

Lessons From I Timothy

The Blessed & Only Sovereign

(I Ti 6:14-16)

INTRODUCTION

1. Good Evening,
 - a. Greetings...
 2. Series of “Lessons From I Timothy.”
 - a. Last week we looked at “The Content Preacher.”
 - i. **I Ti 6:11-14**¹
 - b. Today we will be looking at “The Blessed & Only Sovereign.”
 - i. **I Ti 6:14-16**
 3. In the apostle Paul’s closing remarks concerning “The Content Preacher” he sets forth a list concerning the characteristics of God.
 - a. This is no ordinary list it is an amazing insight into deity.
 - i. It should be noted that most of these characteristics are applicable to all three personalities of the Godhead.
 4. Though most of this list can be applied to the Godhead it is God the Father that is under consideration here.
 - a. With all this in mind let us look at our text today.
- I. The Blessed & Only Sovereign**
- A. Defining some words
 1. Blessed: this means being happy based on receiving favorable circumstances.
 2. Only: this means being the only one; single and isolated from others.
 3. Sovereign: this means one with authority and power to achieve a controlling influence on others.
 - B. The intrigue from this description
 1. God the Father has received favorable circumstances that make Him happy.
 - i. **I Ti 1:11; Mk 14:61**
 - a. That favorable circumstance is having His creation back united with Him.
 1. **Is 53:10; Lk 15:11-32**
 2. God the Father is isolated as the One with authority and power to achieve a controlling influence on all others.
 - i. In God the Father’s case this seems to extent to the Son as well.
 - a. **Jn 5:19; I Co 15:27-28**

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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II. The King Of Kings & Lord Of Lords

- A. Some have tried to suggest this section is talking about the Son not the Father
 - 1. Burton Coffman is one such person.
 - i. “All of the commentaries consulted by this writer unanimously refer these words to God; but despite the reluctance to disagree with those of great learning, it must in conscience be done here. The expression “King of kings and Lord of lords” occurs nowhere else in the Bible, but one so nearly like it as to be held identical is found in Rv 19:16; and the belief here is that the word of God is always the best comment on the word of God.”²
 - 2. Though I agree with Brother Coffman that “the word of God is always the best comment on the word of God” I must point out that this must be taken to its entirety i.e. context, content, etc. but not limited to word association.
 - i. For example Coffman fully agrees with this just a moment later when he writes, “After all, in the Greek New Testament, Christ is called “God” no less than ten times, not including this passage.”³
 - a. Therefore “word association” is not always the most accurate deduction of a word or phrase from a text.
- B. This “King of kings & Lord of lords” is God the Father
 - 1. All the kings of the earth are in subjection to the Father.
 - i. God, due to His divine characteristics, has authority and power over all earthly kings.
 - 2. All the lords “masters” of the earth are in subjection to the Father.
 - i. There is no master higher than the Father.
 - 3. It is fitting really that God the Father is first called such and then the Son.
 - i. It is the Father who gave all authority to the Son and as such made the Son “King of kings and Lord of Lords.”
 - a. **Rv 17:14**

III. The Alone Immortal

- A. God the Father is isolated as the One whom is not able or even subject to death
 - 1. Now, like I said before, this can be applied universally to the Godhead.
 - i. Contextually here Paul is giving us a description of the Father’s deity.
- B. God’s immortality distinguishes Him from mankind proving His deity
 - 1. Man’s like has an expiration date.
 - i. **He 9:27**
 - a. Even Enoch & Elijah whom God removed from this earth before their death were still “able” to die.
 - 2. Since God is “not able” to die He alone is immortal.

² from Coffman's Bible Commentary, Copyright © 1971-1993 by ACU Press, Abilene Christian University. All rights reserved.

³ Ibid

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IV. He Who Dwells In Unapproachable Light

A. God the Father sits in heaven

1. In heaven the light is so bright, from God the Father, that mortal man cannot even gaze upon it.
2. This is consistent with what happened to Moses.
 - i. Moses just receiving a glimpse of a manifestation of God made His face so bright that the people were afraid of Moses and asked him to cover his face.
 - a. [Ex 34:29-35; II Co 3:7](#)

V. He Whom No One Has Ever Seen Or Can See

A. This particular thought is found many times in the Scriptures

1. [Ex 33:20; Jn 5:37; Jn 6:46; I Jn 4:12](#)
 - i. This truth, however, seems to confuse a lot of people
 - ii. They look at examples, like that of Moses, and say “look there Moses saw God, so the Bible must be lying.”

B. The truth is there is an ignorance in the difference between essence and manifestation

1. God the Father is not made of flesh and bones.
 - i. [Lk 24:39](#)
2. God the Father is spirit.
 - i. [Jn 4:24](#)
3. Thus God has been manifested to men but no man has seen His essence or natural state.
 - i. Why, because spirit is not visible to man.
 - a. [I Ti 1:17; Co 1:15](#)

CONCLUSION

1. Brethren, we have only scratched the surface of this most magnificent section of Scripture.
 - a. I implore you to make time to truly dig deeper into these characteristics.
2. Question: Are you willing to make the time to get to know your God?
 - a. If so continue therein and grow thereby.
 - 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.”
 - 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](#)