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1 Timothy

The book of 1 Timothy is one of the pastoral epistles, along with 2 Timothy and Titus, written by the Apostle Paul. It is addressed to Timothy, who was one of Paul's disciples and a leader in the early Christian church. The letter is believed to have been written around AD 62, when Paul was imprisoned in Rome.

The purpose of 1 Timothy is to provide guidance to Timothy regarding the management and organization of the church in Ephesus, where Timothy was serving. The letter contains a mix of personal instruction, exhortation, and practical advice on a variety of topics, including the qualifications for church leaders, the role of women in the church, false teachings and false teachers, and the importance of sound doctrine and godly living. Here is a brief outline of the contents of 1 Timothy:

- Chapter 1: Paul's greeting and introduction; warning against false teachers; the purpose of the law.
- Chapter 2: Instructions on prayer and worship; the role of women in the church.
- Chapter 3: Qualifications for overseers and deacons; the conduct of church leaders.
- Chapter 4: A warning against false teachings and apostasy; the importance of godliness.
- Chapter 5: Instructions on caring for widows, elders, and servants in the church.
- Chapter 6: A warning against the love of money; the pursuit of godliness and contentment.

Overall, the book of 1 Timothy provides important guidance for the leadership and organization of the early Christian church, as well as practical instruction for godly living and the avoidance of false teachings.

1 Timothy 1

New International Version

1 Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the command of God our Savior and of Christ Jesus our hope,

2 To Timothy my true son in the faith:

Grace, mercy and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

Timothy Charged to Oppose False Teachers

3 As I urged you when I went into Macedonia, stay there in Ephesus so that you may command certain people not to teach false doctrines any longer 4 or to devote themselves to myths and endless genealogies. Such things promote controversial speculations rather than advancing God's work—which is by faith. 5 The goal of this command is love, which comes from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith. 6 Some have departed from these and have turned to meaningless talk. 7 They want to be teachers of the law, but they do not know what they are talking about or what they so confidently affirm.

8 We know that the law is good if one uses it properly. 9 We also know that the law is made not for the righteous but for lawbreakers and rebels, the ungodly and sinful, the unholy and irreligious, for those who kill their fathers or mothers, for murderers, 10 for the sexually immoral, for those practicing homosexuality, for slave traders and liars and perjurers—and for whatever else is contrary to the sound doctrine 11 that conforms to the gospel concerning the glory of the blessed God, which he entrusted to me.

The Lord's Grace to Paul

12 I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who has given me strength, that he considered me trustworthy, appointing me to his service. 13 Even though I was once a blasphemer and a persecutor and a violent man, I was shown mercy because I acted in ignorance and unbelief. 14 The grace of our Lord was poured out on me abundantly, along with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus.

15 Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the worst. 16 But for that very reason I was shown mercy so that in me, the worst of sinners, Christ Jesus might display his immense patience as an example for those who would believe in him and receive eternal life. 17 Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory for ever and ever. Amen.

The Charge to Timothy Renewed

18 Timothy, my son, I am giving you this command in keeping with the prophecies once made about you, so that by recalling them you may fight the battle well, 19 holding on to faith and a good conscience, which some have rejected and so have suffered shipwreck with regard to the faith. 20 Among them are Hymenaeus and Alexander, whom I have handed over to Satan to be taught not to blaspheme.

Chapter 1 begins with the greeting and introduction from the Apostle Paul, who addresses the letter to his disciple Timothy. Paul then goes on to warn against false teachers and false teachings, emphasizing the importance of sound doctrine and teaching.

Paul also shares his own personal testimony, describing his former life as a persecutor of the church and how he was transformed through the grace of Jesus Christ. He encourages

Timothy to remain faithful to the gospel and to confront those who are teaching false doctrines.

In the latter part of chapter 1, Paul discusses the purpose of the law and how it relates to the gospel. He emphasizes that the law was given to expose sin and to lead people to faith in Christ, and he warns against those who misuse the law and use it to promote false teachings.

Overall, chapter 1 of 1 Timothy provides an introduction to the letter and sets the stage for the themes that will be discussed throughout the rest of the book. It emphasizes the importance of sound doctrine and the dangers of false teachings, and it encourages believers to remain faithful to the gospel message.

Here are some important verses from chapter 1 of the book of 1 Timothy in the Christian Bible, along with a brief explanation of their meaning and where to find them: 1 Timothy 1:5 - "The goal of this command is love, which comes from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith." This verse emphasizes that the purpose of Paul's command to Timothy is to promote love within the church community, which can only come from a pure heart, good conscience, and sincere faith.

1 Timothy 1:15 - "Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners--of whom I am the worst." This verse highlights the central message of the gospel, which is that Jesus came into the world to save sinners. It also demonstrates Paul's humility in acknowledging his own sinfulness and need for salvation.

