

I Timothy 6 – 18 February 2024

“Be Suspicious Of This World’s Methods”

Introduction

*For those of you that enjoy outlines, I Timothy’s 6 chapters is outlined as TILDAS

*Teaching, Intimacy, Leaders, Dangers, Aged, & Suspicions

*‘Tilda’ is French word from ancient Germanic for ‘*mighty in battle*’ or ‘*mighty in strength*’

*Key verse of the book (Read) I Tim 1:18

*Paul opened Chap 1 w/ the value of teaching

*Chap 2, intimacy brought by praying & teaching

*Chap 3, we saw a Christian leader’s character

*Chap 4, we saw dangers of misusing God’s Word

*Chap 5, we learned to acclimate to other age groups

*In Chap 6, we learn to become suspicious of this world’s methods

*This world will tell you self-advancement & accumulating money is the way to success – wrong!

Today, we’ll see 5 methods of the Christian that’re opposed to this world

#1 – Humility: Accepting your role glorifies Jesus (Vs 1-5)

Read Vs 1

1. Have a submissive heart in ALL areas that we are under another's authority
2. In context of vs 2, this is about being obedient to UNBELIEVING bosses – wow
3. Love it when the 'why' is given – so that we're giving the pure image of God to these unbelievers
4. Some people's only image of God will be the God they see thru you

Read Vs 2

1. Having a believing boss should make it even easier to show honor and respect
2. Vss 1-2 is said in a context of forced slavery
 - a. Even when we're forced into actions we don't want to do – do it sinlessly, honoring our boss so as to honor Jesus Christ
 - b. Read Eph 6:6 – Do it from the heart

Read Vs 3-5

1. If you're teaching the need to rise up against rightful authority, it comes from selfish pride
2. Corrupt minds: solution is to change your mind
3. There's action step given – get away from them
4. They do this thinking “gain is godliness”
 - a. There's mindset that says, ‘we must promote self’
 - b. There's mindset that says, ‘we can't face any unjustified work or stress’
5. A godly life may NEVER see earthly advancement, but will show humility & proper submission
 - a. THIS brings glory to God

#2 – Contentment: Brings us great gain (Vs 6-10)

Read Vs 6

1. As opposed to verse 5; gaining earthly advancement isn't godliness, but living a lifestyle of contentment with what Christ allows is gain

2. How many people step over & push down others to promote self? Bad
3. It should be, how many people can we promote & help up into the knowledge of Christ by our satisfied lifestyle? Good

Read Vs 7-8

1. We start & end this life w/ nothing; that should remind us that everything acquired in between...
 - a. Is a blessed grace from God, not earned
 - b. Is to be used to promote eternity

Read Vs 9-10

1. We think of poverty as dangerous, but both ends of the financial spectrum are dangerous to our souls (Read Prov 30:8-9)
2. As Christians, we're born for a much greater purpose than to make money & die like all the rest
3. Says seeking riches drowns men, in Parable of Sower & Seed it says seeking riches chokes us out
 - a. Read Matt 6:33 – Seek God & all we need will be provided

#3 – Profess Jesus: Man’s power will end (Vs 11-16)

Read Vs 11-12

1. ‘Flee & follow’ – the Christian life is one of constant course correction
2. Who enters a boxing match or any sporting contest & not make constant adjustments to win?
3. Our salvation & baptism was a proclamation that we’re on the course toward Christ
 - a. Remember, love for Christ is how this began
 - b. Christianity is a daily growth of our faith in Jesus or you’ll be daily tempted by riches

Read Vs 13-14

1. As Jesus professed his faith, love, patience and meekness daily, so we follow His example
2. So God has empowered us w/ His life and Jesus is our example, go do it

Read Vs 15-16

1. Our great God will prove His power in the end

2. Read John 1:18 – Jesus reveals our all-powerful God to us, & indeed IS our God
 - a. We'll see at 2nd Coming - His garment & thigh reads, 'King of Kings and Lord of Lords'
3. We get so shy at the small power of man
 - a. Yet our God is the only power that'll stand

#4 – Delayed Gratification: Work on our eternal retirement plan (Vs 17-19)

Read Vs 17

1. Charge #1: Have right attitude toward money
2. What is your default response based on?
 - a. Don't make decisions based on our bank statements but based on our Lord's statement
 - b. Why? B/c He is rich and can provide anything we need to fulfill His purposes
 - c. Our Father owns 'cattle on a thousand hills'
3. Money leads to trouble but notice God's riches lead to enjoyment

Read Vs 18

1. Charge #2: Readily do good acts w/ your money
2. Our default position when asked for money should be yes, until there are reasons to pull back

Read Vs 19

1. Charge #3: Build an eternal retirement plan not an earthly one
2. Read Matt 6:19-20– The ‘time to come’ is eternal’
 - a. A poor man in heaven is better than a rich man in hell.....but I don’t want’ to be a poor man in heaven either! ha

#5 – Faithfulness: Man’s wisdom will be proven to be wrong (Vs 20-21)

Read Vs 20-21

1. The never-ending Word of God is what’s been entrusted to Timothy – now keep it
2. Avoid things that are ‘falsely called knowledge’

- a. Greatest example today of this is evolution
- b. Evolution was dreamed up 150 years ago in the name of science is nothing more than an attempt to ignore God

Conclusion

So, this world has methods to reach its goals, and the Lord has methods for us to reach unto valuable goals.

They are very often, exact opposites – so choose the Lord's path

1. **Be Humility: Accepting our role will glorify Jesus Christ**
2. **Live Content: This will bring us great gain**
3. **Profess Jesus: Man's power will end soon**
4. **Accept Delayed Gratification: Let's work on our eternal retirement plan**

The way down is by attempting to be exalted

The way up is the process of becoming the servant of Christ