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If you have questions during the week, please drop us an e-mail at [jim@calvaryroswell.com](mailto:jim@calvaryroswell.com) or [phil@calvaryroswell.com](mailto:phil@calvaryroswell.com)

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## Thru the Scriptures 2006-08



### 1 Timothy

December 6th-12th , 2007

All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work. (2 Ti 3:16-17)

## 1 Timothy—

This letter from Paul to young Timothy marks the first of three “pastoral epistles” in the New Testament. Paul wrote the letter to encourage and to instruct his beloved son in the faith, Timothy, who had been appointed to the heavy job of overseeing the church at Ephesus. Within this letter, we find that Timothy is exhorted and instructed in many matters concerning the church. And when studied and applied to our own lives today, we find it to be a solid example of what a godly church is supposed to look like. As you read and study this book, note the details of church matters that are dealt with. Note the encouragements that are given by the aged apostle to Timothy and be encouraged yourself to fight the good fight of faith. Note the instruction that is given to the young pastor Timothy, and gain insight and instruction as to what it is to operate under God’s plan for the living organism that we call a god-centered church.

### **Helpful Study Links:**

Additional Commentary: (Great Resource!)

[http://preceptaustin.org/1\\_Timothy\\_commentaries.htm](http://preceptaustin.org/1_Timothy_commentaries.htm)

### **Sermon Links:**

“O Man of God!” by Ray C. Stedman

<http://www.pbc.org/files/messages/5401/3781.html>

“Salvation by Knowing the Truth” by C H Spurgeon

<http://www.biblebb.com/files/spurgeon/1516.htm>

### **Commentary:**

The commentary used throughout this booklet is

**With the Word Bible Commentary**

**by Warren W. Wiersbe.**

ISBN 0-8407-9108-9



## Author: Paul (1:1)

### Who is Timothy?

This letter was addressed to Timothy (1:2). Timothy was first met by Paul on Paul's second missionary journey (Acts 16:1–3). His father was a Greek, and his mother, Eunice, and grandmother, Lois, were devout Jews (Acts 16:1; 2 Tim. 1:5). Timothy was converted by Paul on his first visit to Lystra (Acts 14:6–7; 1 Cor. 4:17; 1 Tim. 1:2). Timothy worked with Paul on his missionary journeys (Acts 16:3; 17:14–15; 19:22; 1 Cor. 4:17; 16:10; 1 Thess. 3:1–2). He was with Paul during his first Roman imprisonment (Phil. 1:1; 2:19–24; Col. 1:1; Philem. 1:1). Timothy was his close companion and is associated with him in writing Philippians, Colossians, and Philemon. After Paul's release from Roman imprisonment, Timothy was appointed to lead the church at Ephesus (1 Tim. 1:3; 2 Tim. 1:16–18; 4:19). Timothy was a prime example of a servant of God (Phil. 2:20–22).



**Time:** In these epistles, Paul writes to Timothy, who had become his close associate on the second missionary journey (Acts 16:1–3). 1 Timothy was probably written around. a.d. 63 and 2 Timothy a.d. 67.

The Book of Acts closes with Paul a prisoner in Rome (28:30–31). While the NT does not give us a clear picture of Paul's later years, the following chronology is agreed upon by most students: Paul was acquitted before Caesar and was forced to leave Rome after his two years of imprisonment. This would be about the spring of a.d. 62. With Luke and Timothy, he visited Ephesus, where he discovered that his prophecy about the “wolves” (Acts 20:29–30) had been fulfilled, for the church at Ephesus had been invaded by false teachers. Paul ministered there himself for a short time, then left to go to Philippi. He left Timothy behind as his special assistant to oversee the Ephesian church. Their parting was a sorrowful one, according to 2 Tim. 1:4.



### Theme: How to be a Church

Along with Titus, 1 and 2 Timothy are referred to as the Pastoral Epistles because both Timothy and Titus were pastors. In his letters to them, the apostle Paul gives instruction and encouragement, wisdom and insight concerning the ministry.

