In contrast to women, female.
 - 2—In public worship, men are to lead.
 - 3—Women have a different sphere.
- b) “Everywhere”
 - 1—Not just in the Temple, like the Jews.
 - 2—But wherever Christians meet.
- c) “Lifting up holy hands”
 - 1—Eastern way of praying to gods.
 - 2—Figure of speech....holy hands....not defiled by sinfulness.
....not employed in iniquity.
 - 3—Hands dedicated to God....not hypocritical.
- d) “Without wrath & doubting”
 - 1—Wrath---not anger with design to punish...
---but a calm, peaceful, benevolent spirit.

2—Doubting---idea of disputing & angry contention.

---Prayer is worthless!!

3—Prayer offered in a calm, serious, sober-minded state.

4—In a proper state to approach the throne of God.

2. Prayer.....what a privilege for the child of God.

3. Would you like to have such a blessing for your life?

Lesson Four

“ROLES OF MEN & WOMEN IN WORSHIP”

(I Timothy 2:8-15)

INTRODUCTION

1. The social status of women in Paul’s day was low.
2. The teaching of God’s Word, when followed, has helped to change this.
3. However, the male is to retain the leading role in the public services of the church
4. If one questions the authority of the Word of God:
 - a) He will waste his time reading it or listening to it.
 - b) He will argue and rationalize away what it teaches.
 - c) He becomes his own authority.
 - d) Whatever he says is right!
5. Let’s see how Paul deals with the roles of men & women.

DISCUSSION**I. INSTRUCTIONS TO THE MEN, (Vs. 8)****A. Public Prayers are to be offered by the men (Male).**

- 1) Paul changes from the generic word to the specific word.
 - a) Anthropos....mankind in general.
 - b) Aner.....male as opposed to female.
- 2) Men, not women, are to lead in the public assembly.
 - a) Men & women both pray.
 - b) But only men lead the prayers.
- 3) Some interesting facts:
 - a) Jesus Christ came as a male, not female.
 - b) Every Apostle was a male.
 - c) N.T. books written by males.
 - d) Elders in the church are to be males.
 - e) It forbids a woman to get up and preach & teach over males.
- 4) No one should frown upon roles that God has given as though they were degrading.
 - a) God made us and knows what is best for mankind.
 - b) He did not make any mistakes in these matters.
 - c) The Bible actually exalts women.
 - 1—They are made in God’s image.
 - 2—They can be saved just like the man.
 - 3—Prov. 31:10—**“Who can find a virtuous woman? For her price is far above rubies.”**
 - d) A godly woman is the hope of this world!!

B. Men are to lead in public worship backed by godly lives!

- 1) Lifting up holy hands to God.
 - a) Must bring one’s life into conformity to God’s Will.
 - b) Cannot live ungodly lives on Saturday night & worship God acceptably on Sunday morning.

- c) I Cor. 10:21—“*Ye cannot drink the cup of the Lord, and the cup of demons: ye cannot be partakers of the Lord’s table, and of the table of demons.*”
- d) Isa. 1:15—“*And when ye spread forth your hands, I will hide mine eyes from you: yea, when ye make many prayers, I will not hear: your hands are full of blood.*”
- 2) Without wrath & doubting.
 - a) Without anger & contention, disputes, strife.
 - b) But with humility & harmony.

II. INSTRUCTIONS TO WOMEN. (Vs. 9-15)

A. Her Conduct & Adornment. (Vs. 9-10)

- 1) Adorn themselves in modest apparel.
 - a) Modest...Kosmos...Orderly, fitting, becoming.
 - b) That which is appropriate for occasion.
 - c) Not gaudy & expensive...as worldly women do.
 - d) Proper, neat, attractive, acceptable.
 - e) God has adorned his creation with beauty...so he is not forbidding proper adorning.
 - f) But, the worship assembly is not a time for a fashion show.
- 2) To be with shamefacedness & sobriety.
 - a) Modest in dress & conduct...so will not be ashamed.
 - b) Concern for purity & holiness.
 - c) Jer. 8:12---“*Were they ashamed when they had committed abomination? Nay, they were not at all ashamed, neither could they blush: therefore shall they fall among them that fall: in the time of their visitation they shall be cast down, saith the Lord.*”
 - d) **With a blend of modesty & humility.**
 - e) With moderation, soundness of mind, sober-minded.
- 3) Not with:
 - a) Braided hair, gold, pearls, or costly array.
 - b) One of those peculiar expressions.....Not, but...
 - c) Not strictly forbidding these, but playing them down.
 - d) Don’t put your emphasis upon the outward, but the inward.
 - e) I Peter 3:1-4
- 4) But with good works.
 - a) Let them see the beauty of your life & deeds.
 - b) This is the way godly women dress & act.
 - c) A life that fits her profession.

B. Her submissive Role. (Vs. 11-12)

- 1) Learn in silence with all subjection.
 - a) Her role is not to take the place of leadership...belongs to the man.
 - b) Her role is a submissive one.
 - c) She is not to get up and speak in the assembly as a leader. I Cor. 14:34
- 2) She is not to publicly teach over the man.
 - a) This is not her role.

- b) She can teach women & children. Tit. 2:3
- c) To do so would be to reject the man's leadership role that God has given.

C. Reasons given for this arrangement. (Vs. 13-14)

- 1) Was it custom being regulated or God's arrangement from the beginning?
- 2) For Adam was first formed, then Eve.
 - a) Man created first, Eve second.
 - b) I Cor. 11:8-9---"***For the man is not of the woman; but the woman of the man. Neither was the man created for the woman; but the woman for the man.***"
 - c) Woman created from man as a companion, not for headship.
 - d) I Cor. 11:3---"***But I would have you know, that the head of every man is Christ; and the head of the woman is the man; and the head of Christ is God.***"
 - e) She is subordinate, but not inferior.
- 3) Adam was **not** deceived, but the woman was.
 - a) She yielded to Satan's temptation, knowing what she did.
 - b) Adam yielded to his wife's temptation, knowing what he did.

D. The woman's important Role. (Vs. 15)

- 1) It is as though Paul is saying to the woman:
 - a) Take heart....don't be downcast.
 - b) Yes, sin entered into world thru you.
 - c) But look what God has done to exalt you.
- 2) Notwithstanding, she shall be saved through child-bearing.
 - a) You may have come from the man, but...
 - b) But the man is dependent upon you for his existence.
 - c) I Cor. 11:12---"***For as the woman is of the man, even so is the man also by the woman; but all things are of God.***"
 - d) Her great purpose in life is the very existence of mankind!
- 3) And, her salvation in Christ depends upon the same thing as the man.
 - a) To continue in faith...believing, trusting in God.
 - b) To continue in charity...love, loving God & fellow-man.
 - c) To continue in holiness....a godly life, purity.
 - d) All to be done in all seriousness, sober-mindedness.

CONCLUSION

- 1. The man & the woman were created for different purposes in life.
- 2. We need to strive to fulfill those purposes well.
- 3. How desperately the world needs godly men & women to help save the world.
- 4. Are you satisfied with God's arrangement...or do you resent it?

Lesson Five

“QUALITIES OF LEADERSHIP FOR ELDERS”

(I Tim. 3:1-7)

INTRODUCTION

1. It is God’s Plan for each congregation to have qualified men to serve as elders.
 - a) Paul showed us this by appointing elders in every church near the close of his first missionary journey.
 - b) Acts 14:23---“*And when they had ordained them elders in every church...*”
2. Misconception about elders by the religious world:
 - a) That Bishops are separate from elders.
 - b) That preachers are called Pastors.
 - c) That each congregation had only one pastor.
 - d) That bishops rule over several churches.
3. Three Greek words denote the same group of men in leadership in church.
 - a) Episkopos---Overseer or Bishop. (Where the Episcopal Church gets their name)
 - b) Poimen---Shepherd or Pastor
 - c) Presbuteros---Elder or Presbyter. (Where the Presbyterian Church gets their name)
 - d) Acts 20:17---“*...called the elders of the church*”
 - e) Acts 20:28---“*...Holy Spirit hath made you overseers*”
 - f) Acts 20:28---“*...to feed (shepherd) the church of God*”
 - g) Same is shown in I Pet. 5:1-4
4. The terms denote different aspect about these men & their work:
 - a) Episkopos---Oversee....rule....lead....see that things are done right
 - b) Poimen---Shepherd....feed....tend....care for flock of God.
 - c) Presbuteros---Elders...age, maturity, experience.
5. Lesson....study briefly on elders, their work & qualities of life.

DISCUSSION**I. A MAN MUST DESIRE TO BE AN ELDER. (V. 1)****A. “This is a true saying”**

1. Greek---Faithful is the word....Trustworthy.
2. Apostolic credibility is behind this.
3. Not to be doubted.

B. “If a man desire”

1. A man---Male....not generic....masculine gender.
2. Desire---To reach or stretch out after.
 - Has the enthusiasm to serve God in this way.
 - Spiritual ambition to do a great work for God.

