

## COMMENTARY

### I TIMOTHY 4

Paul warns Timothy of false teachers that would come in the last days. They would teach that Christians are to abstain from certain foods and are not to marry. These individuals are hypocrites, Paul says, who have no conscience. Paul affirms that all food is acceptable if it is received with thanksgiving.

Paul charges Timothy with the responsibility of seeing that Christians are warned about these things. They are to avoid godless myths and old wives tales. He is to train himself to be godly, which will benefit him not only right now, but also for all of eternity (in contrast to physical training which only has immediate value).

Paul reminds Timothy of his secure hope in the living God, who will save all who believe.

Paul tells Timothy not to allow anyone to look down on him because he is young. Rather, he is to be an example in life and speech, in love, and in faith. He is to devote himself to public reading of God's Word, preaching and teaching. He is not to neglect his gift which was entrusted to him when he was ordained by elders by the laying on of hands.

Paul instructs Timothy to make sure that he fully commits himself to these things. He is to closely examine his life and teaching so that he will be found faithful and will lead others to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ.

### I TIMOTHY 5

Paul gives Timothy guidelines for his relationships with other believers. Those older men, are to be treated gently, through exhortation; as you would treat your father. Those younger men are to be treated as brothers, older women as mothers, and younger women as sisters. Truly we are a Christian family!

Paul now embarks on the Church's responsibility to the widows. He teaches that if a widow has family, they are to minister and provide for her needs, rather than burdening the church with it (those failing to provide for their relatives have denied the faith and is considered worse than an unbeliever). Those (Christian widows) that have no family and are in need, are to be provided for by the Church. These women are not to be living for pleasure, but rather for God.

Paul goes on to give further requirements before a Christian widow is to be provided for by the Church. They must be over 60, been faithful to their husband, known for her good deeds (bringing up good children, showing hospitality, helping the needy, etc.). Younger widows are not to be included. He suggests that they remarry and commit themselves to that relationship rather than being idle, gossips and busybodies.

The elders who direct the affairs of the Church, especially those who are preaching and teaching, are worthy of double honor. The one who is totally devoting himself to the work, are to be remunerated. They are not to even consider an accusation against an elder unless it is made by 2 or 3 witnesses. Those that do sin, are to be rebuked publicly in order to warn the others.

These instructions are to be followed impartially.

Serious consideration needs to be given before the laying on hands is done (ordaining one to serve) rather than choosing those not qualified.

Paul gives some medicinal advice to Timothy regarding his stomach condition.

Paul states that the sins and good deeds of men will be made clear, in time.



## I TIMOTHY 6

vs. 1- 2:

Paul refers now to Christians who are involved in a slave/master relationship. Slaves are to respect their masters (This will prevent God and Christianity from being slandered). If their master is a Christian, they should serve them all the more so as to benefit the work of Christ.

vs. 3-10:

Paul warns that those who teach falsely and does not accept Christ's teaching is conceited and understands nothing. These people usually enjoy controversy and arguments which result in evil and providing division between fellow Christians. They also see their position as a means to financial gain.

Paul teaches Timothy to learn to be content with what the Lord provides. Those who seek after money, will fall away from the Lord. .

vs. 11-21

Paul tells Timothy to avoid these things and to pursue the godly life that God has called him to. He is to remain faithful, so as to enjoy eternity. He is to remain faithful until Christ returns. It is God who is truly worthy of all honor and power forever.

Those who are rich are to be reminded to put their trust in God and to be generous with the blessings that God has given them. In so doing they will lay up treasures in heaven.

Timothy is finally reminded to keep true to what he's been entrusted with. He is to avoid godless chatter and opposing ideas to the truth (even if it is called knowledge. Others have failed to do so, and have perished because of it.

## STUDY GUIDE

### I TIMOTHY 4

1. What will some abandon and follow?
  2. What will these people forbid and order others to abstain from?
  3. How are things that God created to be received?
  4. What is to be rejected if it is received with thanksgiving?
  5. What was Timothy to have nothing to do with?
  6. What was he to train himself to be?
  7. Why were they not to look down on Timothy?
  8. How was he to set an example?
  9. What was he to devote himself to?
  10. At what time was he given his gift?
  11. What was he to watch?
  12. If he persevered, what would result?
- BONUS:
1. Are all who forbid marriage and/or abstaining from certain foods, false teachers? Explain.
  2. What is the harm in godless myths and old wives tales?
  3. Does verse 12 apply to all young people? Who is young? Explain.



## STUDY GUIDE

### I TIMOTHY 5:

1. How are we to treat fellow Christians of various ages and genders?
2. Who was Timothy to give proper recognition to?
3. According to verse 4, who should be first to provide for widows?
4. What does it say about those who fail to provide for family?
5. What requirements are given in verses 9 and 10, for widows?
6. Who, according to verse 11, are not to be put on such a list?
7. What habit to younger widows get into?
8. What should the woman who has widows in her family do, and why?
9. Who is worthy of double honor?
10. What are we to do about accusations against elders?
11. What were they not to be hasty about?
12. What does Paul say, are obvious? (vs. 24,25)

### BONUS:

1. What criteria should be met before a widow is helped by the church?
2. What are we to do, if someone accuses an elder of sin?
3. What was the purpose of laying on of hands, in verse 22?

## Study Guide

### I TIMOTHY 6:

1. Why were slaves to respect their masters?
2. Why were slaves to be even better to Christian masters?
3. What do controversies and arguments result in?
4. What is great gain?
5. What should we be content with?
6. What do people who want to get rich fall into?
7. What is a root of all kinds of evil?
8. What was Timothy to pursue?
9. What was Timothy to take hold of?
10. Who is God, according to verse 15?
11. What was Timothy to command the rich and why? (vs. 18,19)
12. What was Timothy to turn away from?

### BONUS

1. What is the danger of money? What good can come from it?  
Explain.
2. What is the "good fight of faith"?
3. What are some opposing ideas to Scripture, that today are considered "knowledge"?