This letter is an instruction letter to Timothy as a pastor on how to organize, build and continue the church there in Ephesus. It becomes an

awesome book of insight on what a church is supposed to be and how it is supposed to work. One of the great dangers is that churches have a habit of reflecting the society around them, more than the Word before them. Styles, issues and such tend to mimic either the government in which the church is located or the business style of the society. Yet, God has given us instructions that are not to be pushed aside. Although these letters are addressed to pastors, this does not mean, of course, that the letters were not read before congregations. The epistles show clear signs that their author intended them to be used widely. Nor does this mean that the epistles are mere handbooks on pastoral duties. There is much that the Holy Spirit has put in these letters for each and every one of us.

## Outline

- I. Greeting (1:1, 2)
- II. A Church Must Guard the Truth (1:3–20)
  - A. Charge: Teach only the Truth (1:3–4)
  - B. Hold to the Purpose of the Truth (1:5–11)
  - C. Paul’s Example of holding to the Truth (1:12–17)
  - D. Charge to Fight for the Truth (1:18–20)
- III. A Church Must be a place of Prayer (2:1–10)
  - A. The Priority of Prayer (2:1–2)
  - B. The Power of Prayer in Conversions (2:3–7)
  - C. A Call for Men to be Men of prayer (2:8)
  - D. A Call for Women to be Women of prayer (2:9–10)
- IV. A Church Must Have Godly Leaders (3)
  - A. Role of Women in leadership (2:11–15)
  - B. Qualifications for Elders [Leaders] (3:1–7)
  - C. Qualifications for Deacons [Servants] (3:8–1)
  - D. Reminder: It is God’s Church (3:14–16)
- V. A Church Must Guard Against False Teachers (4:1–16)
  - A. The Description of False Teachers (4:1–5)
  - B. The Description of True Teachers (4:6–11)
  - C. Charge for True Teachers to Stand (4:12–16)
- VI. A Church Must Care for and Lead the People (5:1–6:2)
  - A. The Responsibility to Sinning Members (5:1, 2)
  - B. The Responsibility to Widows (5:3–16)
  - C. The Responsibility to Elders (5:17–25)
  - D. The Responsibility to Slaves (6:1, 2)
- VI. A Church Must be Producing People of God (6:3–21)
  - A. The Peril of False Teaching (6:3–5)
  - B. The Peril of Loving Money (6:6–10)
  - C. The Proper Character and Motivation of a Man of God (6:11–16)
  - D. The Proper Handling of Treasure (6:17–19)
  - E. The Proper Handling of Truth (6:20, 21)
- VIII. Salutation (6:21)

## First Timothy



Paul's trial in Rome came out in his favor, and he was released. It is likely he went to Colosse to visit Philemon (Philem. 22). He may have written 1 Timothy from Colosse or from Philippi.

The child of a mixed marriage (Acts 16:1), Timothy was raised in a godly home (2 Tim. 1:5; 3:15) and came to know Christ through Paul's ministry (1 Tim. 1:2). Paul added him to his team at Lystra (Acts 16:1–3) and made him one of his special assistants (Phil. 2:19–22). Timothy eventually was sent to pastor the church in Ephesus (1 Tim. 1:3).

First Timothy is a ministerial letter, telling pastors and people how they should conduct themselves in the local assembly (3:15). Paul stresses preaching the truth (chaps. 1, 4), praying (chap. 2), and appointing qualified leaders (chap. 3). He closes by giving counsel on how to minister to various kinds of people in the church (chaps. 5–6).

—Wiersbe, W. W. (1997, c1991). With the word  
Bible commentary  
Nashville: Thomas Nelson



# Daily Bible Study

Friday, December 7th, 2007

## *Passage for today: 1 Timothy 1*

### Questions to Ponder

1. Why was Timothy encouraged to stay in Ephesus? What were some of the teachers turning to?
2. What is the purpose of the law?
3. In verse 18 how does Paul describe Timothy's ministry?

### With the word Bible Commentary

#### 1 Timothy 1

The work in Ephesus was not easy, and Timothy wanted a new assignment; but Paul urged him to stay where he was and get the job done (1:3). The next time you want to abandon your assigned place, consider the arguments Paul gave Timothy for staying where he was.