C. “the office of a bishop”

1. Word, Office, is inferred in the Greek word.
2. But “office” and “work” or “responsibility” are same.
3. If a man has a strong ambition to accept the responsibility of an overseer in God’s church.

D. “He desireth a good work”

1. It is a good work!
2. To lead, shepherd, Tend, oversee God’s people.
3. Men who make decisions in realms of expediency.
4. Men out front, showing by example how God’s work ought to be done.
5. It is not a prestigious position, but a responsibility.
6. A willingness to serve as Jesus served. Matt. 20:28

II. QUALITIES NEEDED IN HIS LIFE IN ORDER TO SERVE WELL

(Vs. 2-7)

A. Comments:

1. 13 different qualities are listed here.
2. 8 positive.....5 negative.
3. Some are absolute....some relative.
4. Understood.....must allow for further growth in person.
5. They deal with his reputation, home life, leadership potential, and spiritual maturity.

B. “Must be blameless”

1. Not perfect, but working towards such.
2. He is without reproach...sound spiritually.
3. Morally upright, honest, man of integrity.
4. No charge of wrong doing outstanding against him.

C. “The husband of one wife.”

1. “One woman man”.....”A man of one woman”.....”A husband of one wife”
2. Infers that he is to be married and that the marriage is right in sight of God.
 - a) Polygamy would be forbidden.
 - b) Unscriptural divorce & remarriage would be forbidden.
 - c) If his wife had died & he remarried, would not be a problem.
 - d) It does not say, “Married only once.”

D. “Vigilant”

1. Not sluggish, apathetic, or indifferent to souls or Truth.
2. But watchful and alert.

E. “Sober”

1. Sound mind...follows sound reasoning.
2. Has his appetites and emotions in control.

F. “Of good behavior”

1. Orderly in his life as opposed to being disorderly.
2. Well-behaved....well-directed life.
3. Mannerly, courteous, a gentleman.

G. “Given to hospitality”

1. One who opens his home to others, especially the needy.
2. Shows unselfishness & concern for others.

H. “Apt to teach”

1. Capable of teaching God’s word to others.

- I. “Not given to wine”**
 - 1. One who sits long at wine or is in the habit of drinking.
 - 2. To be under it’s control.
 - 3. Best advise.....all should avoid it because of dangers.
 - 4. “The waters of eternal destruction”
- J. “No striker”**
 - 1. Not quarrelsome....but peace loving.
 - 2. Often connected with wine....leads to spirit of strife.
- K. “Not greedy of filthy lucre”**
 - 1. Not desirous of base gain.
 - 2. Money gotten wrong way or for wrong purposes.
- L. “Patient”**
 - 1. Mild, kind, gentle, long suffering.
 - 2. Not in too big a hurry.
- M. “Not a brawler”**
 - 1. Given to contentions or quarrels or to fighting.
 - 2. Should not be one disposed to have his way or else.
- N. “Not Covetous”**
 - 1. Not a lover of silver (money).
 - 2. Not have things of this world as first in his life.
- O. “One that ruleth well his own house”**
 - 1. To rule.....to preside over his household.
 - 2. He leads and sets the proper example before his family.
- P. “Having his children in subjection with all gravity”**
 - 1. Further understanding of results of his rulership.
 - 2. Subjection or obedience.
 - 3. “Holding children within the sphere of obedience”
 - 4. Stressing the graveness of their need of an obedient life.
- Q. “For if a man know not how to rule his own house, how shall he take care of the church of God”**
 - 1. If a man cannot rule his own family well, how can he handle the greater responsibility of God’s family.
 - 2. If a man is severe, partial, neglectful, or tyrannical at home, he is disqualified to serve as an elder.
 - 3. Paul uses two Greek words here:
 - a) Ruleth over....arbitrary authority.
 - b) Take care of....tender care for church.
- R. “Not a novice”**
 - 1. New convert.....not strong enough spiritually.
 - 2. Be lifted up with pride...become haughty.
 - 3. Fall into the condemnation of the Devil.
 - a) Devil evidently fell because of pride also.
 - b) Pride is a person who is inflated with “hot air.”
- S. “Good report from those without”**
 - 1. Those who are not Christians must respect him as upright.

2. A life that is respected even by unbelievers.
3. Reason...His life is to influence people to Christ...Not run them away.
4. He then becomes the tool of Satan to destroy the work of God.

CONCLUSION

1. These qualities are needed in the man who would serve God's people.
2. He will not be a superman, but a godly man.
3. Most of these characteristics are for all Christians to have.
4. They come from God.....never outdated.
5. They need to be respected and followed.
6. To become a Christian, we must:
 - a) Show a spirit of humility....to be teachable.
 - b) Must show a spirit of repentance.....turn from sinful ways.
 - c) Must have an obedient spirit!

Lesson Six

“QUALITIES OF LEADERSHIP OF DEACONS”

(I Timothy 3:8-16)

INTRODUCTION

1. Phil. 1:1---“*Paul and Timothy, the servants of Jesus Christ, to all the saints in Christ Jesus which are at Philippi, with the bishops and deacons.*”
2. I Tim. 3:8---“*Likewise must the deacons be grave....*”
 - a) The Greek word, “diakonos”, seems to be used in two ways in Scripture: Generic & Specific.
 - b) When used in a general way, it can refer to anyone who serves another, religious or otherwise.
 - c) When used in a specific way, it seems to refer to a specially appointed group of men who serve in the church.
 - d) The fact that qualifications are required for their appointment shows the importance of the work.
 - e) God intended for His church to have specially qualified & appointed Deacons (servants).
3. The reasons for qualifications should be obvious:
 - a) In order to be able to do their work well.
 - b) To be representative of the church to the world....Best in church.
 - c) Encouragement & example to the rest of the church.
4. The translators did the same with the word, “apostoloi”.
 - a) In a general sense....refers to anyone sent by another: “Messengers of the churches”. II Cor. 8:23
 - b) But when referring to the 12 or Paul.....Apostles!
5. See what is required for Deacons before being appointed.

DISCUSSION**I. QUALITIES NEEDED FOR WORK OF A DEACON. (Vs. 8-10, 12)****A. 5 qualities of personal character:**

- 1) 2 positive:
 - a) Grave---Reverent, serious minded toward God & work, not flippant about such, life is respected.
 - b) Holding the mystery of the faith in a pure conscience—Holding firmly to the revealed mystery—The Faith, The Gospel, Message of God. With a pure or clean conscience. Able to instruct others in word & life.
- 2) 3 Negatives:
 - a) Not double-tongued---Do not tell people what they want to hear....but speaks truth. Trustworthy.
 - b) Not given to much wine---Not addicted to....not under its control. Responsible.....in control of self.
 - c) Not greedy for filthy lucre---Dishonest gain....can be trusted with money from church.....Money is not his god.

B. Let these also be proved.

- 1) Tried, tested....be sure they meet this qualifications.
 - a) In the same way elders are to meet qualifications.
 - b) If qualified, then can be appointed to special service.
 - c) But they must be blameless....unaccused, nothing to be said against them.

C. Family or Home qualities.

- 1) Husband of one wife.
 - a) Not a polygamist.
 - b) Not unscripturally divorced and remarried.
 - c) If mate has died or he is divorced scripturally and remarried....meets requirement.
- 2) Ruling their children and their own houses well.
 - a) Manages, oversees, presides over well.
 - b) Does so with love, patience, concern, diligence.
 - c) Not out of selfishness, embarrassment, etc.
 - d) His homelife serves as a model.

II. QUALITIES OF THEIR WIVES. (Vs. 11)

A. Wives or women??

- 1) Controversy as to which....wives or "deaconesses".
- 2) It is not easily solved in the text....could be either way.
 - a) Greek word is "Gune".
 - b) Can be translated either way.
 - c) It did not use word, "deaconesses"....significant!!
- 3) Quite obvious that wives of deacons needed to be a help, not a hindrance.
- 4) If deaconesses:
 - a) Their work would not to be over the man.
 - b) Primarily areas of service which posed no problems.

B. Qualities:

- 1) Grave---Reverent, serious-minded.
- 2) Not slanderers---Gossip-mongers, scandal-mongers, false accusers, or undermining character of others.
- 3) Sober---Circumspect, temperate, calm.
- 4) Faithful in all things---Dependable, trustworthy, true to God, church, husband, family.

III. INCENTIVES TO FAITHFUL SERVICE. (Vs. 13)

A. Those who carry out the responsibilities of a deacon well:

- 1) Purchase to themselves a good degree:
 - a) Obtain for themselves greater respect from church.
 - b) They build trust & confidence in themselves.
- 2) And great boldness in the faith:
 - a) Great confidence in serving before others.
 - b) Ability to make known the Christian faith by life & deeds.

IV. REASON FOR WRITING THESE THINGS. (Vs. 14-15)

A. Cannot come then, but hoped to come shortly.

- 1) Timothy was at Ephesus where Paul had left him to work.
- 2) As an Apostle, his word was a revelation from God.
- 3) His word was authoritative.
- 4) Timothy's was not.

