Preaching and Practicing the Truth
Studies in 1 and 2 Timothy, Titus, 1, 2 and 3 John

Instruct the Brethren in Good Doctrine

1 Timothy 4
Lesson 4

Trinity Bible Church Sunday School
January 26, 2014
# First Timothy at a Glance

## The Church of the Living God

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<th>No other doctrine</th>
<th>Order in the church</th>
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<td>charge to Timothy</td>
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<td>personal duty</td>
<td>care for elders</td>
<td>pursue godliness</td>
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1 Timothy – Content

› Warning against false teachers
  – Strange doctrine and doctrines of demons
  – Misunderstand Law; forbid marriage and foods

› Personal instructions for Timothy
  – Duty to the church – warn and preach
  – Duty to himself – perhaps a greater emphasis here

› Instructions for church order
  – Men and women, widows
  – Elders and deacons

› Christian doctrine
  – Work of Christ
  – Sanctification
1 Timothy – Theme

- Fight the good fight
- Godliness – “well devoted”
- The mystery of godliness
- “Godliness” here stands in opposition to all that superstitious or contentious men would place in its stead. It is to be understood as comprehending a surrender of ourselves to God, as his redeemed people, and a life of entire devotedness to his service. Simeon, C. (1833). *Horae Homileticae*.
- Discipline yourself for the purpose of godliness (4:7)
Instruct the Brethren in Good Doctrine

- Bad doctrine (4:1-5)
  - The origin of the error
  - An illustration of the error

- Good doctrine (4:6-16)
  - Timothy’s personal life
  - Timothy’s ministry
Bad Doctrine (4:1-5)

- Warning by the Spirit – some will fall away from the faith
  - Acts 20:29; 1 Timothy 1:19; Jude 17-18; 2 Peter 3:1-3

- Deceitful spirits and doctrines of demons
  - Ephesians 6:12; John 8:44; 2 Corinthians 4:3-4

- Hypocrisy and lies

- Illustration: forbidding marriage and certain foods
  - 1 Cor. 7:8; Acts 21:25; 1 Cor. 8:7-13
  - Colossians 3:17
Good Doctrine (4:6-16)

- Demonstrated by the good servant (4:6)
  - Points out the bad doctrine
  - Lives the good doctrine

- Discipline for the purpose of godliness (4:7)
  - Bodily exercise/discipline
    - Colossians 2:20-23; 1 Corinthians 8:8
  - Spiritual exercise/discipline
    - 2 Peter 1:3

- A trustworthy statement
  - Cryptic statement of the essence of faith
  - Discipline yourself for the purpose of godliness
  - We labor and strive by hope in the Living God – our Savior
Good Doctrine (4:6-16)

- Prescribe (command) and teach these things
- Be an example of those who believe
  - Youthfulness not despised
  - Speech, conduct, love, faith, purity
- Public reading, exhortation, teaching
- Do not neglect your spiritual gift – Divine mandate
  - Take pains – be absorbed – progress evident to all
  - Pay attention to yourself and your teaching
  - Persevere in these things
- Salvation – for self and those who hear
Fight the Good Fight

▶ Expose false teaching
▶ Minister the truth – read, preach, teach
▶ Attend to your own life – discipline for godliness