

First Timothy

Chapters 1-6

Background

- This letter (epistle) of First Timothy is the first of two letters written by Paul, the apostle, to Timothy. He wrote this letter around 67 A.D. some years after his release from prison in Rome recorded in Acts 28.
- Timothy had already received the gift of holy spirit from God by means of the Lord Jesus Christ because he had already been taught and he believed God's Word. Timothy's mother was a holy-person (Christian) of the Judean/Israeli background and his father was of the Gentile (other nations) background.
- Paul first met Timothy as recorded in Acts 16:1-3 and traveled with Paul many times. He is also mentioned in some of Paul's other letters.
- In this letter Paul gives Timothy many instructions on how holy-people (Christians) with different functions within the one body of Christ, the church, should behave themselves in accordance with the will of God and the Lord Jesus Christ.

To Timothy

- Paul considered Timothy to be a genuine child in belief.
 - I Timothy 1:1 and 2:
 - ^{1:1}Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus according to a command of God our Savior and Christ Jesus our hope – ²to Timothy a genuine child in belief; grace, mercy, peace from God (*the*) Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

Remember Prophecies

- Paul reminds Timothy of prophecies and uses military terminology drawing attention to the truth that holy-people are in a battle/war against the opposing side which is under the leadership of satan, the devil.
 - I Timothy 1:18-20:
 - .¹⁸This charge I put-beside you, child Timothy, according to the prophecies leading-forth on you in order that you may serve-as-a-soldier in them the beautiful soldiery .¹⁹having belief and good conscience, which some-people having thrust-away shipwrecked concerning the belief .²⁰of whom is Hymenaeus and Alexander whom I gave-over to satan in order that they may be trained not to blaspheme.

Pray for all men

- Exhortation to pray.
 - I Timothy 2:1 and 2:
 - 2:1 Therefore I encourage first of all to make supplications, prayers, intercessions, thankfulnesses on behalf of all men, ·2 on behalf of kings and all the (*people*) being in superiority, in order that we may lead a tranquil and quiet life in all reverence and reverential(-*behavior*).

Overseers and Ministers

- Paul teaches about overseers and ministers.
 - I Timothy 3:1, 2, and 8-10:
 - 3:1(b) If someone reaches-for overseership he intensely yearns a beautiful work, ·²therefore it is necessary (*for*) the overseer to be irreproachable, husband of one wife, sober, sound-thinking, orderly-arranged, loving-strangers, apt-to-teach,
 - ·⁸Likewise ministers (*to be*) reverential, not two-worded, not having-attention to much wine, not shameful-gain, ·⁹having the mystery of the belief in a clean conscience, ·¹⁰but even these-people must firstly be approved, then they must minister being not-arraigned.

Mystery of Reverence

- The word “mystery” throughout Paul’s letters means “secret.” A mystery contains the details that are known and can be understood by those involved in it and by those to whom it has been revealed – it is not inexplicable to those involved in it.
- The reverential service towards God agreeably is large in magnitude, importance, etc.
 - I Timothy 3:16:
 - ^{.16}and agreeably great is the mystery of the reverence which was manifested in flesh, was made-righteous in spirit, was seen by angels, was heralded among Gentiles, was believed in (*the*) world, was taken-up in glory.
 - Note: The Greek texts do not include the words “God” or “Christ” in verse 16.

A beautiful Minister

- Paul teaches Timothy how to be a beautiful minister of Christ Jesus.
 - I Timothy 4:6-8:
 - ⁶Putting these-things from-yourself to the brothers you will be a beautiful minister of Christ Jesus being in-nourished with words of the belief and of the beautiful teaching which you followed-beside², ⁷but the profane-people and old-womanish fables you must refuse; and you must exercise yourself towards reverence ⁸for the bodily exercise is profitable towards a little-thing but the reverence is profitable towards all-things, having promise of life, the (*life*) now and the (*life*) being about-to (*come*).

Double Honor

- Elders in service for God carrying-out their assignments in a beautiful manner are worthy of double honor.
 - I Timothy 5:17 and 18:
 - .¹⁷The elders beautifully having stood-before² (*others*) must be esteemed-worthy of double honor, especially the (*elders*) laboring in word and teaching, .¹⁸for the writing says, “You will not muzzle the ox threshing,” and, “The worker (*is*) worthy of his compensation.”

Love for Silver (money)

- Loving silver coins (money) with the brotherly or friendly kind of love is a root of all the things that do not issue from the only true God.
 - I Timothy 6:10 and 11(a):
 - .¹⁰for the love-for-silver is a root of all the bad-things, of which some-people reaching-for were caused-to-wander away-from the belief and pierced themselves with many pains. .^{11(a)}But you, oh man of God, must flee these-things....