

Expositional Preaching from the Authorized Version of the Holy Bible  
Current Book: 1 Timothy – verse by verse

**Scriptures for Today: 1 Timothy 5:1-25 – caring for souls in God’s church; a ministry handbook**

Today’s Message:

**“The Church Handbook”**



## INTRODUCTION

Last week, the Spirit gave a clear warning of satanic seduction. We must keep preaching the word of God while practicing what we preach! We must be examples of the believers in all aspects of our lives. Today, we arrive at a very practical chapter for God’s church. Now God cares about **SOULS**. And He cares about how His church cares for them. You may have heard the Bible called God’s “**OWNER manual**” for how to get to heaven and live for God’s glory while you wait. This letter to Timothy, and specifically this chapter, is like a perfect, ministry *handbook* to **GUIDE** us in the care of God’s flock.

## LEARNING TOGETHER

### A. The Text 1 Timothy 5:1-25

#### #1. *The Family* – believers are to treat each other as a loving **FAMILY**. (1-2)

##### CHURCH FAMILY RELATIONSHIPS

- ✓ Elder men – as a **FATHER**. *REBUKE NOT an elder... as a FATHER... Lev 19:32; Pr 16:31*
- ✓ Younger men – as a **BROTHER**. ... as *BRETHREN... Lk 8:21; Heb 2:12-13*
- ✓ Elder women – as a **MOTHER**. ... as *MOTHERS... Mk 3:34; Jn 19:26-27*
- ✓ Younger women – as a **SISTER**. ... as *SISTERS, with all PURITY. Lev 18:6; 2Sam 13:12*

**NOTE** This should make sense to us. Our relationships in the family of God should be respectful, honorable, and most of all **BIBLICAL** in **CHARITY** and **PURITY**!

#### #2. *The Widows* – the church is to take **SPECIAL** care for widows *indeed*. (3-16)

**HONOUR WIDOWS INDEED** *Ex 22:22-24; Deut 10:18; 24:17-21; Job 22:9; 24:21; Ps 68:5 146:9; Pr 15:25; Isa 1:17, 23; Jer 49:11; Mt 23:14; Mk 12:40-44*

- ✓ The **FIRST** line of care *and* **FINANCIAL** support – immediate **FAMILY** and relatives
  - Let them *learn* **FIRST** to shew **PIETY** at home, and to **REQUIRE** *their parents*:
    - **PIETY** – **W1828** – Reverence of parents or friends, accompanied with affection and devotion to their honor and happiness.
  - For that is *good* and *acceptable* **BEFORE GOD**. *Ex 20:12; Deut 5:16; Eph 6:2*
  - But if any **PROVIDE NOT FOR HIS OWN... HIS OWN HOUSE... Mk 7:10-13**

**W1828**  
“Requite”  
To return an equivalent in good; to do or give in return.

**2022 VISION:** *This is our time!*  
*Making disciples and caring for souls!*

**Desolate**  
 She trusts in God; she has no family to care for and support her. She is *happier* to remain a widow than to remarry.

- ✓ The **SECOND** line of potential financial support – the church if the widow *qualifies*.
  - A widow **indeed**
    - Desolate, trusteth in God, and continueth in supplications and prayers night and day
    - In the NT, *Anna* is a good example. **Lk 2:36-37; 1Cor 7:40**
  - A widow **not indeed**
    - **BUT she that liveth in pleasure is DEAD while she liveth**. (Context: opposite of previous)

- ✓ QUALIFICATIONS FOR CONSIDERATION (For family and widow to be **BLAMELESS**)
  - 1) She is to be a minimum age of 60.
  - 2) She must have been a devoted wife to her husband. **Lk 2:36-37**
  - 3) She must have a good **TESTIMONY**. *Well reported of for good works*
    - *If she have brought up children...* (Her own or others – context is she did well)
    - *If she have lodged strangers...* (Known for hospitality)
    - *If she have washed the saints feet... If she have relieved the afflicted...* (Caring ministry)
    - *If she have diligently followed every good work...* (Faithful/fruitful in good works)

- ✓ GUIDELINES FOR REFUSING CONSIDERATION
  - 1) Under the age of 60 – the “younger widows” and “younger women”
  - 2) The RECOMMENDATION for the younger widows:
    - *Marry, bear children, guide the house...* (Recommends remarriage; **1Cor 7:2, 28, 39-40**)
    - *Give none occasion to the adversary to speak reproachfully.* **2Cor 11:1-4; 1Pet 5:8**
  - 3) The **DANGER** for the younger widows:
    - They will *begin to wax wanton against Christ...* (Not eternal damnation; **1Cor 11:29**)
    - They will *marry... their first faith*. (Not saving faith; pledge to church; **Mt 5:37; Jas 5:12**)
    - They will *learn to be idle, wandering about from house to house...* **2Tim 3:6; 2Ths 3:7-11**
    - They will be *tattlers also and busybodies, speaking thing which they ought not.* **1Pet 4:15**
    - *For some are already turned aside after Satan.* (The father of lies and gossip; **Jn 8:44**)

**Damnation**  
 In other passages, it means *condemnation*.  
 Context: younger widows may have asked church for support then remarried.

**NOTE** God’s church **MUST** always care for widows! Vs16 is *motive* for financial care.

### #3. The Elders – church leaders have a high calling and **STANDARDS**. (17-25)

#### CHURCH LEADERSHIP GUIDELINES & CONDUCT

- ✓ Pastors that *rule well* deserve twice the honor a man *should* receive. **Deut 25:4**
- ✓ For Pastors that *labour in the word and doctrine*, this is *especially* true. **Lk 10:7**
- ✓ The *Scriptures* are the **AUTHORITY** for this truth. **1Cor 9:1-14**
- ✓ A Pastor that sins against God is to be **REBUKED *openly*** (church privately). **Mt 18:17**
- ✓ Pastoral **RUMORS** must be confirmed by 2/3 witnesses and confronted. **Mt 18:15-17**
- ✓ These things are to be **observed** without PREFERENCE or PARTIALITY! **Lev 19:15-18**
- ✓ A Pastor should **not** be **ordained** in a HURRY or risk partaking of his sins. **1Tim 3:6**
- ✓ A little wine was given as **a prescription for medicinal purposes** for often infirmities.
- ✓ Some men’s sins are **OPEN** BEFOREHAND... some...FOLLOW AFTER. **Ecc12:14; Rom2:16**
- ✓ The GOOD WORKS of some are **MANIFEST**... otherwise cannot be hidden! **1Cor 3:13**

**Question?**  
 What has God revealed to you today about your own life?  
*Repent if needed.*

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