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I Timothy 4:1-5

Paul moves on to warn Timothy about false teachers, as the Holy Spirit had made known to him.

* Acts 20:29-30 Paul warned the elders at Ephesus where Timothy was at now.

Once you are teaching sound doctrine, praying and have Godly men in leadership, expect false teachers.

4:1-5 The Holy Spirit proclaims apostasy.

4:1 The proclamation of apostasy. Vs. 1

- 1) The word “Now” could be translated but, emphasizing sharp contrast:
 - a) The true doctrine, the mystery of godliness. 1Tim. 3:16
 - b) The false doctrine, the mystery of iniquity. 1Tim. 4:1
 - c) Today we see this very clear, as we see so many following every wind of doctrine, self acclaimed prophets.
 - d) It began in the angelic rank in Eden and it won't end till Satan is cast into the lake of fire Dan. 7:25; 8:23; Matt. 24:4

- 2) The Spirit expressly says, in other words He speaks and communicates clearly to the heirs of salvation. Jn. 16:13 READ
 - a) Separate me Paul and Barnabas for the work I have called them. Acts 13:2
 - b) For it seemed good to the Holy Ghost and to us, at the first church council) Acts 15:28
 - c) Let him hear what the Spirit says... Rev. 2:7
 - d) The word expressly means outspokenly or distinctly.
- 3) The phrase “latter times” different from the last days, which began at Christ's first coming and runs till His second coming.
 - a) The word times “karios” means season, segment or epoch, appearing only this time in the New Testament.
 - b) The implication being a reoccurring from time to time.
- 4) Some shall depart from the faith.
 - a) The depart “aphestemai” means to stand away from, fall away.
 - b) It seems that with every great awakening there is a departure that follows and some being tares among the wheat.
 - c) The faith refers to the creed or doctrine, the truth of the gospel.
 - d) They give heed, yielding willfully to deception!

- 5) The Source of deception two-fold.
- a) The phrase “seducing spirits” refers to wondering spirits, misleading into error. Jn. 8:44; 1Jn. 4:1-2, 6, 1; 2:18; 2Cor. 4:4; Eph. 2:2
 - b) The phrase “doctrine of devils” refers to the content of the teaching. 2Cor. 13:13-15
 - c) Not teaching about devils but demon's teaching through human teachers. 2Tim. 4:1-4; 3:5, 7, 13

4:2-3b The particular characteristics of apostasy.

4:2 *Their evil hearts.*

- 1) Speaking lies in hypocrisy referring to men as the agents of Satan.
 - a) God declared to kill such person. Deut. 13
 - b) The prophets prophesy falsely and my people love it so. Jer. 5:31
 - c) I Am come in my Father's name, and you do not receive: if another come in his own name, him you will receive. Jn. 5:43
 - d) Daniel points out the Antichrist covenant. Dan. 9:27; 2Thess. 2; Matt. 24:15
- 2) Their conscience seared with hot iron.

- a) The word conscience is made up two words: together and to know innate. Rom. 2:14-15
- b) The word seared means to cauterize and be past feeling. Eph. 4:19
* Context determines if it is good or evil. 1Tim. 1:5, 19; 3:9
- c) The end result if perverting God's truth. Rom. 1; 2Tim. 3:1-5, 8; 2Pet. 2:1-3, 10, 13-21
* Willingly ignorant. 2Pet. 3:5; Jude 4,18

4:3ab-5 Their evil teaching and the problem of apostasy.

4:3 *They practiced asceticism.*

- 3) Forbidding to marry and abstain from meats, depending on asceticism to become godly.
 - a) Some believed it was better not to marry. 1Cor. 7
 - b) Be fruitful and multiply. Gen. 1:2, 8; Gen. 2:18-24; Matt. 19:1-9
* Herbs came first then meats. Gen. 1:29; Gen. 9:3
 - c) Foods and drinks are a non issue. Rom. 14:3, 13-14; 1Cor. 8:8; Col. 2:21-23; Heb.13:9
 - d) God created them to be received with thanksgiving by the believer.

4:4 *They failed to recognize the creation of God is for man's benefit.*

- 1) Nothing is to be refused as not being good for God created it.
- 2) The believer receives it with thanksgiving.
 - a) Kill and eat, Peter. Acts 10:13-15
 - b) The first church council made this clear. Acts 15
 - c) If you continue in my words, then are you my disciples indeed; and you shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free. (legalism) Jn. 8:31-32

4:5 *The blessing of food.*

- 1) The provision of food is sanctioned by God.
 - a) The word sanctified means to set apart.
 - b) The word of God refers to the Scriptures, God's revelation.
 - b) Prayer is an acknowledgement of appreciation to God.
 - * Jesus blessed the food before feeding the 5,000. Matt. 14:19
 - c) Paul in the ship gave thanks. Acts 27:35
 - * Titus 1:15-16 READ
- 2) The provisions of food as sanctified by prayer.

- a) Prayer is an expression of gratitude to God for His provisions.
- b) Prayer communicates appreciation to God for the food.

4:6-11 Timothy's responsibility as a pastor, regarding false doctrine

4:6 The marks of a good minister.