B. So, he is writing to give instruction, by inspiration, to let the church know how they ought to behave.

- 1) So, when Timothy taught them.....it would be authoritative.
- 2) He would not have to teach just from memory.
- 3) Timothy already knew all of these things.
- 4) This letter was divine instructions for church to follow.
- 5) And for us today, as well.

C. How to behave themselves in the church of God.

- 1) Household or family of God, the church.....not a building.
- 2) God's will for the church to follow.

D. Which is the pillar & ground of the truth.

- 1) God's truth has been revealed to church.
- 2) Church has grave responsibility to:
 - a) believe it,
 - b) Obey it,
 - c) preserve it,
 - d) Transmit it to others.
- 3) Church is the stability & means of spread of God's truth.

V. GREAT IS THE MYSTERY OF GODLINESS. (Vs. 16)

A. God's great mystery through the ages:

- 1) Kept hidden for hundreds of years.
- 2) But now revealed unto mankind.
- 3) Col. 1:26---"*Even the mystery which hath been hid from ages and from generations, but now is made manifest to his saints.*"
- 4) Without question.....it is the greatest thing that has ever been done.

B. God was manifested in the flesh.

- 1) Deity made himself known in the flesh. Jn. 1:1-2, 14
- 2) God came in human form.....who can explain it???

C. Justified in the Spirit.

- 1) The H.S. furnished evidence of His Divinity.
- 2) At His baptism, miracles, wonders, and signs.

D. Seen by angels.

- 1) At his birth.
- 2) At end of his 40 days of temptation.
- 3) At his death & resurrection, etc.
- 4) Showed great interest in this great event.

E. Preached unto Gentiles.

- 1) Both Jew & Gentile now to be one body in Christ.
- 2) Wherever a man was found, gospel to be preached to him.

3) Mk. 16:15

F. Believed on in the world.

- 1) Seeing man's nature....improbable that he would believe.
- 2) Overwhelmed by the receptivity that mankind showed.

G. Received up into glory.

- 1) His ascension back to the Father.
- 2) "One of a kind" event!!
- 3) Went back to a glorified state.

CONCLUSION

1. But today....
 - a) What angels looked upon with awe & wonder....
 - b) What all heaven was moved to make possible....
 - c) Man treats as a fairy tale and with contempt & scorn.
2. The gospel message of salvation is all but ignored by men today.
3. With judgment facing him.....mankind goes on as though none of this is true.....unalarmed.
4. How have you treated this great "Mystery of godliness"?

Lesson Seven

“THE FORBODING OF APOSTASY”

(I Tim. 4:1-5)

INTRODUCTION

1. Let's look again at the reason why Paul left Timothy at Ephesus:
 - a) I Tim. 1:3-7
 - b) I Tim. 1:19-20
 - c) Acts 20:28-32
2. It is quite obvious how serious the danger of apostasy was from these scriptures.
3. I Tim. 4:1-5 makes this very clear.
4. Also, II Thess. 2 will be compared to this passage to show how Paul was warning of such dangers by A. D. 52-53.....over 10 years earlier.

DISCUSSION**I. HE EMPHASIZES THE SPIRIT'S PART IN THIS WARNING.(v.1)****A. This is the Spirit of God speaking.**

- 1) Ever so often the writers of the N.T. make it clear that their message is from God inspired & revealed by the Spirit of God.
- 2) I Cor. 2:12-13

B. He is speaking “expressly”.

- 1) Not in symbols, shadowy images, or figurative language that is hard to understand.
- 2) But in clear, understandable language.
- 3) The coming apostasy is spoken of in clear terms.

II. THE MESSAGE OF THE SPIRIT.(Vs. 1-3)**A. His warning has to do with Latter Times.**

- 1) This does not have reference to the time just before the end of things.
- 2) The phrase is used to refer to the Christian age.
- 3) II Thess. 2:3
- 4) It was already active....working....but restrained at this time. II Thess. 2:5-8

B. His message: “Some shall depart from the faith”.

- 1) “Shall depart”----apostasy----leave what they were a part of.
- 2) “The faith”---that body of doctrine given by the apostles.
- 3) Jude 3---“*Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints.*”
- 4) “Some”.....not all....there would be a remnant.
 - a) History shows that it was small at first.
 - b) It later became extensive in numbers.
- 5) This turning from truth of gospel caused by two things:
 - c) A lack of love for God's truth.....they loved unrighteousness. II Thess. 2:9-12

- d) Allowing themselves to be deceived. II Thess. 2:9-10a
- 6) A system that would greatly corrupt true Christianity.

C. Reasons given for apostasy:

- 1) “Will give heed to seducing spirits”
 - a) They will give heed to false teachers under the influence of evil spirits.
 - b) They ceased to listen to the Spirit of God.
 - c) I John 4:1---**“Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world.”**
 - d) II Tim. 3:13---**“But evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving, and being deceived.”**
 - e) Corrupt teachers under the influence of seducing spirits.
- 2) “Will give heed to doctrines of devils.”
 - a) Gladly listen and follow the teaching of “Demons”.
 - b) This could have reference to teachings concerning demons.
 - 1—Greek Word is “Demons”.
 - 2—Greeks & Romans worshipped Demons as lesser deities.
 - 3—These were good & great people who had died.
 - 4—Exalted in the minds of men on earth.
 - 5—Such beings exerted important influences in favor of mankind.
 - 6—Heathens rendered extraordinary homage to them.
 - 7—They invoked their help.
 - 8—Set apart days in honor of them.
 - 9—Offered sacrifices & performed rites to gain their favor.
 - 10—Regarded as mediators or intercessors between man & superior divinities.
 - c) This same thing has & is still being done by the apostate church in the name of Christianity.
 - d) Extraordinary homage paid to dead “saints”, Mary, and others as intercessors.

D. Next, he shows the character of these teachers.

- 1) “Speak lies in hypocrisy”
 - a) Would hypocritically teach what they knew was false.
 - b) Speak lies....error....to the unsuspecting masses.
 - c) They knew that what they taught was not in Scripture.
 - d) Examples:
 - 1—Pope over church.
 - 2—Purgatory
 - 3—Mass
 - 4—Invocation of saints.
 - 5—Veneration of relics.
 - 6—Seven sacraments
 - 7—Authority of tradition
 - 8—Doctrine of meritorious works....etc.
- 2) “Conscience seared with hot iron”
 - a) This shows why they could speak lies in hypocrisy.

- b) Their conscience had lost its sensibility.
- c) They could practice delusion without concern.
- d) Teach a vast system of fraud without hesitation.
- e) Deliberate....not deluded.
- f) Have a form of godliness.....but lives & teaching contradict such.

E. Their false teaching characterised:

- 1) “Forbid to marry”
 - a) Advocate celibacy & virginity over marriage.
 - b) Go further....forbid certain ones to marry.
 - c) If want to be holy....must abstain.
 - d) Priests & nuns.
- 2) “Abstain from meats”
 - a) Greek word can have reference to any food.
 - b) But in this context....it may be animal flesh.
 - c) This doctrine entered early into the church.
 - d) Forbade eating meat altogether or at certain times.

III. THE SPIRIT GIVES A CORRECTED VIEW ABOUT MEATS. (Vs. 3-5)

A. Both married & eating of meat given, created by God for man’s good.

- 1) Marriage for his happiness & well-being.....and propagation of the race.
- 2) Food as a means of nourishment for man’s body.
- 3) Neither are evil....nor less holy.
- 4) God has not commanded that we abstain from either.
- 5) But rather to be received with thanksgiving.

B. Every creature of God:

- 1) Is good.....In its place.....for purpose created.
 - a) Not good when man perverts it.
 - b) Can be perverted to evil purposes.
- 2) Not to be refused.....it is not forbidden by God.
 - a) Reason why taught to refuse.....
 - b) Not because they are injurious or hurtful....
 - c) But by a system of religion of self-righteousness.
 - d) Col. 2:20-23
- 3) To be received with thanksgiving.
- 4) Such is sanctified by word of God & prayer.
 - a) It has the authority & permission of the Word of God.
 - b) It would have been profane, if forbidden by God.
 - c) No command of man can make it unholy.
 - d) With prayer.....thanksgiving....God’s blesses.
 - e) Such is made acceptable.

CONCLUSION

- 1. History has overwhelmingly testified to the accuracy of this prophecy and warning.
- 2. Evil men have ignored God’s Word and taught their lies to gullible & unlearned men & women.

3. Such know they do not have Bible authority for their extreme doctrines, but rationalize away what they have done.
4. Now the real question is.....Are we concerned enough to demand a “thus sayeth the Lord” for what we believed & follow.

Lesson Eight

“HOW TO BE A GOOD MINISTER”

(I Timothy 4:6-16)

INTRODUCTION

1. Paul has just warned Timothy about some departing from the faith.
 - a) There were grave dangers for him as well as the church.
 - b) He needed to be on his guard.
2. He now admonished him to be a good minister of Jesus Christ. (I Tim. 4:6)
 - a) Be one who serves the gospel of Christ to others.
 - b) Help the church to remember this danger.
 - c) Speak the truth in love.....help them see the difference between truth and error.
3. To be a good minister:
 - a) It was necessary for him to constantly be feeding himself.
 - b) He must constantly feed on Words of faith (that bring faith).
 - c) Must feed on good doctrine.....not religious thinking of men.
 - d) Cannot teach what one does not know.
 - e) Timothy had been taught & trained by Paul.
 - f) But he must keep on with his training.
4. He now gives some specific instructions to Timothy.

