



First Timothy We're All Pastors: Equipping the Next Generation

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Concluding Charge to Timothy 1 Timothy 6:11-21 November 11, 2018 Dr. Jeannine Brown

Theme: In these final verses of the letter, Paul charges Timothy to “take hold of eternal life,” which includes pursuing such key virtues of faith, love, and endurance. He reminds Timothy of the command first given in chapter 1 to call false teachers back to the true faith. Theologically, he grounds these important directives in the God who gives and is life—God the Creator. Paul provides a final word for the rich in Ephesus, who are warned of the short-sightedness and hopelessness of banking on their wealth and are encouraged to be open-handed with their money and their good deeds. Paul concludes with a final charge to Timothy to carefully guard the true faith.

Outline:

1. Charge to Timothy to Take Hold of Life (6:11-16)
 - a. Flee being a trapped by love of money (cf. 6:9-10)
 - b. Pursue the virtues and contend for the faith (6:11-12)
 - c. “Keep this command” (6:13-15a)
 - (1) Paul’s charge to Timothy before the God of life and Christ Jesus
 - (2) In light of Jesus’ coming “appearing”

- d. Doxology to the sovereign, immortal, and unseen God (6:15b-16)
2. Direction to the Rich to Take Hold of Life (6:17-19)
- a. Avoid arrogance and false hope in wealth (6:17)
 - b. Hope in God and God's provision (6:17)
 - c. Overflow in good deeds and generosity (6:18)
 - d. The promise of lasting vs. fleeting treasure (6:19; cf. Matt 6:19-21)
 - e. The contrast: Present age and age to come (6:17, 19)
3. Charge to Timothy to Guard What Was Entrusted to Him (6:20-21)
- a. And reject the false teachings ("falsely called knowledge;" 6:20)
 - b. Final, brief blessing (6:21)
4. A Theology of Life: God as Creator and Giver of Life and Its Gifts

Takeaway: As we hear God's word for us in Paul's words to Timothy, we are invited to pursue "life that is truly life" (6:19) and the dispositions that contribute to it instead of thinking that wealth or speculative knowledge is the pathway to life. True faith—in the living God and in Jesus Christ—will always show itself in attitudes and actions of godliness, love, endurance, and generosity.

Next Cove:

Date: November 18, 2018

Title: Introduction and Thanksgiving

Scripture: 2 Timothy 1: 1-5