- 1) Timothy was to instruct the brethren regarding these things, Timothy would be a good minister "diakonos" or servant of Christ.
 - a) The word instruct means to put under, suggest or remind.
 - b) These things refers to the clear revelation of the Holy Spirit. vs. 1-5
 - c) The brethren are those born again are the ones to warn.
- 2) Timothy was to be nourished.
 - a) In the words of faith, referring to his belief in God.
 - b) And of the good doctrine, the teaching according to God's Word.
 - c) The phrase "nourished in" appears only this time in the New Testament
 - * In classical Greek, to train from childhood. 2Tim. 1:5
 - d) The charge is after a continuous process Timothy had follow from his youth. Tim. 1:5; 3:15

- 4:7** Timothy's responsibility towards the false teachings.
- 1) To reject profane and old wives fables.
 - * Silly fictions, false inventions, myths.
 - 2Tim. 4:4; Tit. 1:14
 - 2) To exercise himself rather to godliness.
 - 3) Rather than being occupied with the ascetic practices by the doctrines of demons to attempt to control the body, he was to it by exercising spiritually in godliness.
 - * The word exercise is an athletic term in gymnasium.

- 4:8** The proper perspective of the spiritual and the physical.
- * The Athletic metaphor continues is common to Paul. 1Cor. 9:21-27; Phil. 1:27; 2Tim. 2:5
- 1) Paul is not discouraging physical exercise but rather pointing out the greater benefit of the spiritual.
 - 2) The physical has temporary and a limited benefit and only for this present life.
 - 3) The godliness is profitable for all things.
 - a) The study of the word will reveal the need to care for your body.
 - b) The study of the word will develop your all around godliness for the present and eternity.

- 4:9** The faithful saying.
- 1) This is the third time this phrase appears.
 - a) The first two emphasize what followed. 1Tim. 1:15; 3:1
 - b) This third time it emphasizes what precedes.
- 4:10** The ongoing pursuit of godliness.
- 1) Wuest the Greek scholar says it is a statement of support. vs. 8-9
 - 2) In view of the fact stated as gospel truth, we both labor and suffer reproach.
 - * In the goal of exercising godliness)
 - a) The word labor means to the point of exhaustion.
 - b) The word reproach is where we get our word agony.
 - 3) The reason is that they were trusting "hope" in the living God.
 - 4) The One who is the Savior of all men.
 - a) This is not teaching universal salvation only that God is the One who died for all men. Jn. 3:16
 - b) God is the preserver of all men, providing temporal benefits such as rain that falls on the just and the unjust opposed to Caesar worship as Savior "soter".
 - c) He is the Savior, especially of those who believe by virtue of their

personal choice to be saved, having an eternal benefit.

* In Him we live, move and have our being. Acts 17:28

1) Besides me there is no savior. Is. 43:11

2) Savior of the world. Jn. 4:42

3) God our Savior. Tit. 1:3

4) He wants to have all men to be saved. 1Tim. 2:4

-1Tim. 2:6 ransom for all

* Whosoever will is the condition!

4:11 The ongoing responsibility of the minister.

1) These things Timothy was to command.

a) The word command is a military, with full authority.

b) To the believers in the church at Ephesus.

2) These things Timothy was to teach.

a) The things certainly refer to the immediate context. 1Tim. 4:1-11

b) The things could include all the instruction. 1Tim. 2:1-4:11

4:12-16 The personal life of godliness of the Pastor.

4:12 To be a model believer.

1) Timothy is not to allow anyone to despise his youth.

a) The word despise “katapphrone” means to look or think down upon with the idea of inferior estimation.

b) The word communicates contempt felt in mind with injurious action displayed.

c) The word youth indicates someone under forty, Timothy was perhaps 34 to 37?

2) Timothy was to be an example of the believer.

a) The word example “tupos” basically means a pattern, model, an imprint left by a blow. Phil. 3: 9

* The word “be” is the present middle imperative and should be translated “keep on becoming an example”. Timothy was not failing as some teach!

b) In word “logos” or speech. CoI. 4:6

c) In conduct “anastrophe” describes manner of life.

d) In love “agape” the love of God.

e) In spirit “pneuma” wind or spirit referring to a person’s zeal.

f) In faith “pistis” meaning faithfulness.

g) In purity “hagia” holiness or set apart in a moral sense.

4:13 To be a minister of the word.

- 1) He was to give attention to reading publicly. Lk. 4:16; Acts 13:15
* The word attention means to devote, be absorbed.
- 2) He was to exhort the people, warning, advising and encouraging them.
- 3) He was to be involved in doctrine, meaning teaching.
 - a) These are not necessarily in an order!
 - b) This verse describes expository preaching and teaching. Neh. 8

4:14 To be a man dependent on his gifts.

- 1) Stop neglecting literally the gifts given by Holy Spirit.
- 2) Given by prophecy. 1Tim. 1:18
- 3) Through the laying of hands. 2Tim. 1:6
* Rom. 12; 1Cor. 12; Eph. 4; 1Pet. 4:10

4:15 To be a doer of the word.

- 1) Meditate on thee things, meaning to care for an attend to. Josh. 1:8
 - a) Example.
 - b) Reading.
 - c) Exhortation.
 - d) Doctrine.
 - e) Gift.
- 2) Give yourself entirely to them, be constantly in these

3) The reason, that your progress may be evident to all.

- * The word progress appears only three times in this form. Phil. 1:12; Phil. 1:25

4:16 To be a prepared vessel constantly.

- 1) Take heed to yourself, means to hold attention fast to.
 - a) To yourself because your heart is wicket.... Jer. 17: 9
 - b) To doctrine because it will keep you from being deceived and enable you to live right through the Holy Spirit.. Acts 20:28; 1Tim. 1:18-19a
- 2) He was to be continuing in them, the things Paul had taught him, for Timothy would be saving himself and those who heard him.
 - a) Not spiritual salvation, but from false doctrine and deception. vs. 1-4
 - b) The watchman. Ezk. 33: 7
 - c) Jesus told Peter, feed my sheep... Jn. 21