

Courageous Fighting

1 Timothy 6:11-21

Joshua 1:9 Haven't I commanded you: be strong and courageous? Do not be afraid or discouraged, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go."

John 16:33 I have told you these things so that in me you may have peace. You will have suffering in this world. Be courageous! I have conquered the world."

There is great grief in the pursuit of wealth.

In contrast...

Godliness is the greatest gain itself.

Godliness is a life full of God where God's presence is observable.

When we find this to be sufficient, then we have great gain.

pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance, and gentleness

Fight the good fight of faith

Take hold of eternal life

What is divine revelation?

Jesus Christ is coming (royal appearing).

Jesus is the only Sovereign.

Jesus is the King of kings.

Jesus is the Lord of lords.

Jesus alone is immortal.

Jesus lives in an unimaginable, unapproachable light.

Jesus is the embodiment of all honor and power.

The appearing of Jesus is the only appearing that makes any sort of difference.

-> This is what births courage!

vs. 14, without fault or failure...

Live your life...without fault or failure...

Psalms 16:6 The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places;

Is the aim performance or character?

Is the focus achievement or wholeness?

Is the point piety or fulfillment?

Am I ready?

COURAGE

Jesus centered readiness.

Am I ready for the King's appearance?

Have I conditioned my embodied self to serve the kingdom of God in the present time?

1 Corinthians 9:24-27 Don't you know that the runners in a stadium all race, but only one receives the prize? Run in such a way to win the prize. **25** Now everyone who competes exercises self-control in everything. They do it to receive a perishable crown, but we an imperishable crown. **26** So I do not run like one who runs aimlessly or box like one beating the air. **27** Instead, I discipline my body and bring it under strict control, so that after preaching to others, I myself will not be disqualified.

vs. 12-13,

Fight the good fight -> this is not a war involving weapons and killing,
it is a noble (good confession) battle involving love, patience, and gentleness.

Hebrews 12:1-2 Therefore, since we also have such a large cloud of witnesses surrounding us, let us lay aside every hindrance and the sin that so easily ensnares us. Let us run with endurance the race that lies before us, **2** keeping our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of our faith.

Fear -> run away

Love -> pursue

We chase after them. We embrace them. We become them.

They are very good for us!

We start living on earth as it is in heaven!

vs. 17, Uncertainty of wealth

Proverbs 23:4-5 Don't wear yourself out to get rich; because you know better, stop! **5** As soon as your eyes fly to it, it disappears, for it makes wings for itself and flies like an eagle to the sky.

On what or whom do we rely?

Will it be our possessions that give us purpose?

Stewardship - hope is placed in God, the giver of all good things.

The action is to invest in the kingdom.

Romans 12:6-8 According to the grace given to us, we have different gifts: If prophecy, use it according to the proportion of one's faith; **7** if service, use it in service; if teaching, in teaching; **8** if exhorting, in exhortation; giving, with generosity; leading, with diligence; showing mercy, with cheerfulness.

Investing in what God has given us...

People	Facility
The City	The Nations

All things to enjoy...

vs. 18, priorities and perspective - moving away from false security to the freedom of giving generously.

- for the rich to give riches away is not to suffer loss but rather to lay up treasure for themselves of a different kind (**vs. 19**).

vs. 20, Guard by avoiding

- Don't get caught up or find yourself attracted to this so-called knowledge.
- Don't engage in endless debates that do not lead to spiritual formation.

Be strong and courageous

Fight the flesh, the world, and the enemy with

Righteousness	Godliness
Faith	Love
Endurance	Gentleness

Our hope is in the royal appearance of Jesus!

- Hold everything that has been given to you from a good, good father with open arms.
- Be a conduit of the generosity of Jesus.

Matthew 16:25 For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life because of me will find it.