1 Timothy 1:17 - "Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory for ever and ever. Amen." This verse serves as a doxology, or expression of praise, to God, acknowledging his eternal nature and giving him honor and glory. These verses can be found in 1 Timothy chapter 1, verses 5, 15, and 17, respectively.

The First Epistle of Timothy, often referred to as 1 Timothy, is one of the books in the New Testament of the Bible. It is considered one of the Pastoral Epistles, along with 2 Timothy and Titus, and is traditionally attributed to the Apostle Paul. In 1 Timothy chapter 1, there are several theological thoughts and influences that can be identified:

The Gospel and God's Grace: In 1 Timothy 1:11, Paul speaks of "the gospel of the blessed God," emphasizing the central message of Christianity, which is the good news of salvation through Jesus Christ. This chapter underscores the idea that salvation is a result of God's grace and not human works (verse 9). This theme of salvation by grace is a fundamental theological concept in the New Testament.

Law and Gospel: In verses 8-11, Paul contrasts the lawful use of the law with its misuse. He explains that the law is intended for those who are lawless and disobedient and highlights the importance of recognizing the moral guidance provided by the Old Testament law. This discussion touches on the relationship between the Old Testament law and the New Covenant.

Paul's Apostleship and Authority: Throughout the chapter, Paul asserts his apostolic authority and commission to instruct Timothy and the Church. This theme of apostolic

authority is significant in understanding the early church's structure and the role of leaders like Timothy.

The Role of Women: In verses 9-10, there is mention of women's behavior and adornment. This passage has been the subject of theological discussion and debate, particularly concerning the role of women in the church. It has influenced various Christian traditions' perspectives on women's roles and dress within the church.

Sound Doctrine and False Teaching: Paul's concern in this chapter is to ensure that sound doctrine is taught in the church. He warns against false teachers who promote controversial and meaningless speculations (verses 3-4). This concern for the purity of doctrine and the avoidance of false teachings has had a lasting influence on Christian theology and ecclesiology.

Mercy and Grace for Paul: Paul emphasizes his own experience of God's mercy and grace, highlighting his transformation from a persecutor of the church to an apostle (verse 13). This serves as a powerful testimony to God's transformative power and grace, which is a central theological theme in Christianity.

Theological influences from 1 Timothy 1 can be seen in various aspects of Christian theology, including the doctrines of salvation by grace, the authority of the apostles, the role of women in the church, and the importance of sound doctrine. These themes continue to shape the beliefs and practices of Christian communities today. Different Christian traditions may interpret and apply these teachings in varying ways, leading to theological diversity within the broader Christian faith.

1 Timothy 2

New International Version

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Instructions on Worship
2 I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people— 2 for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. 3 This is good, and pleases God our Savior, 4 who wants all people to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth. 5 For there is one God and one mediator between God and mankind, the man Christ Jesus, 6 who gave himself as a ransom for all people. This has now been witnessed to at the proper time. 7 And for this purpose I was appointed a herald and an apostle—I am telling the truth, I am not lying—and a true and faithful teacher of the Gentiles.

8 Therefore I want the men everywhere to pray, lifting up holy hands without anger or disputing. 9 I also want the women to dress modestly, with decency and propriety, adorning themselves, not with elaborate hairstyles or gold or pearls or expensive clothes, 10 but with good deeds, appropriate for women who profess to worship God.

11 A woman[a] should learn in quietness and full submission. 12 I do not permit a woman to teach or to assume authority over a man;[b] she must be quiet. 13 For Adam was formed first, then Eve. 14 And Adam was not the one deceived; it was the woman who was deceived and became a sinner. 15 But women[c] will be saved through childbearing—if they continue in faith, love and holiness with propriety.

Footnotes

1 Timothy 2:11 Or wife; also in verse 12

1 Timothy 2:12 Or over her husband

1 Timothy 2:15 Greek she

Chapter 2 of 1 Timothy focuses on instructions for public worship and prayer in the church. Paul begins by urging that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, including kings and all in high positions, so that we may lead peaceful and quiet lives.

He then instructs that men should pray, lifting up holy hands, and that women should dress modestly and not draw attention to themselves with fancy hairstyles, jewelry, or expensive clothing. Paul also emphasizes that women should learn quietly and not teach or have authority over men.

The chapter concludes with Paul's reasoning behind these instructions, stating that Adam was formed first and then Eve, and that it was Eve who was deceived and fell into transgression. He also emphasizes that women will be saved through childbearing, as long as they continue in faith, love, and holiness with self-control.

