

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

Scriptures for Today: 1 Timothy 3:14-16 – God’s church is the pillar and ground of the truth

Today’s Message:

“The Truth”



INTRODUCTION

Last week, God gave Timothy very important character qualities for leaders of His church. We learned that God’s church is His flock, and His leaders (*and people*) must have Christ-like character. Today, we arrive at the mid-point of the letter where Paul will give Timothy the reason for **WHY** he wrote this letter in the first place. Paul was hoping to see Timothy soon, but if God had other plans, Paul wanted Timothy to know how *the church of the living God* ought to behave in a lost world of people who do not want their Creator. Now God’s church is called *the PILLAR and ground of the truth*. What does that mean? May God lead you to a closer walk with Him today as we explore this life-changing **TRUTH!**

LEARNING TOGETHER

A. The Text 1 Timothy 3:14-16

#1. *The Truth* – God has chosen to **REVEAL** *the truth* to the world – to you!

WHAT IS TRUTH?

- ✓ Jesus said, “*To THIS END WAS I BORN... that I should BEAR WITNESS unto the truth ...* ... *EVERY ONE that is OF the truth HEARETH MY VOICE.*” **Jn 18:37**
- ✓ Pilate responded to His words with, “*WHAT IS TRUTH?*” **Jn 18:38**

NOTE What a question! Our world is lost – void of truth. Yet, God has revealed it!

GOD HAS REVEALED THE TRUTH

- ✓ The word “**TRUTH**” is found 224 times in the KJB; 1st mention is **Gen 24:27!**
- ✓ The God of heaven and earth is *a God of truth*. **Deut 32:4; Psalm 31:5; 1Tim 2:4**
- ✓ God’s *truth* ENDURETH TO ALL GENERATIONS. **Psalm 100:5; 117:2** (*endureth for ever*)
- ✓ Jesus Christ said, “*I am the way, the truth, and the life...*” **John 14:6**
- ✓ Jesus said... *the Spirit of truth* will guide you into ALL *truth*. **John 14:17; 15:26; 16:13**
- ✓ Jesus said... *the word of God IS truth!* **Jn 17:17; 1:1** (*Word was God*), **14** (*became flesh*)
Ps 119:43; 138:2; 2Cor 6:7; Eph 1:13; Col 1:5; 1Ths 2:13; 2Tim 2:15; Jas 1:18
- ✓ Jesus said... *the truth* shall MAKE YOU FREE if you will obey it! **Jn 8:32; 2Ths 2:10, 12**

NOTE God chose to direct your eternal destiny by what you DO with THE TRUTH!

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

#2. The Church – God’s church is the PILLAR and ground of the truth. (14-15)

THE HOUSE OF GOD – THE CHURCH OF THE LIVING GOD

“Church”
A group of people called together by the living God for His purpose.

- ✓ In OT, *Bethel* was named as “the house of God.” **Gen 12:8; 28:17-19; 31:13; 35:1-15**
- ✓ In OT, God filled *the tabernacle* and **TEMPLE**. **Ex 25:8-9; 40:34-38; 2Sam 7:1-29**
- ✓ In NT, God calls a believer’s **BODY** the *TEMPLE of the Holy Ghost*. **1Cor 6:19**
- ✓ In NT, the **BODY OF CHRIST** (the **PEOPLE**) – *IS the church!* **1Cor 12; Eph 5; Col 1:15-29**

NOTE A building can be “His house,” however WE are God’s church wherever we are!

THE PILLAR AND GOUND OF THE TRUTH

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“Pillar”
A supporter; that which sustains or upholds.

“Ground”
Foundation; that which supports any thing.

- ✓ The word “PILLAR” is found 47 times in the KJB; 1st mention is **Gen 19:26!** (Lot’s wife)
- ✓ Jacob set up a PILLAR when he “*dreamed*” of the ladder. **Gen 28:18, 22** (called Bethel)
- ✓ Jacob set up a PILLAR with Laban which was a called a “*witness*.” **Gen 31:13,45-52**
- ✓ In OT, God went before Israel in a PILLAR OF A CLOUD *by day* TO LEAD THE WAY...
... and in a PILLAR OF FIRE *by night* TO GIVE THEM LIGHT. **Ex 13:21-22; 14:24; 33:9**
- ✓ The Bible says THE LORD CAME DOWN IN THE PILLAR... **Num 12:5; 14:14**
- ✓ In Solomon’s temple, the porch had TWO PILLARS – *Jachin and Boaz*... **1Ki 7:21**
- ✓ Jeremiah was called by God an IRON PILLAR... AGAINST the evils of the day... **Jer 1:18**
- ✓ In NT, God calls HIS CHURCH the PILLAR and GROUND of THE TRUTH. **1Tim 3:15**

NOTE Jesus Christ is the chief corner stone! His Church was built on the foundation of apostles and prophets. The New Testament was written after Acts 2; the body of Christ is grounded in the NT truths and dedicated to sustaining them and holding them up. God’s church has THE TRUTH and must set it forth and support it! God’s people and the people of the land should still be able to see God’s PILLAR *by day* TO LEAD THEM and *by night* TO LIGHT THE WAY!

#3. The Mystery – the church is THEREFORE steward of the 7 NT mysteries. (16)

THE GREAT MYSTERY OF GODLINESS

Question?
What has God revealed to you today about your life and His truth? Repent if needed.

- 1) *And without controversy...* This truth is controversial yet irrefutable! AMEN!
GREAT is the mystery of godliness... (The greatest verse in the Bible on Christ’s deity!)
- 2) *God was manifest in the flesh...* God became a man! (with His own blood - Acts 20:28)
- 3) *Justified in the Spirit...* The Holy Spirit proved Christ’s Spirit was His! Acts 17:31
- 4) *Seen of angels...* Angels were present at His birth, temptation, and death!
- 5) *Preached unto the Gentiles...* Church history; God’s method of saving souls! Acts 8-28
- 6) *Believed on in the world...* Whosoever shall call upon the Lord Jesus Christ! Rom 10
- 7) *Received up into glory!* Jesus ascended into glory; coming again! Acts 1; Lk 24:50-51

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