DISCUSSION

I. REFUSE PROFANE & OLD WIVES' FABLES. (v. 7)

A. Refuse

- 1) Decline, Shun, reject, avoid.
- 2) Pay no heed to.
- 3) Such are not important to take your time.

B. Profane

- 1) Unhallowed, not of divine origin.
- 2) Such is without God's sanction.

C. Old Wives' fables

- 1) Myths, fiction, falsehood.
- 2) Stories old women tell that are not true.
- 3) RSV---“silly myths”
- 4) Heathen religions abounded in such.
- 5) So did corrupt Judaism.

II. EXERCISE THYSELF UNTO GODLINESS. (Vs. 7-9)

A. Bodily exercise profits little.

- 1) Seems to be making reference to athletic games & its participants.
- 2) They have to keep in shape to compete.
- 3) But what they are after is a corruptible crown.
- 4) There is a higher calling than this.

B. Spiritual exercise unto godliness.

- 1) Need to put all that energy into training for godly living.

- 2) Need to excel in godliness (keep spiritually fit).
- 3) Mortification & discipline of the body have little value, but only in this life.
- 4) Spiritual exercise that brings godliness is profitable for all things.
 - a) Not only in this life here on earth,
 - b) But, in the life which is to come.
 - c) It promotes our best interest & happiness here and now.
 - d) Then, promises Eternal life after death.

C. This is a great & acceptable truth.

- 1) This concept is well worth your greatest consideration.
- 2) Nothing is better than this.

III. REASON FOR LABORING & SUFFERING REPROACH. (Vs. 10-11)

A. For this reason we labor:

- 1) Labor---strenuous effort to preach gospel to the lost.
- 2) It is a struggle to bring men & women out of darkness.
- 3) Great effort must be put forth....because of opposition.

B. Suffering reproach:

- 1) Gk. Word, Agony....agonizing....suffering reproach.
- 2) From opposition....Unbelieving Jews & Gentiles.

C. Trust in the living God.

- 1) Willing to work so hard in face of opposition because of our trust and our hope...they are in the living God.
- 2) Who is Savior of all men.
 - a) Willing to save all.
 - b) Make salvation possible for all.
 - c) Not universal salvation.
- 3) Saves those who believe in Jesus.
 - a) God is the potential Savior of all.
 - b) But He is the actual Savior of those who believe.
 - c) Those who have an obedient, active faith in Him.

D. These things command & teach.

- 1) Be constantly commanding & teaching these things.
- 2) This is a grave responsibility....but it must be done!!

IV. PERSONAL ADMONITIONS TO TIMOTHY ABOUT HIS LIFE. (Vs. 12-16)

A. Let no man despise thy youth.

- 1) Timothy was about 35-40 years old.
- 2) Paul was about 65-70 years old.
- 3) The Elders at Ephesus may have been older than Timothy.
- 4) So, do not act in such a way to cause others to despise your youth.
- 5) Don't be pushed aside because of your youth.
- 6) Don't give anyone grounds to despise your youth because of a faulty character.

B. But Rather, Be an example to the believers.

- 1) Keep on becoming an example.

- 2) Example....that which should be imitated.
- 3) So live that others can safely follow.

C. In what way?

- 1) In Word---Speech, conversation, what you say.
- 2) In Conversation---Conduct, manner of life, behavior.
- 3) In Charity---Love...sacrificing of one's self for others.
- 4) In Spirit---(Not in oldest MSS.) (Attitudes)
- 5) In Faith---Unshakable confidence & trust in God.
- 6) In Purity---Moral purity...no scandal....chase.

D. Give attendance to (Give attention to):

- 1) Public reading of God's Word.
 - a) Only access most had was through public reading.
 - b) Jews did this every Sabbath in their Synagogue meetings.
- 2) To Exhortation.
 - a) After reading to give an exhortation.
 - b) To encourage the people to put such into practice.
- 3) To Doctrine.
 - a) To your teaching.
 - b) Help the people to understand clearly what is said.

E. Neglect not the gift in thee.

- 1) Neglect not:
 - a) Paul's way of prodding Timothy to keep doing his work well.
 - b) Not to be negligent to use that which had been entrusted to him.
- 2) The gift that is in thee
 - a) One of three concepts:
 - 1—Natural gifts
 - 2—A responsible position of work
 - 3—Miraculous gift of the Spirit.
 - b) We believe it has reference primarily to Miraculous gifts.
- 3) Which was given thee by prophecy
 - a) The H.S. indicated thru a prophet that Timothy should get this gift as he journeyed with Paul. (Acts 16:3)
 - b) II Tim. 1:6---"*Wherefore I put thee in remembrance that thou stir up the gift of God, which is in thee by the putting on of my hands.*"
- 4) With the laying on of the hands of the Presbytery.
 - a) When Timothy went with Paul, the elders laid their hands on him to send him forth with their blessing.
 - b) Acts 13:2-3
 - c) Elders could not impart power, but Paul could.

F. Meditate upon these things.

- 1) Let your mind be deeply impressed with these things.
- 2) See to these things carefully....be diligent.
- 3) Give yourself wholly to them (be engrossed in them)
- 4) "Throw yourself fully into the work".
- 5) Stick to your task.

- 6) So that people can see the benefits in your life and be encouraged to follow your example.
- 7) Blaze the way....so others will be encouraged to follow.

G. Take Heed to (Fasten your attention upon):

- 1) Yourself:
 - a) Your own life.
 - b) Examine yourself....be sure your life is right first.
- 2) To what you teach:
 - a) We teach, not only by word, but by our lives.
 - b) Be sure you teach only the Truth of God.

H. Continue in them.

- 1) Stick to them....be steady, be reliable.
- 2) Be always engaged in such.
- 3) If you will....you will save yourself.
 - a) I Cor. 9:27---"***But I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway.***"
- 4) And you will save those who hear your preaching.
 - a) If you do your work well, many will be saved.
 - b) Salvation of souls depends upon the truth being taught....and only the truth.

CONCLUSION

1. What a great privilege it is to teach God's truth to the lost.
2. But it is also a great privilege to continue to diligently teach the saved.
3. It is a grave responsibility.....it must be done right & diligently.
4. If you have been taught.....have you responded?

Lesson Nine

“INSTRUCTIONS CONCERNING WIDOWS”

(I Tim. 5:1-16)

INTRODUCTION

1. After giving strong warnings concerning the danger of apostasy.....
2. Then, he turns to give instructions in regards to Timothy’s life & work.....
3. And now turns to give some specific instructions to certain groups within the church.
4. After a general admonition in vs. 1-2 concerning Timothy’s attitude towards others.....he then gives specific instructions concerning Widows in the church.
5. Four classes of Widows are discussed:
 - a) Widows who have family that can help them.
 - b) Widows who do not have family to help them.
 - c) Widows who can be enrolled in the number.
 - d) Widows who cannot be enrolled in the number.

DISCUSSION**I. HE FIRST INSTRUCTS TIMOTHY HOW HE IS TO ACT TOWARDS OTHERS IN THE CHURCH. (Vs. 1-2)****A. Watch this special phrase.....”Don’t do, but”.**

- 1) Don’t rebuke, but entreat.
- 2) It plays down the first to emphasize the 2nd.
- 3) Do not use harsh words when you preach or teach members of the family of God.
- 4) Not harsh and dictatorial, but respectful and gentle.
- 5) When one does wrong, he needs correction....but with the proper spirit.
- 6) Gal. 6:1---“*Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such a one in the spirit of meekness: considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted.*”
- 7) Paul is not forbidding rebuking, but instructing in **the how** of rebuking.

B. Towards whom:

- 1) Older men than yourself treat as you would your own father.
- 2) Older women than yourself treat as you would your own mother.
- 3) Younger men than yourself treat as you would your own brother.
- 4) Younger women than yourself treat as you would your own sister.
- 5) Do so with all purity in mind & actions.
- 6) Church is a family!!! Family of God!

II. CONCERNING WIDOWS WHO HAVE FAMILY THAT CAN HELP THEM. (Vs. 4, 8)**A. If she have children or (nephews).**

- 1) Children or grandchildren should be.
- 2) Direct decendency should be a closeness.

B. Let them learn first to show piety at home.

- 1) It is the primary responsibility of children & grandchildren to see after and provide for the parents or grandparents.
- 2) They need to take their religion & duty seriously.
- 3) Show kindness.....show the genuineness of their religion. (Mark 7:9-13)
- 4) Even the heathen world believes & practices this.

C. To requite their parents

- 1) To repay their parents for all they have done for them.
- 2) To discharge one's obvious obligation & debt.

