

Lessons From I Timothy

The Conspicuous Sins & Works Of Candidates

(I Ti 5:24-25)

INTRODUCTION

1. Good Evening,
 - a. Greetings...
2. Series of “Lessons From I Timothy.”
 - a. Last week we looked at “Drink A Little Grape Juice For Your Stomach’s Sake.”
 - i. **I Ti 5:23**¹
 - b. This week we will be examining “The Conspicuous Sins & Works Of Candidates”
 - i. **I Ti 5:24-25**
3. Paul, in our passage here, is dealing with the third part to his teaching of Timothy concerning the appointing of new elders.
 - a. First Timothy was to make sure he did not rush into it or participate in the appointment if others were going to rush into it.
 - i. **I Ti 5:22**
 - b. Second Timothy was to make sure he took care of himself physically so that he would be able to participate in the appointing of new elders.
 - i. **I Ti 5:23**
 - c. Third Timothy is to understand that those brought before him for appointment are to be slowly and thoroughly vetted for qualification.
 - i. **I Ti 5:24-25**
4. With this in mind let us examine our text today.

I. The Conspicuous Sins Of Candidates

A. Some people’s sin are conspicuous

1. The word conspicuous means clearly seen.

- i. ASV evident
- ii. KJV open beforehand
- iii. NIV obvious
- iv. YLT manifest

a. Thus, some people’s sins are clearly and easily seen.

2. Timothy was to disqualify these men for elders because their sins were clearly scene and they were not above reproach therefore.

a. **I Ti 3:2**

B. Some people’s sins are not conspicuous

1. Men have an uncanny ability to hide their sins from others.

i. However all sin eventually will come out.

a. **He 4:13**

2. Timothy was to not hastily appoint men but make sure they were thoroughly vetted for the qualifications.

i. This takes much time and patience.

¹ All Scriptures are taken from the ESV unless otherwise noted. If other translations are used this is not necessarily an endorsement of the translation.

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C. Thus...

1. Preachers have a great responsibility to make sure no unqualified man is appointed as an elder.

II. The Conspicuous Good Works Of Candidates

A. Some people's good works are conspicuous

1. These people are usually the outgoing type.
 - i. They are the ones in the forefront leading by example.
 - a. Examples: Peter, Paul, Jesus...
2. Timothy was not to hastily appoint these men even though their works were known for being good.
 - i. Good works generally indicated good character.
 - a. **Ep 2:10**
3. Timothy had to make sure they were qualified in every area not just the "good works" area.

B. Some people's good works are not conspicuous

1. These people are not the outgoing type typically.
 - i. They are the ones in the background doing great works but they are not well known for them.
 - a. Examples: John, Mary, Phoebe, Aquila & Priscilla...
2. Timothy was to make sure he was not hasty in dismissing someone presented as an elder even though these men's works were not clearly evident without putting in the proper work in getting to know that person's works.
 - i. Good works that are hidden generally indicate a humble person.
 - a. **Mt 6:1-4**
3. Timothy was to put the work in to see why someone would select one for elder whose works are not clearly evident.

C. Thus...

1. Preachers have a great responsibility to make sure the right person, the qualified person, is appointed.

CONCLUSION

1. Brethren, as we have seen in the last three lessons it is vital that when it comes time to appoint elders we make sure we put forth the proper time needed to get it right.
 - a. That we do so without prejudging or partiality.
2. Question: Are you willing to put forth the effort to help this congregation move toward having shepherds as God intended?
 - a. If so continue to help those men we have that are working towards becoming qualified.
 - b. If not why not?
3. Invitation
 - a. For those that are Christians but are not living for Christ repent and confess your transgression before God so He can forgive you and bear fruit of repentance by dedicating the rest of your life for Him.
 - i. **I Jn 1:7, 9** "But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin."

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- b. For those that are not Christians or for those that think they are Christians and want to know for sure notice what is required for you to become a child of God.
- i. Hear/Study God's Word **Rom 10:17**
 - ii. Have Faith In Jesus **Heb 11:6; Jn 3:16; Jn 14:15**
 - iii. Repent/Turn To God **Ac 17:3**
 - iv. Confess Jesus As Lord **Mt 10:32**
 - v. Obey The Gospel **I Cor 15:1-4; Rom 6:3-5**