**For the work's sake (1–11).** What Paul warned the Ephesian elders about had come true: false teachers were in the church (Acts 20:28–30). The pastor's job is to warn them and teach the people the truth. If he abandoned the flock, Timothy would be a hireling and not a shepherd (John 10:12–13).

**For the Lord's sake (12–17).** Jesus died to save sinners, and He lives to equip and enable His servants to do the work of the ministry. The same God who empowered Paul could empower Timothy—and can empower us today. God is faithful!

**For our own sake (18–20).** God had equipped Timothy, called him, and given him a solemn charge. There was a battle to fight, and he dare not run away. If we flee the post of duty, we rob ourselves of opportunities to grow, to serve, and to glorify God.

When the winds of adversity blow, set your sails in the right direction, and let Christ handle the rudder. Otherwise, you may be shipwrecked.

**Responsibility** - Someone defined responsibility as “our response to God's ability.”

—Wiersbe, W. W. (1997, c1991). *With the word Bible commentary* (1 Ti 1:1). Nashville: Thomas Nelson.



# Daily Bible Study

Saturday, December 9th, 2007

*Passage for today: 1 Timothy 2*

## Questions to Ponder

1. What is the first thing that is exhorted in this chapter? Why do you think this is often overlooked?
2. What does this chapter tell us about women as teachers in the church? What is the basis of this?

## With the word Bible Commentary

### 1 Timothy 2

What is the most vital ministry of the local church? According to Paul, it is prayer. Prayer moves the hand that governs the world. We must pray for government leaders, that the doors of ministry will be kept open and souls will be won to Christ. Because God's people do not pray for people in authority, wars close mission fields, officials do not grant needed visas, and the work of the Lord suffers.

Paul reminds Christian men that Christian women are important to the Lord and to the work of the church. The gospel brought freedom to women in the Roman Empire, but some of them did not know how to handle it and went to extremes asserting their liberty. Hence, the reminder about the spiritual leadership of the men in the church.

Modesty, true spiritual beauty (1 Pet. 3:1–6), godliness, and good works—these will characterize the woman God blesses.

*“It is in willing submission, rather than grudging capitulation, that the woman in the church (whether married or single) and the wife in the home find their fulfillment.”*

**Elisabeth Elliot**

*“A good woman is the best thing on earth. Women were last at the cross and first at the open tomb. The church owes a debt to her faithful women which she can never estimate, to say nothing of the debt we owe in our homes to godly wives and mothers.”*

**Vance Havner**

—Wiersbe, W. W. (1997, c1991). With the word Bible commentary (1 Ti 2:1). Nashville: Thomas Nelson.



# Daily Bible Study

Sunday, December 9th, 2007

## *Passage for today: 1 Timothy 3*

### Questions to Ponder

1. Look over the qualifications for “bishops” (literally overseers). What are the main points? What is it calling for? Why?
2. The term deacon is often times thought of as a position, but is probably better translated servant—and thus would apply to all that serve in the church.
3. What are the qualifications? How do they apply to you as a servant? How do they differ from a bishop?

### With the word Bible Commentary

#### 1 Timothy 3

Being a leader of God’s people is a serious task, and no one should accept an office who is not qualified and willing to use that office to help the church.

**Watching (1–7).** The title bishop means “overseer” and describes the work of the elder (Acts 20:17, 28). God’s people are like sheep; they need shepherds to watch over them, protect them, and lead them. Pray for your spiritual leaders that they might more and more be what God wants them to be.

**Working (8–13).** The word deacon means “servant.” The deacons assist the elders in carrying out the work of the church (Acts 6:1–7). As with the elders, the deacons should be qualified spiritually and set the right example in their homes.

**Worshipping (14–16).** The church is much more than a group of like-minded people who assemble from time to time. The living God is in their midst (Matt. 18:20), and the truth of God has been deposited with them! They worship the Son of God who alone is worthy of praise! Yes, it is a serious thing to be a part of a local church. Do you take it seriously?