Overall, chapter 2 of 1 Timothy provides guidelines for public worship and prayer in the church. It emphasizes the importance of praying for all people, modesty in dress and behavior, and proper roles for men and women in church leadership and teaching.

here are some important verses from chapter 2 of the book of 1 Timothy in the Christian Bible, along with a brief explanation of their meaning and where to find them:

1 Timothy 2:1-2 - "I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people— for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness." These verses emphasize the importance of praying for all people, including those in positions of authority, in order to live peaceful and godly lives.

1 Timothy 2:5-6 - "For there is one God and one mediator between God and mankind, the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself as a ransom for all people." These verses declare the unique and central role of Jesus Christ as the mediator between God and humanity, who gave himself as a ransom for all people.

1 Timothy 2:9-10 - "I also want the women to dress modestly, with decency and propriety, adorning themselves, not with elaborate hairstyles or gold or pearls or expensive clothes, but with good deeds, appropriate for women who profess to worship God." These verses provide instructions for how women should dress modestly and focus on inner qualities and good deeds, rather than external adornments.

These verses can be found in 1 Timothy chapter 2, verses 1-2, 5-6, and 9-10, respectively.

In 1 Timothy chapter 2, there are several theological thoughts and influences that can be identified:

Prayer for All People: The chapter begins with Paul's exhortation to pray for all people, including those in positions of authority (1 Timothy 2:1-2). This emphasizes the Christian

duty to intercede for others, including secular leaders, and reflects the biblical principle of seeking peace and stability in society through prayer.

Salvation and God's Will: In 1 Timothy 2:3-4, Paul emphasizes that God desires all people to be saved and come to a knowledge of the truth. This underscores the universality of God's offer of salvation and His desire for all to be reconciled to Him through Christ. The theological thought here is tied to the idea of God's redemptive plan for humanity.

The Mediatorship of Christ: In 1 Timothy 2:5, Paul states, "For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus." This verse is a central theological statement highlighting the unique role of Jesus Christ as the mediator between humanity and God. It emphasizes the exclusivity of Christ in reconciling humans with God.

Women in the Church: 1 Timothy 2:9-15 contains instructions regarding the behavior and roles of women in the church. It discusses modesty in dress, and it contains the well-known statement, "I do not permit a woman to teach or to exercise authority over a man." This passage has significant theological implications for discussions about the roles of women in leadership and teaching positions within the church. Different Christian denominations interpret and apply these verses in various ways, leading to theological diversity on this issue.

God's Desire for Holiness and Order: The chapter emphasizes the importance of godly conduct, modesty, and order in the worship and life of the church (1 Timothy 2:8-15). This theological thought underscores the idea that worship should be conducted with reverence and decency, reflecting the holiness of God.

Missionary Zeal: In 1 Timothy 2:7, Paul mentions his own role as a preacher and apostle to the Gentiles. This reflects the early Christian emphasis on spreading the Gospel to all nations and peoples, a mission that has had a profound influence on the history and theology of Christianity.

Theological influences from 1 Timothy 2 can be seen in various aspects of Christian theology, including the universality of God's salvation offer, the unique role of Jesus Christ as the mediator, discussions about women's roles in the church, the importance of godly conduct in worship, and the missionary zeal of the early church. These themes continue to shape Christian beliefs and practices, and they have been subject to interpretation and debate within different Christian traditions.

1 Timothy 3

New International Version

Qualifications for Overseers and Deacons

3 Here is a trustworthy saying: Whoever aspires to be an overseer desires a noble task. 2 Now the overseer is to be above reproach, faithful to his wife, temperate, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, able to teach, 3 not given to drunkenness, not violent but gentle,

not quarrelsome, not a lover of money. 4 He must manage his own family well and see that his children obey him, and he must do so in a manner worthy of full[a] respect. 5 (If anyone does not know how to manage his own family, how can he take care of God's church?) 6 He must not be a recent convert, or he may become conceited and fall under the same judgment as the devil. 7 He must also have a good reputation with outsiders, so that he will not fall into disgrace and into the devil's trap.

8 In the same way, deacons[b] are to be worthy of respect, sincere, not indulging in much wine, and not pursuing dishonest gain. 9 They must keep hold of the deep truths of the faith with a clear conscience. 10 They must first be tested; and then if there is nothing against them, let them serve as deacons.

11 In the same way, the women[c] are to be worthy of respect, not malicious talkers but temperate and trustworthy in everything.

12 A deacon must be faithful to his wife and must manage his children and his household well. 13 Those who have served well gain an excellent standing and great assurance in their faith in Christ Jesus.

Reasons for Paul's Instructions

14 Although I hope to come to you soon, I am writing you these instructions so that, 15 if I am delayed, you will know how people ought to conduct themselves in God's household, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and foundation of the truth. 16 Beyond all question, the mystery from which true godliness springs is great:

He appeared in the flesh,
was vindicated by the Spirit,[d]
was seen by angels,
was preached among the nations,
was believed on in the world,
was taken up in glory.

