

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

The Church of the Living God				
No other doctrine	Order in the church	Keep the faith	Pastoral duties	The man of God
1:1-20	2:1-3:16	4:1-16	5:1-25	6:1-21
false doctrine Paul's example charge to Timothy	authorities women leaders	warning duty to instruct personal duty	discipline care for widows care for elders	bondservants contentment pursue godliness

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
 - 2 Corinthians 11:13-15; 1 John 4:1-3
- ▶ 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