

Step by Step

54. 1 Timothy



Author // Paul

Original Recipients // Timothy

Date of Writing // First Timothy was written after Paul's release from prison in Rome sometime around 62 AD.

Type of Literature // Didactic

Major Themes // The Church; Church leadership; Doctrine

Occasion for Writing // After being released from prison, Paul continued his missionary endeavors. While these travels are not recorded in the narrative of Acts, some of his journey can be pieced together with references from his other writings. It seems that both Timothy and Titus were among his companions who traveled with him. Their travels took them to Ephesus, where Timothy remained to care for the church. Titus remained with Paul as he journeyed to Greece and on to the Island of Crete, where Titus was stationed to further establish the ministry.



Simple Summary // The church is the pillar and foundation of the truth. As such, the church must be properly organized and cared for. 1 Timothy addresses the roles and responsibilities of those who serve within the church. Paul emphasizes the great importance of both the doctrine the church holds/teaches as well as the godly lifestyle of those who serve in the church.



Outline // One helpful outline for First Timothy:

- 1 // Ecouragement to Stay
- 2-3 // Getting Things in Order
 - 4 // Dangerous Doctrines
 - 5 // Church and its Members
 - 6 // Taking Heed

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Key Verses

- 1:3 // As I urged you when I went into Macedonia—remain in Ephesus that you may charge some that they teach no other doctrine
- 1:18 // This charge I commit to you, son Timothy, according to the prophecies previously made concerning you, that by them you may wage the good warfare,
- 2:3-4 // For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.
- **3:15** // But if I am delayed, I write so that you may know how you ought to conduct yourself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth.
- **4:6** // If you instruct the brethren in these things, you will be a good minister of Jesus Christ, nourished in the words of faith and of the good doctrine which you have carefully followed.
- **4:12** // Let no one despise your youth, but be an example to the believers in word, in conduct, in love, in spirit, in faith, in purity.
- **6:12** // Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, to which you were also called and have confessed the good confession in the presence of many witnesses.

■ Jesus in First Timothy

First Timothy 3:16 seems to present one of the early hymns of the church, a song of Jesus rich with doctrinal truth. Later in 6:14-15 Jesus is declared to be the coming King of kings and Lord of lords.