Footnotes

1 Timothy 3:4 Or him with proper

1 Timothy 3:8 The word deacons refers here to Christians designated to serve with the overseers/elders of the church in a variety of ways; similarly in verse 12; and in Romans 16:1 and Phil. 1:1.

1 Timothy 3:11 Possibly deacons' wives or women who are deacons

1 Timothy 3:16 Or vindicated in spirit

Chapter 3 of 1 Timothy provides qualifications for overseers (or bishops) and deacons in the church. Paul begins by stating that anyone who desires to be an overseer desires a noble task, and he then lists several qualifications for such a position. These qualifications include being above reproach, the husband of one wife, sober-minded, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, able to teach, not a drunkard, not violent but gentle,

not quarrelsome, and not a lover of money. Additionally, an overseer must manage his own household well and have a good reputation with outsiders.

After discussing qualifications for overseers, Paul then turns to the qualifications for deacons. He emphasizes that deacons must be dignified, not double-tongued, not addicted to much wine, not greedy for dishonest gain, holding the mystery of the faith with a clear conscience, and tested in their character. Additionally, they must be faithful in their marriages and manage their households well.

The chapter concludes with Paul's explanation that he is writing these things so that Timothy will know how to behave in the household of God, which is the church of the living God.

Overall, chapter 3 of 1 Timothy provides qualifications for leaders in the church, including overseers and deacons. It emphasizes the importance of character, faithfulness, and a good reputation, as well as the ability to teach and manage one's household well. The chapter serves as a guide for selecting and appointing leaders in the church.

Here are some important verses from chapter 3 of the book of 1 Timothy in the Christian Bible, along with a brief explanation of their meaning and where to find them:

1 Timothy 3:1 - "Here is a trustworthy saying: Whoever aspires to be an overseer desires a noble task." This verse highlights the importance and honor of the role of overseer (or bishop) within the church community.

1 Timothy 3:2-7 - These verses provide a list of qualifications for overseers and deacons, including character traits such as being above reproach, faithful to one's spouse, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, able to teach, and not given to drunkenness or violence.

1 Timothy 3:15 - "if I am delayed, you will know how people ought to conduct themselves in God's household, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and foundation of the truth." This verse emphasizes the importance of the church as the foundation and support of truth and provides guidance for how people should behave within God's household.

These verses can be found in 1 Timothy chapter 3, verses 1, 2-7, and 15, respectively.

In 1 Timothy chapter 3, several theological thoughts and influences can be identified:

Qualifications for Church Leaders: The chapter primarily focuses on the qualifications for overseers (often called bishops or pastors) and deacons in the church (1 Timothy 3:1-13). The theological thought here centers on the importance of selecting godly and morally upright leaders within the church. These qualifications highlight the character and conduct expected of those in leadership positions and reflect the biblical emphasis on leadership as a sacred responsibility.

The Church as the Household of God: In 1 Timothy 3:15, Paul describes the church as "the household of God, which is the church of the living God, a pillar and buttress of the truth." This verse conveys a theological understanding of the church as a spiritual family and a custodian of divine truth. It emphasizes the church's role in preserving and proclaiming the Gospel.

Mystery of Godliness: In 1 Timothy 3:16, Paul provides a concise statement that is sometimes referred to as the "mystery of godliness." It highlights the central theological themes of the Christian faith, including the incarnation of Christ ("manifested in the flesh"), His vindication by the Spirit, His proclamation among the nations, and His ascension into glory. This verse encapsulates key elements of Christian theology.

Elders and Deacons as Servants: The concept of servant leadership is evident in the qualifications for overseers and deacons. They are expected to be servants of the church, reflecting the theological idea that leadership within the Christian community is fundamentally a service-oriented role, following the example of Jesus.

Church Discipline: While not explicitly mentioned in this chapter, the qualifications for church leaders imply the importance of church discipline and the responsibility of leaders to maintain the moral and doctrinal integrity of the congregation. This aligns with broader New Testament teachings on the responsibility of the church to address sin and error within its community.

Theological influences from 1 Timothy 3 can be seen in various aspects of Christian theology, including the nature of church leadership and qualifications for church leaders, the role of the church as a guardian of truth, the mystery of godliness in Christ, and the concept of servant leadership. These themes continue to shape the organization and practice of Christian communities and have contributed to discussions about the structure and leadership of the church throughout its history.

1 Timothy 4

New International Version

4 The Spirit clearly says that in later times some will abandon the faith and follow deceiving spirits and things taught by demons. 2 Such teachings come through hypocritical liars, whose consciences have been seared as with a hot iron. 3 They forbid people to marry and order them to abstain from certain foods, which God created to be received with thanksgiving by those who believe and who know the truth. 4 For everything God created is good, and nothing is to be rejected if it is received with thanksgiving, 5 because it is consecrated by the word of God and prayer.

