

1 Timothy 6:12-21

LESSON 25

Fight the Good Fight

1. 1 Timothy 6:12 – Fight the Good Fight

- a. The battle: godliness vs. worldliness; truth vs. error; gain vs. contentment; the love of money vs. the love of the truth; temporal vs. eternal
- b. He must fight! The Christian is not a senior citizen; or sugar, spice, and all that's nice
 - i. Fight requires passion, interest, care; preaching produces passion.
 - ii. At the heart of true ministry is one that cares enough to fight – 1 Cor 1:21
 - iii. Preaching and teaching differ: teaching cures ignorance; Preaching, apathy
 - iv. Apathy is a lazy heart; ignorance is a lazy mind; vanity is a lazy soul.
 - v. We stand for truth – Eph 6:10-18; 2 Tim 4:7; 1 Cor 9:26
 - vi. The church is not investigating truth; we fight – 2Cor 10:4-5; Ti 1:18; 2 Ti 2:2
- c. We must fight the right fight, the good fight... of faith. <Direct your passion>
 - i. The church is not fighting jobless rate, trade deficits, world hunger, etc.
 - ii. A battle of doctrine in minds: not by force, but in truth and love –Eph 4:3,15
 - iii. Proclaiming truth requires maturity, study, desire, experience, judgment

2. 1 Timothy 6:13-16 – In the Sight of God Til He Come

- a. Remember a charge is not a plea, request, suggestion, but an imposition/ burden
- b. The charge started in 1 Tim 1:3, 1 Tim 1:18-19, and ends up here.
- c. The seriousness and motivation of performing this charge is in the majesty of God
 - i. Knowing the terror of the Lord who sees all – 2 Cor 5:11, also Heb 4:13
 - ii. Jesus witnessed before Pilate many things – John 18:36-39; 19:14,19,21-22
- d. “*King of kings, Lord of lords*” – proves Jesus’ deity – Deu 10:17, Psa 136, 1 Ti 1:17
 - i. We are children of light, and are to make known the light – Eph 5:6-11

3. 1 Timothy 6:17- 19 – Charge the Rich

- a. 1) Be not highminded – Rom 12:3, 12:16
- b. 2) Trust not in uncertain riches, but God – Ecc 3:13
- c. 3) Do good, be rich in good works – which they have abundant opportunity.
- d. “*lay hold on eternal life*” – instead of the temporal life with their wealth – 1Ti 4:8

4. 1 Timothy 6:20-21 – What to Keep, What to Avoid

- a. It was committed to Paul in 1 Tim 1:11, but now entrusted to Tim here
- b. The last thing Paul says is to keep his ministry, avoid doctrinal error – Rom 12:19, 1Th 5:21; Phil 1:10 – approve that which is excellent; judging all things.
- c. Science here is not Einstein; but claims to knowledge that are false – Col 2:8-10
- d. Many people claim to know; but there is only one God, Potentate, Truth
- e. The truth that Timothy is called, charged, to uphold is that of grace.