

Presents or Presence

1 Timothy 6:3-11 - November 20, 2022

What if God does not so much want you to live a perfect life as much as He wants you to live an empowered life in His presence?

Acts 17:28a for in Him we live and move and have our being

God would rather you live an imperfect life with Him than a perfect life without Him.

Matthew 7:21-22 "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven. "Many will say to Me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?' "And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!'"

Watching my grandmother's aged hands thread the needle... Paul, older in the faith is leading Timothy into a wonderfully deep and personal faith, even while ministering.

Godliness: reverence, respect, piety (a sense of duty or responsibility) towards God.

1 Tim. 2:2 for kings and all who are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all **godliness** and reverence.

1 Tim. 3:16 ... without controversy great is the mystery of **godliness**.

1 Tim. 4:7 exercise yourself towards **godliness**

- (get to work... 3x5 card cleaning pools – James 1:8-9)

1 Tim. 4:8 For bodily exercise profits a little, but **godliness** is profitable for all things, having promise of the life that now is and of that which is to come.

- You can run a marathon but can't pray for 5 minutes.
- You can lift hundreds of pounds but can ward off temptation.

Read 1 Timothy 6:3-11

1 Tim. 6:3
1 Tim. 6:5
1 Tim. 6:6
1 Tim. 6:11

Doctrine gives Definition

A collective series of teachings or instructions

Just like a rule book... DMV, Electrician, Loan officer.

There is a source of learning what godliness is...

As we inch closer to a one-world government

As we test out global currencies

As everyone wants everything to be compatible with everything

The Bible and those who live by it will stick out. (what if you never fit in)

Respect Marriage Act

Senator Pat Toomey of Pennsylvania – "The Respect for Marriage Act does not provide any meaningful benefit to same-sex marriages that does not already exist. It does significantly threaten religious liberty."

If it were a progress report... doesn't play well with other religions.

Mysticism, Newage ism,

There is ONE source... and it's not the news feed or media scroll.

Conservatism vs. Christianity.

Lawlessness will abound...

"Until there is a revival of the Bible, there will not be a renewal of our Country."

Matthew 24:4-12 And Jesus answered and said to them: "Take heed that no one deceives you. "For many will come in My name, saying, 'I am the Christ,' and will deceive many. "And you will hear of wars and rumors of wars. *See that you are not troubled;* for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet. "For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. And there will be famines, pestilences, and earthquakes in various places. "All these are the beginning of sorrows. "Then they will deliver you up to tribulation and kill you, and you will be hated by all nations for My name's sake. "And then many will be offended, will betray one another, and will hate one another. "Then many false prophets will rise up and deceive many. "And because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold. "But he who endures to the end shall be saved.

For those who walk with God...

You will see the power of God in your life in the most unimaginable ways.

In this world you will have tribulation but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world.

2 Kings 22 & 23 – King Josiah

Not just apologetics but **POWER!**

Doctrine is not godliness... it accords with godliness

Accords: towards, along...

All lifelong God is going to use His Word to refine.

Sometimes a chisel, sometimes sandpaper.

"A Bible that is falling apart usually belongs to someone who isn't."

Luke 4:4 "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God.'"

The doctrine is the starting line... not the goal.

(Imagine someone celebrating the starting line like they won the race.

Beware of making morality king.

Transformative Grace:

When everyone was leaving... To whom shall we go?

Christian through tradition vs. Transformed by Christ

2 Timothy 3:5 having a form of **godliness** but denying its power. And from such people turn away!

2 Peter 1:2-3 Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord, as His divine power has given to us all things that *pertain* to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue,

Godliness doesn't create power

God's power creates true godliness...

Godliness can be used and abused... used to manipulate.

1 Timothy 6:5 ... who suppose that godliness is a means of gain.

People who pretend to prophesy...

Philippians 1:15-16 Some indeed preach Christ even from envy and strife, and some also from goodwill: The former preach Christ from selfish ambition, not sincerely, supposing to add affliction to my chains;

Way to get what you want – romance a girl or flatter a guy.

Super polite in public but in private their minds are polluted

From such... withdraw yourself. (one bad apple ruins the bunch)

The church – one or two people change your opinion about the whole bunch?

Don't judge God's people because of an ungodly person.

Hitting the Jackpot!

Bells and sirens going off, the sound of coins dropping into buckets, lights flashing. HUGE!

(6) Now... godliness with contentment is GREAT GAIN!

Contentment: a perfect condition of life in which no aid or support is needed, ok with your lot.

Perspective: *I had no shoes and complained until I met a man who had no feet.*

(7) for we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out.

If a billionaire went on your vacation it would be a step down from their daily living.

No matter how awesome this life ever gets... it's a step down from eternity with Jesus.

Let's be honest... if you could bring it, in comparison it would be trash.

(8) and having food and clothing, with these we shall be content.

- **LOOSE GRIP! Enjoy it while you have it... be ok when you don't**
- It does not mean don't dream or work hard... but what is your end. ONE MORE?
- DREAM but are you ok if you don't reach your dream – SLAVE!

He experienced sorrow but didn't harden his heart to God's sovereignty

Job 1:21 And he said: "Naked I came from my mother's womb, And naked shall I return there. The LORD gave, and the LORD has taken away; Blessed be the name of the LORD."

Job 1:22 In all this Job did not sin nor charge God with wrong.

What Drives You?

Possession vs. Presence Driven

The couple who had a decent relationship as long as they were building their business, their dream home, their kids but when it was all said and done they divorced due to not knowing how to be in each other's presence.

Christmas is coming

Contentment seems to not only bring peace and joy but safety as well. (9-10)

Desire to be rich falls into

Temptation

Snare... get caught in it. (new car needs new floor mats, needs new phone holder, garage

Foolish and harmful lusts... which drown men in destruction and perdition.

Love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, for which some have strayed from the faith in their greediness, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.

Imagine there is a stack of \$100 bills in a dark room.

You are free to go after it but just know... in the same room are landmines, barbed wire, trap doors, and nocturnal predators who will be hunting for you.

harder for a rich man to enter heaven than for a camel to go through the eye of a needle.

1 Timothy 6:17-19 – extra funds create false hope and fraudulent stability.

You are either enjoying contentment or wrestling covetousness

Are you ok with what God is doing?

Benjamin Franklin: "Content makes poor men rich; discontent makes rich men poor."

Most deceitful part... godliness as a way to God.

You get what you pay for.

The most deceitful thing about godliness is the deception of forgiveness

Islam

Mormonism

Jejovah Witness

Hinduism

Or... none of it matters.

You would sooner climb to the moon on a rope made of sand than work your way to heaven.

By grace you are saved, through faith, and not of yourself. The gift of God is eternal life.

Senator James Lankford – for Oklahoma

- Alliance Defending Freedom
- American Associate of Christian Schools
- Catholic Vote
- Center for urban renewal and education
- Centennial Institute
- Christian employers alliance
- Concerned Women for America
- Eagle forum
- Ethics and religious liberty commission
- Faith and freedom coalition
- FRC Faith & Family council
- Family policy alliance
- Heritage Foundation
- Liberty council
- Lifeline children's services
- National Religious Broadcasters
- Religious Freedom institute
- U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops
- Ethics and public policy center

have all spoken out have

Reading the text of the bill rather than listening to the debate of this bill will conclude that there is a real and serious problem here and WILL damage religious liberty.