6 If you point these things out to the brothers and sisters,[a] you will be a good minister of Christ Jesus, nourished on the truths of the faith and of the good teaching that you have followed. 7 Have nothing to do with godless myths and old wives' tales; rather, train yourself to be godly. 8 For physical training is of some value, but godliness has value for all things, holding promise for both the present life and the life to come. 9 This is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance. 10 That is why we labor and strive, because we have put our hope in the living God, who is the Savior of all people, and especially of those who believe.

11 Command and teach these things. 12 Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity. 13 Until I come, devote yourself to the public reading of Scripture, to preaching

and to teaching. 14 Do not neglect your gift, which was given you through prophecy when the body of elders laid their hands on you.

15 Be diligent in these matters; give yourself wholly to them, so that everyone may see your progress. 16 Watch your life and doctrine closely. Persevere in them, because if you do, you will save both yourself and your hearers.

Footnotes

1 Timothy 4:6 The Greek word for brothers and sisters (adelphoi) refers here to believers, both men and women, as part of God's family.

Chapter 4 of 1 Timothy focuses on warnings against false teachings and the importance of training in godliness. Paul begins by warning against those who will depart from the faith, following deceitful spirits and teachings of demons. He urges Timothy to train himself for godliness, as this will be of benefit not only in this life but also in the life to come.

Paul then emphasizes the importance of teaching and instructing others in the faith, warning against those who will reject sound doctrine and turn to myths and endless genealogies. He encourages Timothy to set an example in his own life, both in his speech and in his conduct, and to devote himself to the public reading of Scripture, exhortation, and teaching.

The chapter concludes with instructions to Timothy regarding the proper treatment of widows and how to recognize false teachings. Paul urges Timothy to give proper care to widows who are truly in need and not to let the church be burdened with those who are not truly widows. He also emphasizes the importance of keeping oneself pure in both body and spirit.

Overall, chapter 4 of 1 Timothy emphasizes the importance of sound doctrine, training in godliness, and instructing others in the faith. It warns against false teachings and encourages Timothy to set an example in his own life. The chapter also provides instructions for the proper care of widows and emphasizes the importance of purity in both body and spirit.

Here are some important verses from chapter 4 of the book of 1 Timothy in the Christian Bible, along with a brief explanation of their meaning and where to find them:

1 Timothy 4:1 - "The Spirit clearly says that in later times some will abandon the faith and follow deceiving spirits and things taught by demons." This verse warns against the possibility of false teachings and spiritual deception in the later times.

1 Timothy 4:7-8 - "Have nothing to do with godless myths and old wives' tales; rather, train yourself to be godly. For physical training is of some value, but godliness has value for all things, holding promise for both the present life and the life to come." These verses encourage believers to focus on training themselves in godliness, which has greater value than physical training or worldly pursuits.

1 Timothy 4:12 - "Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity." This verse encourages young believers to set an example for others in their words, actions, and attitudes, and not to be discouraged by their youth.

These verses can be found in 1 Timothy chapter 4, verses 1, 7-8, and 12, respectively.

In 1 Timothy chapter 4, several theological thoughts and influences can be identified:

Warning Against False Teaching: The chapter begins with a warning from the Apostle Paul about the rise of false teachers who will lead people away from the faith by promoting deceptive doctrines (1 Timothy 4:1-3). This highlights the ongoing theological concern within the early Christian church regarding the infiltration of false teachings and the need to guard the purity of the Gospel.

The Conscience and Diet: Paul discusses dietary restrictions and ascetic practices in verses 3-5. He emphasizes that all foods are created by God and can be received with thanksgiving. This touches on the broader theological theme of the Christian's freedom in Christ and the importance of not imposing unnecessary restrictions on believers.

Training in Godliness: In 1 Timothy 4:7-8, Paul speaks about the value of training in godliness and contrasts it with the limited value of physical exercise. This highlights the importance of spiritual growth and the pursuit of godliness as a central aspect of the Christian life. It underscores the theological idea that the Christian's ultimate goal is to become more like Christ.

Leadership and Example: Paul encourages Timothy to set an example for believers in speech, conduct, love, faith, and purity (1 Timothy 4:12). This reflects the theological thought that Christian leaders should lead by example, modeling the characteristics and values of the Christian faith.

The Authority of Scripture: In 1 Timothy 4:13, Paul instructs Timothy to devote himself to the public reading of Scripture, to exhortation, and to teaching. This underscores the theological importance of the Scriptures as the source of Christian teaching and the foundation for exhortation and doctrine within the church.

The Role of Spiritual Gifts: Paul reminds Timothy not to neglect the spiritual gift he has received and encourages him to use it for the benefit of the church (1 Timothy 4:14). This reinforces the theological concept that each believer has been endowed with spiritual gifts for the edification of the body of Christ.