—Wiersbe, W. W. (1997, c1991). *With the word Bible commentary* (1 Ti 3:1). Nashville: Thomas Nelson.



# Daily Bible Study

Monday, December 10th, 2007

*Passage for today: 1 Timothy 4*

## Questions to Ponder

1. What are we to expect in these last days? What will some give heed to? What is meant by “doctrines of demons”?
2. How was Timothy to be an example to the believers? How does this apply to you?

## With the word Bible Commentary

### 1 Timothy 4

**Watch yourself (1–5).** Satan is at work spreading false doctrine, and his ministers are already in the church (2 Cor. 11:13–15). God’s servants must preach the truth and fight the devil’s lies. Declaring war may not make us popular, but it will keep us faithful.

**Exercise yourself (6–10).** If believers would put as much effort into the spiritual life as they do their recreation and hobbies, what a difference it would make! Physical exercise is important, but spiritual exercise is even more essential. Both discipline and devotion are needed to make a winning athlete and an effective Christian.

**Give yourself (11–16).** It takes real effort to grow in the Christian life and to be successful in Christian service. God asks for our wholehearted surrender, no matter what the cost. Ponder these admonitions that Paul wrote to Timothy and see how they apply in your life..

*Advance! The word translated “progress” in 1 Timothy 4:15 means “pioneer advance.” As we walk with the Lord and serve Him, we must move into new territory and not stay the same spiritually. There are new truths to learn, new battles to fight, and new victories to win.*

*“Restlessness is discontent,” said Thomas Alva Edison, “and discontent is the first necessity of progress. Show me a thoroughly satisfied man and I will show you a failure.”*

—Wiersbe, W. W. (1997, c1991). With the word Bible commentary (1 Ti 4:1). Nashville: Thomas Nelson.



# Daily Bible Study

Tuesday, December 11th, 2007

## *Passage for today: 1 Timothy 5*

### Questions to Ponder

1. How should believers treat other believers? What are the specific instructions given concerning widows? How does this apply to today?
2. How are we to treat and deal with leaders in the church?

### With the word Bible Commentary

#### 1 Timothy 5

What causes problems in churches? Often, it is people not getting along with each other. Brothers and sisters do not always dwell together in unity (Ps. 133).

Paul suggests that we treat other people the way we would treat members of our own family (vv. 1–2). If the older people complain about things, deal with them as you would your father or mother, and accept the younger believers as brothers and sisters. This is simply a call to love others as God loves you.

Not everybody who asks for help should receive it (vv. 3–16). Charity should begin at home (vv. 4, 16), and church leaders must exercise discernment lest they create more problems than they solve.

Sometimes trouble comes because we believe reports that cannot be verified (v. 19), or we show partiality (v. 21), or we make decisions before getting the facts (v. 22). Not every church member has a character as good as his or her reputation (vv. 24–25), so take care!

—Wiersbe, W. W. (1997, c1991). *With the word Bible commentary* (1 Ti 5:1). Nashville: Thomas Nelson.



# Daily Bible Study

Wednesday, December 12th , 2007

## *Passage for today: 1 Timothy 6*

### Questions to Ponder

1. What are the exhortations for “masters” and bondservants? How does this apply to us today?
2. How can the desire for gain affect the servant of God? What specific commands are given to the rich? Who does this apply to?
3. What is the closing exhortation of this letter? Why is so important?

### With the word Bible Commentary

#### 1 Timothy 6

**Watch your motives (1–2).** Be obedient so you do not bring reproach on the Word (v. 1; Titus 2:10) or show disrespect for persons in authority over you (v. 2). Never take advantage of fellow believers; rather, do all you can to help them.

**Watch your attitudes (3–5).** Do you enjoy arguing about the Bible? Then search your heart to see if any of these sinful attitudes are hiding there. You can never debate people into the kingdom or into a more sanctified life.

**Watch your values (6–10, 17–19).** Are you content with the necessities of life, or must God give you luxuries? God wants you to enjoy His gifts (v. 17) and employ them for the good of others; but beware when your heart is set on getting rich (Prov. 15:27; Eccles. 5:10).

