



“The Church That Guards the Gospel”
THE CALL TO WAGE THE GOOD WARFARE
1 Timothy 1:18–20

Every believer—especially those entrusted with the gospel—is called to faithfully fight the spiritual battle by holding firmly to truth and maintaining a clear conscience.

INTRODUCTION

I. THE CHARGE TO REMEMBER (v. 18)

“This charge I entrust to you, Timothy, my child...”

A. A Personal Commission

1 Corinthians 4:15 *“For though you have countless guides in Christ, you do not have many fathers. For I became your father in Christ Jesus through the gospel.”*

B. A Prophetic Confirmation

“in accordance with the prophecies previously made about you...”

II. THE CONFLICT TO ENGAGE (v. 18b)

“that by them you may wage the good warfare”

A. The Reality of the Battle

2 Corinthians 10:3–4 *“For though we walk in the flesh, we are not waging war according to the flesh. For the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh but have divine power to destroy strongholds.”*

B. The Nature of the Battle

This is called *“the good warfare.”*

C. The Focus of the Battle

III. THE COMMITMENT TO MAINTAIN (v.19)

“holding faith and a good conscience.”

A. The Guarding of Faith

1 Timothy 6:12 *“Fight the good fight of the faith.”*

B. The Guarding of Conscience

Acts 24:16 *“I always take pains to have a clear conscience toward both God and man.”*

IV. THE CATASTROPHETO AVOID (v.19b–20)

“By rejecting this, some have made shipwreck of their faith.”

A. The Tragedy of Shipwreck

B. The Example of Apostasy

C. The Discipline of Correction

“whom I have handed over to Satan...”

1 Corinthians 5:5 *“You are to deliver this man to Satan for the destruction of the flesh, so that his spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord.”*

1 Timothy 6:12 *“Fight the good fight of the faith. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called...”*

Romans 8:37 *“In all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.”*