Theological influences from 1 Timothy 4 can be seen in various aspects of Christian theology, including the ongoing struggle against false teachings and the need to safeguard the integrity of the Gospel, the freedom of believers in Christ, the pursuit of godliness, the importance of Scripture, the example and character of Christian leaders, and the use of spiritual gifts within the church. These themes continue to shape the beliefs and practices of Christian communities and inform discussions on issues such as doctrinal purity, spiritual growth, and the role of leaders in the church.

1 Timothy 5

New International Version

Widows, Elders and Slaves

5 Do not rebuke an older man harshly, but exhort him as if he were your father. Treat younger men as brothers, 2 older women as mothers, and younger women as sisters, with absolute purity.

3 Give proper recognition to those widows who are really in need. 4 But if a widow has children or grandchildren, these should learn first of all to put their religion into practice by caring for their own family and so repaying their parents and grandparents, for this is pleasing to God. 5 The widow who is really in need and left all alone puts her hope in God and continues night and day to pray and to ask God for help. 6 But the widow who lives for pleasure is dead even while she lives. 7 Give the people these instructions, so that no one may be open to blame. 8 Anyone who does not provide for their relatives, and especially for their own household, has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever.

9 No widow may be put on the list of widows unless she is over sixty, has been faithful to her husband, 10 and is well known for her good deeds, such as bringing up children, showing hospitality, washing the feet of the Lord's people, helping those in trouble and devoting herself to all kinds of good deeds.

11 As for younger widows, do not put them on such a list. For when their sensual desires overcome their dedication to Christ, they want to marry. 12 Thus they bring judgment on themselves, because they have broken their first pledge. 13 Besides, they get into the habit of being idle and going about from house to house. And not only do they become idlers, but also busybodies who talk nonsense, saying things they ought not to. 14 So I counsel younger widows to marry, to have children, to manage their homes and to give the enemy no opportunity for slander. 15 Some have in fact already turned away to follow Satan.

16 If any woman who is a believer has widows in her care, she should continue to help them and not let the church be burdened with them, so that the church can help those widows who are really in need.

17 The elders who direct the affairs of the church well are worthy of double honor, especially those whose work is preaching and teaching. 18 For Scripture says, "Do not muzzle an ox while it is treading out the grain,"[a] and "The worker deserves his wages."[b] 19 Do not entertain an accusation against an elder unless it is brought by two or three witnesses. 20 But those elders who are sinning you are to reprove before everyone, so that the others may take warning. 21 I charge you, in the sight of God and Christ Jesus and the elect angels, to keep these instructions without partiality, and to do nothing out of favoritism.

22 Do not be hasty in the laying on of hands, and do not share in the sins of others. Keep yourself pure.

23 Stop drinking only water, and use a little wine because of your stomach and your frequent illnesses.

24 The sins of some are obvious, reaching the place of judgment ahead of them; the sins of others trail behind them. 25 In the same way, good deeds are obvious, and even those that are not obvious cannot remain hidden forever.

Footnotes

1 Timothy 5:18 Deut. 25:4

1 Timothy 5:18 Luke 10:7

Chapter 5 of 1 Timothy focuses on instructions for how to treat different members of the church community, including widows, elders, and slaves. Paul begins by instructing Timothy to treat older men as fathers, younger men as brothers, older women as mothers, and younger women as sisters, with all purity.

He then provides instructions for the treatment of widows in the church, urging that those who are truly widows and have no family to care for them be supported by the church. However, he warns against supporting younger widows who may be tempted to remarry and forsake their faith. Instead, he encourages them to marry and bear children, managing their households well.

Paul also provides instructions for the treatment of elders in the church, stating that they should be considered worthy of double honor, especially those who labor in preaching and teaching. He warns against bringing charges against an elder without proper evidence and encourages Timothy to rebuke those who persist in sin in front of the entire congregation, so that others may fear.

Finally, Paul provides instructions for the treatment of slaves, urging them to show honor and respect to their masters, even if they are believers. He encourages slaves to work hard and be obedient, knowing that their ultimate reward comes from God.

Overall, chapter 5 of 1 Timothy provides instructions for how to treat different members of the church community, including widows, elders, and slaves. It emphasizes the importance of supporting those in need, honoring and respecting those in positions of authority, and living in purity and obedience. The chapter serves as a guide for maintaining order and harmony within the church community.

Here are some important verses from chapter 5 of the book of 1 Timothy in the Christian Bible, along with a brief explanation of their meaning and where to find them:

1 Timothy 5:1-2 - "Do not rebuke an older man harshly, but exhort him as if he were your father. Treat younger men as brothers, older women as mothers, and younger women as sisters, with absolute purity." These verses provide instructions for how believers should relate to one another, emphasizing respect, kindness, and purity.

