

The first Epistle of Paul to Timothy

1 Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus according to the commandment of God our Savior, and Christ Jesus our hope, ²to Timothy, my true child with respect to *the* faith: Grace, mercy, peace, from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

³As I urged you when I was going into Macedonia, stay at Ephesus in order that you may instruct certain people not to teach a different doctrine, ⁴nor to occupy themselves with fables and endless genealogies, which give rise to speculation rather than *furthering* the administration of God—the one in connection with faith. ⁵Now the goal of this command is love out of a pure heart and a good conscience and genuine faith. ⁶Certain *people*, having swerved from these things, have turned aside to fruitless discussions, ⁷wanting to be teachers of the law, *but* not understanding either what they are saying or the things about which they make confident assertions.

⁸But we know that the law *is* good if one uses it lawfully, ⁹realizing this, that law is not made for a righteous *person*, but for *the* lawless and rebellious, ungodly and sinners, unholy and profane, murderers of fathers and murderers

of mothers, murderers, ¹⁰sexually immoral men, homosexuals, kidnappers, liars, perjurers, and if there is any other thing contrary to the sound doctrine ¹¹that conforms to the Good News of the glory of the blessed God, which was committed to my trust.

¹²I am always thanking him who enabled me, *that is*, Christ Jesus our Lord, because he counted me faithful, appointing me to *his* service, ¹³even though I was previously a blasphemer, and a persecutor, and an insolent *man*. But I obtained mercy because I did it ignorantly in unbelief, ¹⁴but the grace of our Lord overflowed abundantly, along with faith and love that is in Christ Jesus.

¹⁵This statement is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am first in rank.

¹⁶Nevertheless, I obtained mercy for this reason: so that in me, as first in rank, Jesus Christ might show forth all his longsuffering as a pattern for those who are about to believe on him to life *in the Age to come*. ¹⁷To the King age-abiding, incorruptible, invisible, the only God, *be* honor and glory forever and ever! Amen.

¹⁸This command I commit to you, my child Timothy, according to the prophecies made previously about you, that by them you may war the good warfare, ¹⁹holding faith

and a good conscience, which some, having thrust away, have shipwrecked their faith, ²⁰of whom is Hymenaeus and Alexander, whom I delivered to the Adversary, that they might be taught not to blaspheme.

2 I urge therefore, first of all, that supplications, prayers, intercessions, *and* thanksgivings, be made for all men, ²for kings and all who are in authority, in order that we may lead a tranquil and quiet life in all godliness and dignity. ³This is good and acceptable in the sight of God our savior, ⁴who wants all people to be saved and to come to a full knowledge of the truth. ⁵For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, *the* man, Christ Jesus, ⁶who gave himself *as* a ransom for all—the testimony *given* at the proper time. ⁷For this I was appointed a herald and an apostle (I speak the truth, I do not lie), a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.

⁸Therefore, I desire that the men in every place pray, lifting up pure hands without wrath and disputing. ⁹Likewise, *I want* women to adorn themselves in respectable apparel, with modesty and good judgment, not with braided hair and gold, or pearls, or costly clothing, ¹⁰but (which becomes women professing godliness) with good works.

¹¹Let a woman learn in quietness with all subjection. ¹²But I do not permit a woman to teach or to claim *feminine* origin of man, but to be in quietness. ¹³For Adam was first formed, then Eve, ¹⁴and Adam was not deceived, but the woman, being thoroughly deceived, fell into transgression, ¹⁵but she will be saved through her child-bearing, if they continue in faith and love and sanctification with good judgment; ¹this saying is trustworthy.

