

Lessons from the Fathers
“Irenaeus of Lyon: Public Theology”
2 Timothy 2:1-13

A disciple of John through Polycarp of Smyrna, Irenaeus was a theologian of great intellect who dealt a final death blow to the Gnostic challenge to Christian orthodoxy. His arguments against false teachers devastated the opposition and preserved “the faith handed down to the saints.”

1. Biography and Writings

2. Models for Christian Ministry (vv.1-7)

- **The Teacher (v.2)**
- **The Soldier (vv.3, 4)**
- **The Athlete (v.5)**
- **The Farmer (v.6)**

3. Motives for Christian Ministry (vv.8-13)

- **Person of the Lord (v.8)**
- **Power of the Word (v.9)**
- **Purpose of the Work (v.10)**
- **Promise of Blessing (vv.11-13)**