1 Timothy 5:3-8 - These verses provide guidance for how to care for widows in the church community, emphasizing the importance of family responsibility and providing support for those in need.

1 Timothy 5:17-18 - "The elders who direct the affairs of the church well are worthy of double honor, especially those whose work is preaching and teaching. For Scripture says, 'Do not muzzle an ox while it is treading out the grain,' and 'The worker deserves his

wages." These verses emphasize the importance of honoring and supporting those who lead and serve in the church community.

These verses can be found in 1 Timothy chapter 5, verses 1-2, 3-8, and 17-18, respectively.

In 1 Timothy chapter 5, several theological thoughts and influences can be identified:

Care for Widows: A significant portion of 1 Timothy 5 is dedicated to instructions regarding the care of widows in the church (1 Timothy 5:3-16). This section highlights the theological principle of compassion and care for vulnerable members of the community, particularly widows. It underscores the importance of practical expressions of love and support within the Christian community.

Elders and Their Honor: Paul discusses the honor and compensation due to elders who serve well in the church (1 Timothy 5:17-18). This emphasizes the theological thought that those who labor in teaching and leadership roles within the church should be respected and provided for by the community. It also reflects the biblical principle of honoring those who are called to serve in leadership positions.

Warning Against Partiality: In 1 Timothy 5:21, Paul urges Timothy to maintain purity and not show partiality or favoritism in his judgments. This echoes the broader theological idea that justice and impartiality are important principles in the administration of church affairs.

Personal Purity: Paul advises Timothy to keep himself pure (1 Timothy 5:22). This reflects the theological emphasis on personal holiness and maintaining a blameless reputation as a leader in the church.

Discipline in the Church: Throughout the chapter, there is an underlying theological theme related to church discipline and the need for correction within the Christian community. Paul addresses the issue of sin among church members, reinforcing the idea that maintaining the purity and integrity of the church is essential.

Practical Christian Living: The chapter provides practical guidance on various aspects of Christian living, including the treatment of elders, widows, and fellow believers. These instructions reflect broader theological principles of love, honor, respect, and accountability within the Christian community.

Theological influences from 1 Timothy 5 can be seen in various aspects of Christian theology, including the principles of compassion and care for the vulnerable, the honor and support due to church leaders, the importance of justice and impartiality, the pursuit of personal holiness, the practice of church discipline, and the application of practical Christian ethics in the life of the church. These themes continue to shape the beliefs and practices of Christian communities and inform discussions on issues related to pastoral care, church leadership, and Christian ethics.

1 Timothy 6

New International Version

6 All who are under the yoke of slavery should consider their masters worthy of full respect, so that God's name and our teaching may not be slandered. 2 Those who have believing masters should not show them disrespect just because they are fellow believers. Instead, they should serve them even better because their masters are dear to them as fellow believers and are devoted to the welfare[a] of their slaves.

False Teachers and the Love of Money

These are the things you are to teach and insist on. 3 If anyone teaches otherwise and does not agree to the sound instruction of our Lord Jesus Christ and to godly teaching, 4 they are conceited and understand nothing. They have an unhealthy interest in controversies and quarrels about words that result in envy, strife, malicious talk, evil suspicions 5 and constant friction between people of corrupt mind, who have been robbed of the truth and who think that godliness is a means to financial gain.

6 But godliness with contentment is great gain. 7 For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it. 8 But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that. 9 Those who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. 10 For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.

Final Charge to Timothy

11 But you, man of God, flee from all this, and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance and gentleness. 12 Fight the good fight of the faith. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called when you made your good confession in the presence of many witnesses. 13 In the sight of God, who gives life to everything, and of Christ Jesus, who while testifying before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, I charge you 14 to keep this command without spot or blame until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ, 15 which God will bring about in his own time—God, the blessed and only Ruler, the King of kings and Lord of lords, 16 who alone is immortal and who lives in unapproachable light, whom no one has seen or can see. To him be honor and might forever. Amen.

17 Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. 18 Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. 19 In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life.

20 Timothy, guard what has been entrusted to your care. Turn away from godless chatter and the opposing ideas of what is falsely called knowledge, 21 which some have professed and in so doing have departed from the faith.

Grace be with you all.

Footnotes

1 Timothy 6:2 Or and benefit from the service

Chapter 6 of 1 Timothy continues Paul's instructions to Timothy regarding the proper conduct of leaders in the church. Paul begins by addressing the topic of slavery, instructing Christian slaves to respect their masters and work diligently for them. He also warns against false teachers who would lead people astray with their teachings, calling them "men of depraved mind and deprived of the truth."

Paul then emphasizes the importance of contentment and warns against the dangers of pursuing wealth and material possessions. He urges Timothy to be content with what he has, knowing that godliness with contentment is great gain. He also warns against the love of money, which can lead people astray from the faith and cause them to fall into temptation and many foolish and harmful desires.