**Watch your testimony (11–16).** Know the things you should flee, follow, and fight, and do not confuse them. When you think it too difficult to stand up for the Lord, remember how He stood up for you.

**Watch your stewardship (20–21).** You have a deposit of spiritual truth to guard and invest (1:18; 2 Tim. 1:14; 2:2), and the enemy wants to take it from you. Beware those who want to give you “new knowledge” beyond what God says in His Word.

—Wiersbe, W. W. (1997, c1991). *With the word Bible commentary* (1 Ti 6:1). Nashville: Thomas Nelson.



## “Grace, MERCY and peace from God...”

1 Timothy 1:2

Imagine for a moment that you are young Timothy. He was a man who was raised in faith. His father was a Greek and his mother a believing Jew. He was found by Paul in Lystra during Paul’s first visit to the city. The two were knit together, Paul took young Timothy under his wing, and off they went to serve Christ as father and son in the faith. After much preaching, serving, laboring and learning, young Timothy was sent out (away from Paul) to establish the church in Ephesus. His duty was heavy and it seems he was moved in his heart to want to give up and possibly leave the work he had been appointed to do (Cf. 1 Timothy 1:3). Can you imagine yourself in his place?

Timothy was distressed! He was in the dregs and feeling overwhelmed. We don’t have to go too far into the letter to see, however that God wanted to encourage the young pastor and establish him that he might not give up. Note how Paul first blessed him: “Grace, *mercy* and peace from God...” (1:2). In Timothy’s time of need for direction and encouragement, Paul began his loving letter to him by crying out to God on young Timothy’s behalf for grace, *mercy* and peace.

This seems a small detail, but it is one worthy of noting for those of us who long to be faithful ministers of God’s gospel today. All of Paul’s letters to the churches that are found in the New Testament begin with a blessing of “grace and peace.” But here in his letter to the disheartened preacher, Timothy, (and also in the letter to Titus) we find that Paul included the blessing of *mercy*. Why?—why would Paul bless Timothy (and Titus) with this added word *mercy* and choose not to include it toward the churches?

The Greek word *eleos* is defined “the free gift for the forgiveness of sins and is related to the misery that sin brings.” It differs from the word we translate as *grace* in that “grace describes God’s attitude toward the lawbreaker and the rebel; [while] mercy is His attitude toward those who are in distress” (Strong’s Greek Dictionary of the New Testament, p. 84).

It seems that young Timothy was in the place of being “in distress.” Because of that, Paul knew he was in great need of *mercy*. We see in verse three of chapter one that he wanted to leave his assignment. And from this, we can infer that he was under overwhelming pressure. It has been said that the closer we get to God and the more we begin to walk in the calling that He has for us, the more we begin see our own sin and get a fuller sense of our own inadequacy. Perhaps young Timothy was experiencing this dilemma in a new way as he was undertaking the large work of establishing the church in Ephesus (away from the present guidance of his spiritual father, Paul). Perhaps Timothy was growing in his understanding of the word and was seeing his own lack of holiness in standing next to it. Perhaps Timothy had succumbed to the pressures of ministry and had acted out in an unloving manner toward one of the people that the Lord had given him to minister to, and was feeling remorse for the act. We don’t know exactly what the individual problem was, but we do know that there was something about his situation that caused him to need mercy in a deeper and more effectual way than the churches that Paul had written to.

Can you relate to Timothy’s position? Have you begun to walk more in what the Lord has called you to and you’re finding yourself feeling quite frail and weak and sinful in light of the Lord whom you are getting to know more? If this be the case, mercy is your need. Paul knew it of Timothy. And Timothy for sure was feeling his own need as well.

This week as you read and study this letter of Paul’s, to young Timothy; think upon the mercy that God surely poured out on these men who ministered the gospel of Christ and labored to build up his new church. Remember, as you read, that your great need of mercy can be more than met by the same God who helped these brothers to stand in their callings in times of great trouble and toil for the gospel’s sake. Keep in mind that God is still the God of mercy that He was back then. And as you cry out to Him to be led further and further into everything that He has for you, may you experience and enjoy the effects of His great mercy!