3 If a man aspires to the office of an overseer, he desires a good work. ²It is necessary, then, *that* the overseer must be above reproach, the husband of one wife, clear-minded, sensible, respectable, given to hospitality, skilful in teaching, ³not an excessive drinker, not violent, but reasonable, not quarrelsome; not a lover of money, ⁴one who is leading his own house well, having *his* children in subjection with all dignity ⁵(indeed, if a man does not know how to lead his own house, how will he take care of the congregation of God?), ⁶not a novice, lest being puffed up he fall into the condemnation of the Slanderer. ⁷Moreover, he must have a good reputation from those who are outside, lest he fall into reproach, and the snare of the Slanderer.

⁸Similarly, deacons *must be* dignified, not double-tongued, not given to much wine, not eager for

dishonorable gain,⁹ holding the sacred secret of the faith in a pure conscience.¹⁰ And let these also first be tested, then let them serve as deacons if they are blameless.

¹¹Similarly, women *must be* dignified, not slanderers, clear-minded, faithful in all things.¹² Let deacons be husbands of one wife, leading *their* children and their own houses well.¹³ For those who have served well as deacons obtain for themselves a good standing, and great boldness in *the* faith—the *faith* in Christ Jesus.

¹⁴These things I write to you, hoping to come to you shortly.¹⁵ But if I am delayed, *I am writing* that you may know how one ought to conduct himself in the house of God, which is the congregation of the living God, the pillar and foundation of the truth.

¹⁶And, by common confession, great is the sacred secret of godliness: he was revealed in flesh, declared righteous in spirit, seen by angels, preached among *the* nations, believed *on* in *the* world, taken up in glory.

4 But the Spirit says expressly, that in later times some will fall away from the faith, paying attention to seducing spirits and doctrines of demons,² *which come* through the hypocrisy of liars, who have their own consciences seared as with a hot iron,³ forbidding to marry, *and*

commanding to abstain from foods that God created to be received with thanksgiving by those who believe and know the truth.⁴ For every creature of God is good, and nothing is to be rejected if it is received with thanksgiving,⁵ for it is sanctified through the word of God and intercession.

⁶If you point these things out to the brothers, you will be a good servant of Christ Jesus, nourished in the words of the faith, and of the good doctrine that you have followed.⁷ But refuse profane and old wives' myths, but train yourself to godliness.⁸ For bodily training is profitable in a few *areas*, but godliness is profitable for all things, having promise of the life that now is, and of that which is to come.⁹ This statement is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance.

¹⁰For to this end we labor and intensely exert ourselves, because we have our hope set on the living God, who is the savior of all men, especially of those who believe.

¹¹These things command and teach.

¹²Let no one look down upon your youthfulness, but be an example to those who believe, in word, in manner of life, in love, in faith, in purity.¹³ Until I come, devote yourself to reading, to exhortation, to teaching.¹⁴ Do not neglect the gift that is in you, which was given you by prophecy, with the laying on of the hands of the council

of elders. ¹⁵Be diligent in these things. Give yourself wholly to them in order that your progress may be obvious to all. ¹⁶Pay close attention to yourself, and to the teaching. Continue in these things, for in doing this you will save both yourself and those who hear you.

5 Do not rebuke an older man, but encourage him as a father; the younger men as brothers; ²the elder women as mothers; the younger as sisters, in all purity.

³Honor widows who are widows indeed. ⁴But if any widow has children or grandchildren, let them learn first to show godliness towards their own family, and to give back to their parents, for this is acceptable in the sight of God. ⁵Now the true widow, the one who has been left with no one, has set her hope on God and continues in supplications and prayers night and day. ⁶But she who gives herself to pleasure is dead while she lives.

⁷These things also command, so that they may be without reproach. ⁸But if anyone does not provide for his own, and especially his own household, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever.

⁹Let a widow be put on the list if she is not less than sixty years of age, *having been* the wife of one man, ¹⁰having a reputation for good works; if she has brought up children, if she has shown

hospitality, if she has washed the feet of the holy *ones*, if she has cared for the afflicted, if she has diligently followed every good work. ¹¹But younger widows refuse, for when they have sensual desires contrary to Christ, they desire to marry, ¹²incurring judgment because they have rejected their first pledge.