D. For this is good & acceptable before God.

- 1) God rebukes & punishes those who hurt widows. Exo. 22:22-24; Deut. 24:17; 27:19; Zech. 7:10; Ps. 94:6; Mal. 3:5
- 2) God blesses those who help and honor them. Isa. 1:17-18; Jer. 7:6; 22:3-4.
- 3) The widows were cared for in early church. Acts 6
 - a) Shows that such was not something new.....been practiced.
 - b) But in the church....some regulations needed to be given.
- 4) Caring for widows and orphans in need is practicing pure and undefiled religion. Jas. 1:27

E. But if any provide not for his own:

- 1) If he shirks this basis & fundamental responsibility.....
- 2) If he does not feel this responsibility keenly.....
- 3) He hath denied the faith.
 - a) By his ungodly conduct, he exemplifies a dead faith.
 - b) He shows that he no longer holds to God's Word.
- 4) **He is worse than an infidel.**
 - a) Worse than unbelievers.....
 - b) For they do make an effort to care for their own from natural prompting.
 - c) Thus, he falls below the life of a heathen.

III. WIDOWS WHO HAVE NO FAMILY TO HELP THEM. (Vs. 3, 5-7)

A. Honor widows who are widows indeed.

- 1) "Honor"
 - a) To value, to revere, to respect.
 - b) But shouldn't all widows be respected???
 - c) Of course.....then what is being stated here?
 - d) It has reference to financial help....support.
- 2) "Widows indeed"
 - a) One in distressed circumstances....desolate....alone.
 - b) No family to help her.
 - c) She only has God to look to, or trust, or hope in.
 - d) So, she is in continual supplication to God for His help.
 - e) She does not resort to immoral means to make her living, but trust in God to provide.

- f) Such widows were in far worse circumstances than most are today!
- g) In India....they would burn a widow on her husband's funeral fires....If no support!

B. See that children are taught God's will in this matter, so they will not be held in contempt before God's Word. (Be blameless before God).

IV. WIDOWS WHO CAN BE ENROLLED IN THE NUMBER. (Vs. 9-10)

A. "Taken into the number"

- 1) To write down on a list....special enrollment.
- 2) These are the women to be helped, supported by the church, because they are destitute.
- 3) From Biblical & Historical indications:
 - a) These women were probably given special responsibilities in the church.
 - b) Access of a man to women in that time was harder....and women would have better access.
 - c) Tit. 2:3-5 indicates some activities.
 - d) Be used to care for sick, orphans, visitation, etc.
 - 1—Natural for these women to do this work.
 - 2—They were older, spiritually able, no family ties.
 - 3—And supported by the church....why not render a valuable service??

B. Requirements for Widows who are to be supported by church.

- 1) They were to be 60 or older.
- 2) The wife of one husband.
 - a) Same Greek wording as with Elders & Deacons.
 - b) Her marital relationship was according to God's Word.
- 3) Well reported of for good works.
 - a) Good character....good reputation.
 - b) Known for her acts of charity.
- 4) Brought up children.
 - a) Raised & trained children.
 - b) Her own or others.....experience so she can help others.
- 5) Lodged strangers.
 - a) Showed hospitality.
 - b) Christians traveling needed a place to stay...REASON.
 - c) Heb. 13:2---"***Be not forgetful to entertain strangers: for thereby some have entertained angels unawares.***"
- 6) Washed the saints feet.
 - a) People walked a lot in those days in sandals.
 - b) Feet would get dirty.
 - c) The way they sat around the table.....needed clean feet.
 - d) Having servants to wash guest's feet was an act of hospitality.

- e) But it was also an act of humble service that the host could show—who did not have servants.
- 7) Relieved the afflicted.
 - a) Shown concern & care for those in hard pressed circumstances.
 - b) Furnished relief to those in distress.
- 8) Diligently followed every good work.
 - a) Has shown a cooperative spirit in the church to participate in all good works.
 - b) There to do her part.

V. THOSE WIDOWS WHO WERE NOT TO BE SUPPORTED. (Vs. 9, 11-15)

A. Younger widows were not to be enrolled in this number.

- 1) Those under 60 years of age.
- 2) Those who do not meet the qualifications given.
- 3) Such are to be refused....not to be enrolled....supported.
- 4) Any worthy widow who has need could be helped, obviously. Acts 6
- 5) But only certain ones were to be supported on a permanent basis.

B. Reasons given for not supporting younger widows.

- 1) They will probably remarry!
 - a) Their desire to remarry may become stronger than their desire to serve the Lord in this special way.
 - b) More concerned about finding another man than in serving Christ as they purposed to do.
 - c) Obviously, Re-marriage is not forbidden in Scripture.
 - d) But why enroll them....and shortly thereafter have to drop her from the enrollment.
- 2) This may bring a sense of shame.
 - To promise something and then go back on that promise.
 - It is better not to take that chance with younger widows.
 - Found out they did not have as strong a faith as they professed.
- 3) There is also greater danger that they will not use their time correctly.
 - a) Their lack of maturity & other interests may make them undependable.
 - b) As they go from house to house.....
 - 1—They do too much talking, loose talking....gossip.
 - 2—They pry into the private affairs of others.
 - 3—And go about revealing these things to others, which they ought not to do.

C. The wiser course of actions is obvious!

- 1) Upon seeing these possibilities....the following is urged upon the younger widows:
 - a) To marry. (Not commanded....strongly advised....based on above).
 - b) To bear children. (Young enough to still do so).
 - c) To guide the home. (Manage the home).
 - d) Avoid the pitfalls just mentioned.
 - e) Be busy in the life God designed for women.

- 2) Do not give an opportunity for the adversary to ridicule....
 - a) Our chief adversary is SATAN.
 - b) Not to give him nor his followers opportunity to point a finger of accusation.
 - c) Unfortunately, some have already turned aside after Satan.
 - 1—Cast off their faith & turned to serve Satan.
 - 2—Marry pagans and leaving Christ.

VI. FINAL ADMONITION ON THE MATTER. (Vs. 16)

A. Any man or woman who is a Christian who has a widowed mother or grandmother.....

- 1) Let them relieve them.
- 2) Give them the help & encouragement they need on a permanent basis.

B. By doing so....the church will not be burdened with too many to care for...

- 1) And can help those who have no one to help them.

CONCLUSION

- 1) There is not an indication that the supported widows was an office or official position.
- 2) Seems to have grown out of the need at that time.
- 3) Could be used again, if such existed today.
- 4) Jas. 1:27---***“Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world.”***
- 5) What kind of a religion do you have???

Lesson Ten

“SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS ABOUT ELDERS”

(I Timothy 5:17-25)

INTRODUCTION

1. For the benefit of reminding Timothy & for all future preachers....
 - a) Paul is giving special instructions regarding their work.
 - b) A letter to Timothy would preserve this information for all time.
2. Paul had given qualifications that men should meet before being appointed as elders in the church.
 - a) Ch. 3 gives a list of qualities men need to measure up to.
 - b) Ch. 5 he gives instructions in regards to appointing these men & other matters.

DISCUSSION

I. HONORING OF ELDERS. (Vs. 17-18)

A. Elders are to be honored who do their work well.

- 1) I Thess. 5:12-13
- 2) Timothy, see that such men are honored.
- 3) We show our honor to them by submitting to their leadership.

B. Some are to be counted worthy of double-honor.

- 1) In addition to honor & respect to all....
- 2) Some are to be given additional honor in the way of financial support.
- 3) Support goes to those who labor in Word & Doctrine.
 - a) All elders are to be apt to teach.
 - b) But those who give their full time to such should be supported.

C. Those who rule well.

- 1) Proistemenos---To be over, preside over, to superintend.
- 2) Who oversee, manager the spiritual interest of church.
- 3) Such men deserve our honor & respect.
- 4) They watch for our souls....Heb. 13:17

D. Basis for this admonition about support.

- 1) The O.T. taught the principle that the Ox that treads out the corn should share in the harvest.
- 2) Jesus stated, “The laborer is worthy of his hire”.
- 3) How much more so...those who labor in spiritual matters.

II. CONCERNING ACCUSATIONS AGAINST ELDERS. (Vs. 19)

A. Against an elder receive not an accusation. BUT.....

- 1) Receive not.
- 2) Don’t listen to such....or be party to such.
- 3) Elders are to be respected....not falsely charged.

B. The safeguard for elders.

- 1) No accusation is to be accepted against an elder unless there are two or more witnesses to back up statement.

- 2) Their work is not easy.
- 3) They are to convict the gainsayer & stop his mouth.
 - a) They are to reprove the faults of members.
 - b) This exposes them to retribution or false accusations.
- 3) Accusations will be brought to preacher about elders.
 - a) What should he do with such?
 - b) Uphold reputation of elders.
 - c) Insisting on 2 or more witnesses.

III. WHAT TO DO ABOUT THE ELDER WHO SINS. (Vs. 20)

A. Them that sin.

- 1) What kind of sin....any kind of sin continued in!!!
- 2) He will not admit, confess, or turn from his sin.
- 3) If he is guilty....should be dealt with just like anyone else.
- 4) He needs to make an open confession of sin.

