

1 Timothy 5:5-16

LESSON 21

Widows Indeed

1. A Word on Christian Charity

- a. Christians have always been generous to the poor as Jesus, Peter, Paul all instructed
 - i. Grace received should beget grace given – it is grace not law tithe - 2Co 9:7
- b. The problem: making 'giving' 'good works' a test of spirituality – 1 Cor 13:3
 - i. Matthew 25:35-46 gives it eternal consequences, which is Gen 12:1-3
- c. The responsibility for provision has always been with family (not church or gov't)
- d. It is much easier to spend someone else's money than your own
- e. Christian charity comes from grace working in individuals not church tithes
- f. Integrity will use your own resources, your own hand, bear your own - Gal 6:2-5

1. 1 Timothy 5:5-10 – Widows Indeed

- a. If you don't work you don't eat – 2 Thess 3:6-10, but here people can, how?
- b. The church can make provision – but there must be criteria, restriction, refusals
- c. 1 - She must be truly in need of it – 1 Tim 5:4-5
 - i. The house of God is not your own house
 - ii. Your own house needs to be producing an inheritance, an estate
- d. 2 – She must trust in God – faith and prayer – 1 Tim 4:5
 - i. The church of the *living* God – not a dead pleasure house
 - ii. The church is not a welfare system (there is no poor tax, SSN, or SNAP)
 - iii. Supplications – prayers – asking and pleading to God from a heart's desire
- e. 3 – Older – She has lived; not a novice - "having been" "have brought..."
 - i. The church is the ground of truth - "*learn first*" – 1Co 14:35; 1Ti 2:11
- f. 4 - Well reported – they must have a good reputation – 1 Tim 3:7
 - i. The church avoids appearance of evil / occasion of reproach Ti 2:4-6

2. 1 Timothy 5:11-16

- a. "*younger ... refuse*" – why? the reputation of the God, church, and themselves
 - i. Maybe not just younger in age here, but in maturity.
- b. "*damnation*" – the same is said about the novice bishop – 1 Tim 3:6-7
- c. "*first faith*" – Attested to in 1 Tim 5:3, 5
- d. "*learn to be idle*" – when they need to learn ... Titus 2:4-10
- e. "*speaking things they ought not*" – remember 1Ti 2:11, 1Co 14:35, 2Th 3:11
- f. "*I will therefore...*" – Marriage is good and honorable
 - i. "*bear children*" – take responsibility, do the good work in 1 Tim 5:10
 - ii. "*guide the house*" – which proves they are a help not a slave – Ti 3:14
- g. "*turned aside after Satan*" – Why? Blaspheme the doctrine - 1Tim 1:20 and Titus 2:5