1 TIMOTHY

OUTLINE:

I. Personal (1-3)
II.Pastoral (4-6)

THEME OF THE BOOK:

INSTRUCTIONS CONCERNING...

- 1. False Doctrine (1)
- 2. Worship (2)
- 3. Leadership (3)
- 4. Dangers & False Doctrine (4)
- 5. Different Groups (5)
- 6. Pastoral Duties (6)

Guard the Pure Gospel! Leadership; Directions for a Young Pastor.

The driving force—the engine—behind the writing of 1 Timothy is the concern for the pure & unadulterated gospel! (Gordon Fee)

The goal at hand & the situation at Ephesus is simple & straightforward: false doctrine must be erased, public worship safeguarded, and mature leadership developed.

1, 2 Timothy & Titus are called the 'Pastoral Epistles.' These letters provide insights & oversight of church life.

Godly leaders must be careful to avoid false teachers and greedy motives, pursuing instead righteousness, godliness, faith, love, perseverance, and gentleness as befitting a man of God. In chapter 3, noticeably absent are qualities of worldly power, worldly success, or worldly position. Instead, Paul emphatically enumerates character qualities demonstrating true leadership emanates from our walk with God rather than from achievements or vocational success.

*Note the inclusio [sandwich-type structure/bookends] of God as KING (1:17 & 6:15-16) and also GRACE (1:2 & 6:21).

GOSPEL:

- 1:3-7 reason for the letter --- INSTRUCT certain men NOT to teach strange doctrines (3)
- 1:5 the goal of instruction: love from a pure heart, good conscience, sincere faith
- 1:12-17 Christ Jesus came to save (bad) sinners
- 2:1-7 prayer in the worship assembly
- 2:8-15 Divine prescription for women's role in the church
- 3:1-7 qualifications of elders/pastors/shepherds (spiritual shepherds)
- 3:8-13 qualifications for deacons (servants who free up shepherds to do their work)
- 3:14-15 the purpose of the letter: know how to conduct yourself in CHURCH!
- 4:1-5 times of apostasy
- 4:6-16 discipline yourself for Godliness! Work at it! Grow! Excel more!
- 5:3-16 handling widows and providing for them
- 5:17-22 disciplining elders/pastors living in sin
- 6:1-10, 17-19 godliness is a means of great gain (not riches!)
- 6:11-16 fight the good fight!
- 6:20-21 avoid worldly wisdom and worldly 'knowledge'

"Long before a person makes visible shipwreck of his life and ministry, his heart has been allowed to be a citadel of sin. I say again, guard your heart, for it is the wellspring of life." (Conrad Mbewe)

THE CHRISTOLOGY OF 1 TIMOTHY...

- He strengthens His servants (1:12)
- He is the one mediator between God and men (2:5)
- manifested in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen by angels, preached among the gentiles (3:16)
- source of spiritual strength, faith and love (1:12, 14)
- came into the world to save sinners (1:15)
- gave Himself as a ransom for all (2:6)
- He is the Savior of all men, especially of believers (4:10)
- Godly doctrine always produces godliness in believers (6:3)
- Jesus will come back again (6:14)
- He is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings & Lord of lords (6:15-16)

"Brethren, it is easier to declaim against a thousand sins of others, than to mortify one sin in ourselves" -- John Flavel