B. Rebuke before all.

- 1) Sin must not be covered up...even in leaders.
- 2) When sin goes unrebuked....Satan gets an advantage. (I Cor. 5:6-7)
- 3) To rebuke....not try to administer physical punishment.
- 4) The challenge to repentance.

C. Reason for public rebuke.

- 1) That even leaders can sin & can be rebuked.
- 2) Cause others to fear.
- 3) Discourage them from committing sin.

IV. DANGERS TO AVOID IN APPOINTING ELDERS. (Vs. 21-22)

A. Paul gives a solemn charge.

- 1) Such a charge is done in the presence of Deity & angels.
- 2) A charge that preachers cannot afford to ignore.

B. Do not show partiality in such appointments.

- 1) Don't be influenced by prejudice for or against some one.
- 2) Be impartial towards all.
- 3) Do not be inclined to favor one person over another.

C. Do not act too quickly in appointing elders.

- 1) See that they are selected with great care.
- 2) Men appointed too hastily can cause great evil in church.
- 3) By appointing men who are not qualified....you become a partaker of the evil they will cause.
- 4) We lend sanction to such by our appointment of them.

D. Keep thyself pure.

- 1) Don't put yourself in a position to be correctly criticized.
- 2) Be sure your motives are pure....as well as your actions.

V. PERSONAL ADMONITION TO TIMOTHY. (Vs. 23)

A. Drink no longer water.

- 1) That special phrase again....."Don't do....but...."

- 2) He is not telling him to totally abstain from water.
- 3) Reason is obvious....water is necessary to life itself.
- 4) “Drink no longer water only”

B. But use a little wine for thy stomach’s sake and thine often infirmities.

- 1) Timothy must have had health problems.
 - a) Possibly doing all the traveling....can cause problems.
 - b) Stress in trying to deal with people....possibility.
- 2) Take a little wine.
 - a) Not a lot, but a little.
 - b) Not for pleasure, but for health’s sake. (Medication).
 - c) I Cor. 10:31
- 3) Remarkable that Timothy was a tee-totaller...did not drink.
- 4) Just as remarkable that Paul advised him to use some.

VI. LOOK CAREFULLY AT MEN TO BE ELDERS. (Vs. 24-25)

A. Two types of persons:

- 1) Some men openly sin and are known as sinners.
 - a) Their sin precedes them into judgment.
 - b) No question about them.
- 2) Some men hide their sins from view.
 - a) This makes it hard to appoint an appropriate man as an elder.
 - b) Men do practice deception...pretend...
 - c) So...be patient...do not act hastily to appoint men.
 - d) Give time so his true character can be seen.

B. A man’s works says a lot about his character.

- 1) Godly works cannot be hid.
- 2) Lack of good works is also obvious in one’s life.
- 3) Look at a man’s works.
- 4) Appoint him after careful observation.

CONCLUSION

1. The appointment of elders is a serious matter.
 - a) It must not be done too hastily.
 - b) Give men time to prove their lives by their works.
2. Those who are appointed must be honored, respected.
 - a) We must follow their lead.
 - b) Cooperate fully with their oversight.....for peace & growth of church.
 - c) We even should support financially one who labors in Word and Doctrine.
3. Men may we encourage you to aspire to serve the Lord & His people as elders.
4. Wives.....encourage your husbands to give themselves in this way.

Lesson Eleven

“THE SUBTLE SUBJECT OF SLAVERY”

(I Timothy 6:1-5)

INTRODUCTION

1. Slavery in the Roman Empire was taken for granted.
 - a) Estimated that half the population of Rome were slaves.
 - b) Common practice throughout the world to some degree or another.
2. Some very delicate questions were raised as Christianity came on the scene.
 - a) Will the Apostles of Christ openly denounce it?
 - b) Should Christian slaves rebel against their pagan masters?
 - c) What should be the relationship between a Christian slave and a Christian master?
 - d) Should they automatically be made free?
3. Paul had already written letters to Ephesus & Colossae in regards to how to deal with this situation.
 - a) Eph. 6:5-9
 - b) Col. 3:22-25
4. In this letter to Timothy, Paul seems to have something far more important in mind in writing! (Timothy was at Ephesus)
 - a) He briefly deals with the question of slavery.....
 - b) And then turns to deal with those teachers who pervert the Lord’s teaching on this matter.
 - c) He uses very strong language to identify them & their character.

DISCUSSION

I. INSTRUCTIONS TO CHRISTIAN SLAVES. (Vs. 1-2)

A. He first deals with their attitude towards MASTERS in general.

- 1) Slavery is referred to here as “being under the yoke”.
 - a) It could have reference to a galling yoke!
 - b) Generally.....an undesirable thing...unwilling.
- 2) Masters are owners....complete control over slaves.
- 3) What should be their attitude towards these masters?
 - a) Count them worthy of all honor....respect their position.
 - b) Show an obedient & submissive spirit.
 - c) Not to be indolent or disorderly or resentful.
 - d) Bear evils of condition with patience.
- 4) Why? So that the name of God & His doctrine will not be blasphemed.
 - a) How these Christian slaves conducted themselves had a lot to do with how the pagans would look upon Christianity.
 - b) So, don’t give them any reason to speak reproachfully of things of God.

B. What should be their attitude towards Christian Masters?

- 1) It does not indicate which one was a Christian first.
- 2) Nor should it matter! Principle still the same!

- 3) Let them not despise them!
 - a) Do not treat them with a lack of respect.
 - b) If not released....would become bitter & resentful for keeping them in bondage.
 - c) Some teachers in the church may have even been advocating open rebellion against their masters.
 - d) Christianity did not rudely assail existing institutions.
- 4) Reason---Because they are brethren!
 - a) This relationship of brotherhood changes a lot of things.
 - b) They are now brethren....equals in kingdom of God.
 - c) They are fellow-heirs of that eternal kingdom.
 - d) They have a mutual Father, Hope, Purpose!
 - e) They are to be tied together in love for one another!
- 5) So....do them service!
 - a) Keep on serving them as before, but with more cheerfulness.
 - b) Appreciate having a Christian master....serve them with greater respect!
 - c) Can you envision this.....A slave may be a teacher, preacher, or elder in the church where his master attends!
- 6) Remember:
 - a) He is a believer in Christ!
 - b) He is beloved by God, just as you are.
 - c) He partakes of the benefits of the gospel just as you do.
 - d) So be patient, meek, and forbearing in your condition.

C. These things teach & exhort!

- 1) Make these truths know.....do not hold back from teaching these things....
- 2) It is important that they be taught.
- 3) And that you encourage adherence to them.
- 4) The true Christian message commands these things!

II. INSTRUCTIONS CONCERNING THOSE WHO TEACH OTHERWISE. (Vs. 3-5)

A. He first identifies who is a false teacher. (3)

- 1) He is one who teaches otherwise.
 - a) One who teaches different from what Paul had given.
 - b) Easy to see how the opposite could have been taught.
- 2) He is one who does not consent to wholesome words.
 - a) He does not agree with or give his consent to.
 - b) Wholesome words.....healthy words....good for soul.
 - c) Teaching truth produces order and a healthy spiritual condition.
 - d) False teacher could care less about the effect it has on the soul.
- 3) He is one who does not consent to the words of the Lord Jesus Christ!
 - a) Jesus is Lord, Master.....the one to listen to.
 - b) But these false teachers were not listening to Him.
 - c) II John 9

- d) Jesus taught his followers to be:
 - 1—humble
 - 2—submissive to one another
 - 3—love one another
 - 4—respect other's rights
 - 5—be meek, etc.
 - 6—But not to be rebellious.
 - 7—Rather solve social ills by developing an inner strength & quality.
- 4) He is one who does not consent to doctrine which is according to godliness.
 - a) The truth brings true reverence for God & what He says.
 - b) The false teacher disrespects God's words & teaches his own ideas.

B. Characteristics of false teachers. (4-5)

- 1) He is proud.
 - a) Conceited, puffed up, inflated on himself.
 - b) Lifted up with his self-deceived idea of superior knowledge.
 - c) He has a clouded state of mind as a results of his pride.
 - d) He is long on self-love, but short on love for others.
- 2) He know nothing.
 - a) He is totally ignorant of the true knowledge from God.
 - b) Instead of possessing superior knowledge, he shows his ignorance.
 - c) He does not know the true nature of the gospel.
- 3) Doting about questions and strife of words.
 - a) He is sick spiritually....He has no desire for healthy food, but feeds on unhealthy food.
 - b) He has a morbid desire for debating...arousing disputes or controversy.
 - c) His desire for controversy is sickly & morbid.
- 4) What he creates identifies him as well:
 - a) He causes envy!
 - 1—Creates it in others by his words.
 - 2—Can especially see how a slave could have this created in his mind towards his master.
 - b) He causes strife!
 - 1—Dissension
 - 2—Creates a condition of division & disharmony.
 - c) He causes evil surmisings!
 - 1—Encourages harsh, abusive language.
 - 2—Railings or slander towards masters.
 - d) He causes perverse disputing of men of corrupt minds.
 - 1—Wranglings....continual disputings that have no value to the soul.
 - 2—Reason....minds are corrupted...twisted.