¹³And at the same time they also learn *to be* idle, going around from house to house, and not only idle, but also gossips and busybodies, saying things they should not *say*.

¹⁴Therefore, I desire that the younger *widows* marry, bear children, rule the household, and give no occasion for reviling to the Opposer, ¹⁵for some have already turned away to follow the Adversary.

¹⁶If any woman who believes has *dependant* widows, let her care for them, and do not let the congregation be burdened, so that it may care for those who are widows indeed.

¹⁷Let the elders who lead well be counted worthy of double honor, especially those who labor in the word and in teaching. ¹⁸For the Scripture says, **Do not muzzle the ox when he treads out the grain.** And, **The laborer is worthy of his hire.**

¹⁹Do not receive an accusation against an elder except on *the basis of* two or three witnesses.

²⁰Those who persist in sin, reprove in the sight of all, in order that the rest also may be in fear.

²¹I solemnly charge *you* in the sight of God, and Christ Jesus, and the chosen angels, that you observe these things without prejudice, doing nothing out of partiality. ²²Do not lay hands hastily on anyone and *thus* share in the sins of others. Keep yourself pure.

²³No longer drink *only* water, but use a little wine for your stomach's sake and your frequent illnesses.

²⁴Some men's sins are obvious, going before them to judgment, but indeed, *with* some men they follow after *them*. ²⁵In like manner also there are good works that are obvious, and those that are otherwise cannot remain hidden.

6 Let as many as are slaves under the yoke count their own masters worthy of all honor, that the name of God and the doctrine is not blasphemed. ²And those who have believing masters, let them not look down upon them, because they are brothers, but they are to serve them even better, because those who receive the benefit of their good service are believing and beloved. These things teach and exhort.

³If any man teaches a different doctrine, and does not agree with sound words, *even* the words of our Lord Jesus Christ, and with the doctrine which is according to godliness, ⁴he is puffed up, knowing nothing, but has a morbid

interest in questions and disputes about words, out from which there keeps coming envy, strife, blasphemies, evil suspicions, ⁵*and* constant friction among men *who are* corrupted in mind and bereft of the truth, assuming that godliness is a way of gain. ⁶But godliness with contentment is great gain, ⁷for we brought nothing into the world, neither are we able to carry anything out, ⁸but if we have food and covering, we will be content with that. ⁹But those who plan to be rich fall into a temptation and a snare and many foolish and hurtful lusts, such as drown people in ruin and destruction. ¹⁰For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, which some, reaching after, have been led astray from the faith and have pierced themselves through with many sorrows.

¹¹But you, O man of God, flee these things, and diligently pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, *and* meekness.

¹²Fight the good fight of the faith, lay hold on the life *in the Age to come*, to which you were called, and confessed the good confession in the sight of many witnesses. ¹³I charge you in the sight of God, who gives life to all things, and of Christ Jesus, who while testifying before Pontius Pilate *made* the good confession, ¹⁴that you keep the commandment without spot, without reproach, until the appearing of our Lord Jesus

Christ,¹⁵ which He will bring about in its proper time—He who is the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings, and Lord of lords,¹⁶ who only has immortality, dwelling in light unapproachable; whom no man has seen, nor is able to see, to whom *be* Age-abiding honor and power. Amen.

¹⁷Continue to instruct those who are rich in this present world not to be high-minded, nor have their hope set on *the* uncertainty of riches, but on God, who richly gives us all things to enjoy.¹⁸ They are to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous, *to be* fellowshiping,¹⁹ *thus* storing up treasure for themselves as a good foundation for the future, in order that they may lay hold on the life which is *life* indeed.

²⁰O Timothy, guard that which is committed to *you*, turning away from the worldly, empty discussions and *the* opposing ideas of what is falsely called “knowledge,”²¹ which some, professing, have erred concerning the faith. Grace be with you.