

A Faith Worth Defending

1 Timothy 1:18-20

Introduction:

The late great American jurist, judge, author, and **Christian apologist, Simon Greenleaf (1783 - 1853)**, once said:

"There should be a readiness on our part, to investigate with candor to follow the truth wherever it may lead us, and to submit, without reserve or objection, to all the teachings of this religion, if it be found to be of Divine origin."

The contemporary church seems to have missed the reality of the raging fight each and every day we call spiritual warfare. Here are some suggestion reasons:

- An _____ concept of the spiritual struggle that comes with loving the Lord Jesus.
- _____ temporal annoyances of everyday life, making them seem like trials of epic proportions. (like a soldier in a world war complaining about the dirt on their uniform)
- Continual _____ from the world, the flesh, and the devil.
- A lack of discernment in _____ the real enemy

How does Satan use these tools to wage his war against God and His people?

- Satan _____ the minds of unbelievers. (2 Cor. 2:3-4)
- Satan attempts to devastate and destroy our Christian _____ (Luke 22:31; Peter)
- Satan attacks the biblical _____ of marriage and the family. (1 Cor. 7:5)
- Satan attacks the _____ of the Church. (1 Tim. 3:7)
- Satan attacks the Church through false _____ and religious _____.
(2 Cor. 11:14-15)
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1. Timothy's Responsibility to Accept Paul's _____

- Engage in spiritual _____

2. Timothy's Responsibility to Follow God's _____

- **Keep the _____**
- **Keep the Faith with a good _____**

3. Timothy's Responsibility to _____ Others.

- **Help others guard their faith**
- **Church discipline, when necessary, is redemptive in nature.**
- **Separation from Church Fellowship is sometimes necessary.**
- **When Church discipline is not practiced, the Church loses strength and vitality.**
- **Church discipline must be rooted in love with restoration as the goal.**

Doctrinal _____ must be accompanied by the testimony of a _____ life.

Conclusion:

Chapter One has reminded us of three major responsibilities of the Church and the focus pastors and Church leaders must have for the Church to fulfill her mission.

- ❖ **Winning the _____ to Christ**
- ❖ **Teaching _____ the truth of God's Word**
- ❖ **Defending the Faith from all things _____**

****Could it be time to take spiritual inventory personally as well as our Church Life?**