- 5) He is destitute of truth.
 - a) Bereft of...does not know or hold to the truth.
 - b) He has no correct acquaintance with the Christian system.
 - c) He is no longer holding to truth, but teaching his sickening & deadly doctrines that lead to death.
- 6) He thinks that gain is godliness.
 - a) The process:
 - 1—Corrupted minds.
 - 2—Lose hold on God's truth.
 - 3—Religion as a way of gain.
 - b) Wrong teaching:
 - 1—"If slavery prevents this...it must be wrong."
 - 2—"Worldly prosperity comes from godliness."
 - c) Whole object of their life & activity....to make money.
 - d) Rule...If it does not make money...it is wrong.
 - e) They live for gain.
 - f) Their greed disguised under garb of godliness.

C. How they were to treat these false teachers. (5)

- 1) From such withdraw thyself.
 - a) Have no communion, fellowship with them.
 - b) Do not recognize them as true religious teachers.
 - c) Do not countenance their views.
- 2) Reasons for avoiding & not listening to them:
 - a) They are conceited (their god is their belly).
 - b) Concerned about their own speculations, not God's truth.
 - c) Disturbers of the peace & harmony of God's family.
 - 1—Competitive—Suspicious of all who differ from him.
 - 2—When he cannot win an argument, he hurls insults at his opponents position or his character.
 - 3—His voice is harsh, not truth in love.
 - d) He commercializes religion.
 - 1—Out for gain—His religion must bring that gain.

CONCLUSION

1. These principles about Slaves & Masters can apply to our Employer & Employee relationships.
 - a) Work hard.....serve well....give no occasion for any to speak ill of God's name or His church.
 - b) If work for Christian employer....
 - 1—Be especially thankful
 - 2—Serve even with joy.
2. In regards to false teachers.....
 - a) Should not listen to them.
 - b) Do not encourage them or help support them in their evil work.
3. What God's truth teaches a person must do to be saved.
4. Any other doctrine is false!!

Lesson Twelve

“GODLINESS WITH CONTENTMENT”

(I Tim. 6:6-10, 17-19)

INTRODUCTION

1. The rest of chapter six is too long...need to split it up.
 - a) Deal with the main theme.
 - b) Next lesson will deal with Paul’s admonitions to Timothy.
2. In verse 5 a phrase was used that triggered additional comments.
 - a) **“Supposing that gain is godliness”**
 - b) A contrast is going to be drawn between two concepts.
3. First, let’s quickly review the idea that gain is godliness.
 - a) “That which contributes to an increase in prosperity is true religion.”
 - b) “Or, anything that contributes to worldly prosperity must be sanctioned by religion.”
 - c) Applied to slavery...It is obviously wrong because it keeps slaves poor and in a humble condition.
4. Special observations:
 - a) “Any system that perpetuates poverty & a degraded condition is contrary to the principles of Christianity.”
 - b) Their mistakes were:
 - 1-- To make this a general maxim across the board.
 - 2-- And also to encourage rebellion on the part of Christian slaves.
 - 3—And supposing that everything that brought gain was sanctioned by religion.
 - c) True religion will tend towards a healthier situation and even prosperity where society allows it.
5. The real issue here is.....These people live to make gain.
 - a) Wealth is the real object of their pursuit.
 - b) But they disguise it under a cloak of piety (godliness).
 - c) They have enough religion to foster their desire for gain.
 - d) They will ignore any teaching of religion that conflicts with their earthly advancement.
6. Now we turn to see the other side of the picture!

DISCUSSION**I. WHAT IS THE REAL GAIN RELIGION BRINGS? (Vs. 6-8)****A. Godliness with Contentment is great gain.**

- 1) Godliness with contentment is the great wealth.
 - a) Matt. 16:26
 - b) The greatest gain that religion offers is for the benefit of man’s soul.
- 2) Contentment is the qualifier!
 - a) A calmness, satisfied state of mind, peace of mind. (Phil. 4:11-13)
 - b) Being right with God and trusting in Him brings that contentment that we need.
 - c) This is the true riches
- 3) This does more to promote true happiness than wealth can ever do.

- 4) Godliness with contentment is the great object of life.
 - a) True happiness is not found in possessions, but in a true relationship with God.
 - b) This puts down the idea that property is everything worth living for.

B. Basic reason for the above statement:

- 1) We are born into this world without anything.....
 - a) Job 1:21---“*Naked came I out of my mother’s womb, and naked shall I return thither*”
 - b) Eccl. 5:15—“*As he came forth of his mother’s womb, naked shall he return to go as he came, and shall take nothing of his labor, which he may carry away in his hand.*”
 - c) An obvious fact of life...apparent to all.
- 2) Will leave the world the same way.
 - a) We will leave it all behind.
 - b) Ps. 49:16-17—“*Be not thou afraid when one is made rich, when the glory of his house is increased; for when he dieth he shall carry nothing away: his glory shall not descend after him.*”
 - c) This is obviously talking about physical, not spiritual.

C. He now enlarges on the thought about Contentment.

- 1) Upon the basis of these facts, need to be content with food and raiment.
 - a) Phrase obviously has reference to our needs over-all.
 - b) Having these things necessary for life...to be satisfied.
- 2) This is to discourage us from making wealth the object of our anxious pursuit.
 - a) Since God provides for our needs, we are fortified against outward circumstances.
 - b) Paul is not prohibiting having wealth, but the desiring and love of it...as will be seen.
- 3) Those who seek gain in godliness will find poverty spiritually.
- 4) Those who seek godliness with contentment will find great gain.

II. HE NOW SHOWS WHY DESIRING TO BE RICH IS BAD. (Vs. 9-10)

A. Those who desire to be rich.....

- 1) Not talking about a passing emotional thing, but the object and aim of one’s life reasoned out.
- 2) He gives the evils that come to those whose goal in life is to be rich.....whose design is to be rich.
- 3) If one would only stop to see these evils.....they would help to make us content.

B. What are the evils that come to such people?

- 1) They fall into temptation and a snare.
 - a) They are tempted to do wicked & sinful things to make money.
 - b) It is hard to have an intense desire for riches and be honest.
 - c) They become snared, enmeshed, entangled, become a prey of riches.
- 2) Fall into many foolish & hurtful lusts.
 - a) Into unwise and spiritually injurious desires.
 - b) Desire for riches dulls their moral senses.

- 3) These things drown men in destruction & perdition.
 - a) They are submerged as a ship that sinks.
 - b) Destruction is the end of these things.
 - c) A total ruin of happiness, virtue, reputation, and of the soul.
 - d) PROCESS: The Lure, The Lust, Then Lost!

C. The love of money is the root of all evil.

- 1) ***“root of all kinds of evil.”***
 - a) Love of money is not the root cause of all evil.
 - b) But it is a root cause of all kinds of evil.
 - c) There are other evils in world that come from other things.
- 2) No small part of crimes of the world come from the love of money.
 - a) They are obvious to anyone willing to look.
 - b) One would have to be blind not to see it.
 - c) Evil wars have been started out of love for riches.
- 3) ***“Which while some coveted after”***
 - a) Had a craving for riches.....uppermost thing in life.
 - b) Evidently Timothy was aware of some that had been guilty.
- 4) ***“Erred from the faith”***
 - a) Been seduced....led astray from the faith.
 - b) Deceived by the promises that riches makes.
- 5) ***“Pierced themselves through with many sorrows”***
 - a) Sorrows---remorse, painful reflections on their folly.
---apprehension of future wrath.
 - b) They see that they have thrown away the more important.
 - c) Their sorrows are self-inflicted.
 - d) Not just one piercing, but many sorrows!!

III. CHARGE TO THOSE WHO ARE RICH. (Vs. 17-19)

A. Who are rich in this world.

- 1) Who have much possessions of this life.
- 2) The church has always had its rich and poor.
 - a) Jas. 1:9-10---***“Let the brother of low degree rejoice in that his is exalted: But the rich, in that he is made low: because as the flower of the grass he shall pass away.”***
- 3) Rom. 12:8---***“Or he that exhorteth, on exhortation: he that giveth, let him do it with simplicity(sincerely); he that ruleth, with diligence; he that showeth mercy, with cheerfulness.”***
 - a) Listing of natural gifts God gives.
 - b) Make good use of such.
 - c) The ability to make money is a gift from God....
 - d) Use the gift to bless others too.

B. Charge them not to be high-minded.

- 1) Not to look down with pride & arrogance on the less fortunate.
- 2) Not to feel superior to others.
- 3) Wealth does not make one wise, or learned, or great, or good.
- 4) Wealth only increases responsibilities.

- 5) Realize that God gives the ability to get riches.
- 6) Eccl. 5:19---***“Every man also to whom God hath given riches and wealth, and hath given him power to eat thereof, and to take his portion, and to rejoice in his labor; this is the gift of God.”***

C. Charge them not to trust in uncertain riches.

- 1) The uncertainty of riches. (Matt. 6:19-20)
- 2) They are uncertain because they can quickly be taken away.
- 3) Rich today.....no certainty tomorrow.
- 4) To trust in....depend upon....have hope set on!!
- 5) Riches can be used for good, but should never be trusted in.

