

“The Church That Guards the Gospel”

“THE CHURCH: GOD’S HOUSEHOLD AND HEAVEN’S HERALD”

1 Timothy 3:14–16

The Church Is the Pillar and Buttress of the Truth

I. THE FAMILY WE BELONG TO (v.15a) *“the household of God”*

A. The Privilege of Our Placement

Key Truth: *The church is not an event to attend—it is a family to embrace.*

B. The Practice of Our Conduct *“how one ought to behave...”*

If we are God’s household:

- We pursue holiness
- We practice love
- We preserve unity

C. The Presence of Our Father *“the church of the living God”*

Every gathering of the church is sacred because God is present.

II. THE FOUNDATION WE BEAR (v.15b) *“a pillar and buttress of the truth”*

A. The Stability We Provide

B. The Responsibility We Possess

We are:

- Not editors of truth
- Not negotiators of truth
- But guardians of truth

C. The Visibility We Promote

The church is called to make the gospel visible:

- Through preaching
-

- Through doctrine
- Through transformed lives

If the church loses truth, it loses everything.

III. THE FAITH WE CONFESS (v.16)

“Great indeed... is the mystery of godliness”

A. THE PERSON OF CHRIST REVEALED

1. Manifested in the flesh

2. Vindicated by the Spirit

B. THE PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST RESOUNDING

1. Seen by angels

2. Proclaimed among the nations

3. Believed on in the world

The church’s mission is to call people to believe.

C. THE POSITION OF CHRIST EXALTED

1. Taken up in glory

SUMMARY OF THIS CONFESSION

- Revealed in flesh
- Righteous in Spirit
- Recognized by angels
- Reported among nations
- Received by the world
- Reigning in glory

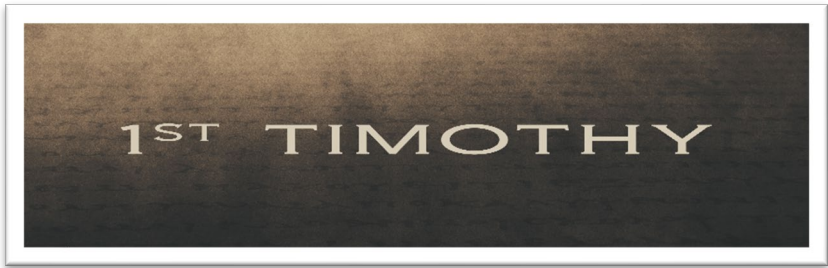
CONCLUSION

What is the church?

- It is a Family where we belong
- It is a Foundation that upholds truth
- It is a Fellowship that proclaims Christ

FINAL APPLICATION

1. Cherish the church – It is God’s household
 2. Defend the truth – It is our calling
 3. Proclaim Christ – It is our message
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