Paul then encourages Timothy to fight the good fight of faith, laying hold of eternal life. He reminds him of his confession of faith before many witnesses and urges him to keep that faith and avoid the pitfalls of false teachings and the love of money.

The chapter concludes with a final warning against false teachers, urging Timothy to guard the deposit of the faith and avoid the empty chatter and contradictions of those who claim to be wise. Paul reminds Timothy that the Lord will return at the proper time and that all will be held accountable for their deeds.

Overall, chapter 6 of 1 Timothy emphasizes the importance of sound teaching, contentment, and faithfulness in the face of false teachings and temptations. It warns against the dangers of pursuing wealth and material possessions, and urges believers to stay focused on the eternal life that is promised through faith in Christ. The chapter serves as a reminder of the importance of staying true to the faith and avoiding the pitfalls of false teachings and the love of money.

Here are some important verses from chapter 6 of the book of 1 Timothy in the Christian Bible, along with a brief explanation of their meaning and where to find them:

1 Timothy 6:6-10 - "But godliness with contentment is great gain. For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it. But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that. Those who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs." These verses caution against the dangers of greed and materialism, and emphasize the importance of contentment and godliness.

1 Timothy 6:11-12 - "But you, man of God, flee from all this, and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance and gentleness. Fight the good fight of the faith. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called when you made your good confession in the presence of many witnesses." These verses encourage believers to pursue righteousness, faith, and love, and to stay true to their calling in the face of challenges.

1 Timothy 6:17-19 - "Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in

God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life." These verses provide instructions for how believers who are rich in this world should use their wealth to do good and lay up treasure for the future.

In 1 Timothy chapter 6, several theological thoughts and influences can be identified:

Contentment and Godliness: Paul begins the chapter by addressing the importance of godliness with contentment, stating that "godliness with contentment is great gain" (1 Timothy 6:6). This theological thought emphasizes the value of spiritual riches over material wealth and encourages believers to find satisfaction in their relationship with God rather than pursuing earthly riches.

Warning Against the Love of Money: Paul strongly warns against the love of money, declaring that it is the root of all kinds of evil (1 Timothy 6:10). This verse has had a profound theological influence on Christian teaching about wealth, materialism, and the proper attitude toward possessions. It emphasizes the need for Christians to prioritize spiritual values over material gain.

Pursuit of Righteousness and Faith: Paul encourages Timothy to pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance, and gentleness (1 Timothy 6:11). This reflects the theological thought that Christian living involves actively seeking and cultivating these virtues in one's life.

The Good Confession: In 1 Timothy 6:12, Paul reminds Timothy of his confession of faith and encourages him to "fight the good fight of the faith." This underscores the theological concept of faith as a spiritual battle and the need for believers to remain steadfast in their commitment to Christ.

Charge to the Wealthy: Paul provides specific instructions to the wealthy in the church, urging them not to be haughty or to set their hopes on their wealth but to be generous and willing to share (1 Timothy 6:17-19). This theological thought emphasizes the responsibility of those with material abundance to use their resources for the benefit of others and the advancement of God's kingdom.

Guarding the Deposit: In 1 Timothy 6:20-21, Paul encourages Timothy to guard the deposit of faith entrusted to him and to avoid "godless chatter" and false knowledge. This reflects the theological importance of preserving and defending the true teachings of the Christian faith and guarding against false doctrines and distractions.

Theological influences from 1 Timothy 6 can be seen in various aspects of Christian theology, including the Christian perspective on wealth and materialism, the pursuit of godliness and righteousness, the concept of faith as a spiritual battle, the call to generosity, and the importance of preserving and defending the faith. These themes

continue to shape the beliefs and practices of Christian communities and inform discussions on issues related to wealth, stewardship, and the faithful living of the Christian life.

Notes:

In the book of 1 Timothy, there are several passages that have been the subject of much debate and interpretation among theologians and scholars throughout history. These passages may be considered difficult because there are varying interpretations and no clear answers. Some examples include:

1. 1 Timothy 2:11-15, which discusses women's roles in the church and their submission to male authority. Some interpret this passage as prescribing a hierarchical and patriarchal structure, while others view it as culturally specific and not applicable to modern times.
2. 1 Timothy 3:1-13, which provides qualifications for church leadership, including the requirement that overseers be "the husband of one wife." This has been debated in terms of whether it means only men can be leaders, or if it simply reflects the cultural norms of the time.
3. 1 Timothy 4:1-5, which warns against false teachings and doctrines of demons. The identity of these false teachings and the extent to which they are present in modern times are matters of interpretation and debate.

These are just a few examples of potentially difficult questions in the book of 1 Timothy, and there may be others depending on one's interpretation and perspective.