D. Charge the rich to trust in the living God.

- 1) He can give us what riches cannot---CERTAINTY!!
- 2) He is dependable....He will carry out His promises.
- 3) He is able to care for us in life, in sorrows, in trials, and even in death.
- 4) It is God who gives us richly all things to enjoy.
 - a) God loves His creatures.
 - b) Has provided much for us to enjoy.
 - c) Grave danger is turning from Him when we get a few dollars ahead.....trusting in ourselves & our possessions.

E. Charge them that they do good.

- 1) Do what is right....that which is good for the soul.
- 2) Accomplish good in life.
- 3) Wealth is a responsibility.
 - a) It must be made honestly & shared wisely.
 - b) It can be used to:
 - 1—Preach the gospel.
 - 2—Relieve fatherless & widows.
 - 3—Further the work of the church.
 - c) But unshared, it can lead to doom. (Jas. 5:1-3)

F. Charge them to be rich in good works.

- 1) Be rich....be abundant in good works.
- 2) Lives filled with good works.
- 3) Tit. 3:8---***“This is a faithful saying, and these things I will that thou affirm constantly, that they which have believed in God might be careful to maintain good works. These things are good and profitable unto men.”***

G. Charge them to be ready to distribute.

- 1) Be ready to divide with others.
- 2) To be liberal.
- 3) The Christian knows that money is a trust to be used wisely.
- 4) “Money is a good servant, but a poor master.”

H. Charge them to be ready to communicate.

- 1) Not conversation.
- 2) Willingness to share their possessions with others who have need.

I. Charge them to lay up in store for themselves a good foundation against the time to come that they may lay hold on eternal life.

- 1) Make use of wealth so it will contribute to their eternal welfare.

- 2) Luke 18:22—“*Yet lackest thou one thing: sell all that thou hast, and distribute unto the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come, follow me.*”
- 3) Possessions can be loved, hoarded, trusted in, spent selfishly, and be a cause of pride.
- 4) But riches can also be used for the glory of God and the good of our fellowman.
- 5) Proper use of such can assure us of our home in heaven.

CONCLUSION

1. The key to the problem is the motives & desires of the heart!
 - a) What is first, uppermost as our purpose in life.
 - b) Whether to put our emphasis upon the things of this life.
 - c) Or, whether to put our emphasis upon attaining the life to come.
2. Money is not the culprit...it is neither good or bad.
 - a) It is man's attitude towards it. (Matt. 16:26)

Lesson Thirteen

“FINAL CHARGE TO TIMOTHY”

(I Tim. 6:11-16, 20-21)

INTRODUCTION

1. Paul had a zeal for the Lord & His church.
2. He wanted Timothy to have that same zeal.
3. He chose well the preachers that he took with him.
4. He trained them carefully.
5. Then, continued to encourage & exhort them to do their work diligently.
6. The gospel was deserving of their best efforts.

DISCUSSION**I. PAUL’S CHARGE TO TIMOTHY. (6:11-16)****A. Addresses him as, “O Man of God”.**

- 1) Common expression in O.T. of prophets of God.
- 2) Timothy is God’s man to speak God’s message.
- 3) He is one who is to lose himself in service to God & man.

B. The charge:

- 1) **“Flee these things”** (Like Joseph who fled out of the house).
 - a) The allurements of wealth...Love of...Desire for...Lusts after.
 - b) Such would undermine his effectiveness.
 - c) But also flee sins listed in Vs. 3-10---False doctrines, pride, trouble making, envy, strife, railings, evil surmisings, perverse disputings, etc.
- 2) **“Follow after”** (Pursue after)
 - a) Make these the grand object of your pursuits.
 - b) Righteousness
 - 1—Right attitudes & actions towards fellow-man.
 - 2—Justice to fellow-man.
 - 3—Follow God’s commands in regards to fellowman.
 - c) Godliness
 - 1—Right attitude & actions towards God.
 - 2—Uprightness & obedience.
 - 3—Right relationship with God & man.
 - d) Faith
 - 1—Faithfulness, reliability, trust.
 - 2—Loyal to God’s Word.
 - e) Love
 - 1—First great commandment. (Matt. 22:37-38)
 - 2—Greater than hope & faith. (I Cor. 13:13)
 - 3—Jn. 13:34-35
 - f) Patience
 - 1—Steadfastness, endurance.
 - 2—Not moved by trials or sufferings.
 - 3—Keep going when it is difficult.

g) Meekness

1—Mildness of disposition.

2—Gentleness of spirit.

3—One who can accept God's dealings with him without complaining.

4—I Thess. 2:7---"***But we were gentle among you even as a nurse cherisheth her children.***"3) "***Fight the good fight of faith***"

a) The process:

1—There is a time to FLEE....

2—There is a time to FOLLOW AFTER....

3—Then, there is a time to stand & FIGHT.

b) Continuous action....struggle.

c) Like in a warfare or in Grecian games.

4) "***Lay hold on Eternal Life***"

a) Take possession of....strive to obtain it....make sure of it.

b) Phil. 2:12---"***...work out your own salvation with fear and trembling.***"

c) Lay hold on what God holds out before us.

d) "***Whereunto you are called***"

1—Called into His service by His gospel.

2—It is a high & noble calling to live godly & righteously.

e) "***And have professed a good profession before many witnesses***"1—Heb. 13:23---"***Know ye that our brother Timothy is set at liberty....***"

2—Timothy may have been put in prison for his willingness to openly confess Jesus as Lord

C. This charge given to you is:

1) Given to you in the sight of God.

a) He is witness.

b) This God who gives life to all things.

c) Then, this life should be used in service to Him.

2) Given to you before Christ Jesus.

a) In His presence also.

b) Who made the good confession before Pontius Pilate.

1—Jesus did not shrink from being faithful to His calling.

2—He openly confessed who he was, even when He knew it meant His death.

3—Never be ashamed of to whom you belong.

D. "Keep this commandment"

1) Keep this injunction to fight the good fight of faith.

a) Keep it intact.

b) Do not let go of it....forget it.

2) Keep it without spot, unrebukeable.

a) Preach it without compromise.

b) Live it beyond reproach.

- c) Until the appearing of the Lord Jesus Christ.
 - a) His 2nd coming.
 - b) Or, Timothy's death.
 - c) No man knows the time.....only the Father.
- 4) At that time, He will show:
 - a) Who is the blessed & only Potentate.
 - 1—Potentate---Power....Mighty ruler.
 - 2—Mighty ruler over universe.
 - 3—There are many rulers on earth, but only one over all.
 - 4—Such will be obvious at that time.
 - b) King of Kings & Lord of Lords.
 - 1—He has dominion over all kings & lords.
 - 2—None can prevent the fulfillment of His plans.
 - 3—He can direct the winding up of human affairs when He pleases
 - c) Who only hath immortality
 - 1—He is incapable of death....ever-existing one!
 - 2—Death cannot reach Him like it does mankind.
 - d) Who dwells in the light no man can approach unto.
 - 1—God inhabits inapproachable light.
 - 2—Moses was allowed to see only a portion of God's glory & his face shown from it.
 - 3—God's glory is so brilliant & dazzling that the human eye cannot behold it.
 - e) Whom no man hath seen, nor can see.
 - 1—Only the son hath seen the Father. (Jn. 1:18)
 - 2—Man cannot see God and live.
 - 3—All that man has seen is a physical manifestation of God's glory.
 - f) To whom be honor & power everlasting!!

II. CLOSING EXHORTATIONS. (6:20-21)

A. "Keep that which is committed to thy trust"

- 1) Guard well that which been entrusted to you.
- 2) Do not allow it to slip from you.

B. "Avoid profane & vain babblings"

- 1) Avoid those things devoid of godliness & have no spiritual value.
- 2) Those things that only produce strife & disharmony.
- 3) Those things that confuse and destroy a man's soul.

C. "Avoid oppositions of science falsely so called"

- 1) False science.....false knowledge.
 - a) Science is the accurate gathering of knowledge.
 - b) It is man's efforts to learn for himself.
- 2) But spiritually:
 - a) Man has to depend upon the revealed knowledge from God.
 - b) When he tries to learn them himself...he ends up with false knowledge.

- 3) Reason for avoiding such:
 - a) Because some who have profess such have erred concerning the faith.
 - 1—Already such false teaching of men were creeping in.
 - 2—Some had already been seduced by this false knowledge.
 - 3—They have erred....turned from the Gospel.
 - 4—Men get so engrossed in their own knowledge, they miss the wisdom of God.

D. “Grace be with you”

- 1) Said to be shortest of Paul’s farewells in his letters.
- 2) But he still wished upon Timothy God’s great blessings.

CONCLUSION

1. Paul always held up Christ:
 - a) Not only as Lord and Savior,
 - b) But as the prime example of what Christian leadership should be.
2. His admonition to preachers.....
 - a) Follow in the footsteps of Christ.
 - b) Preach with all your heart, God’s truth.
 - c) Then, live it to the best of your ability.
3. True preachers will preach the pure gospel of Christ.

