

# The Book of 1<sup>st</sup> Timothy and Church Roles and Responsibilities

Week Four

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Date:

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## Introduction:

Author: Paul the Apostle    Timing: 58/59 or 64/65AD    Audience: A letter to Timothy

The book of 1<sup>st</sup> Timothy was written by Paul (a.k.a., Saul) shortly after leaving Ephesus over the Demetrius incident. Timothy (Translated “one who honors God”), a profound believer was from Derbe or Lystra in Asia Minor. Timothy was the son of Eunice, a Jewess, and a Greek man who is unnamed. His grandmother, Lois was a pious woman; as was her daughter, who had significant influence in the life of Timothy.

Paul met Timothy in 51 or 52AD and Timothy became a traveling companion of Paul and Silas. Timothy was recognized early on as someone who would be important to the church. The underlying theme of the book is widely accepted to be primarily instruction on church leadership. I find it broader that that thus the Title of this study.

Chapter four instructs Timothy and us on what is to be done to lead the wayward, the ignorant, the uninformed back to sound doctrine and the Gospel of Salvation.

## Chapter Four

**4:1** Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils;

**4:2** Speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron;

1. What Spirit is speaking? Give examples of those who are falling away at the time of Paul’s writings? Today? What does it mean to have a seared conscience? 2Tim 3:1-7

**4:3** Forbidding to marry, *and commanding* to abstain from meats, which God hath created to be received with thanksgiving of them which believe and know the truth.

**4:4** For every creature of God *is* good, and nothing to be refused, if it be received with thanksgiving:

**4:5** For it is sanctified by the word of God and prayer.

2. Who forbids to marry and abstain from meats today? Relate this passage to Peter’s “sheet vision regarding Cornelius in Act 10:9-21.

4:6 If thou put the brethren in remembrance of these things, thou shalt be a good minister of Jesus Christ, nourished up in the words of faith and of good doctrine, whereunto thou hast attained.

4:7 But refuse profane and old wives' fables, and **exercise** thyself *rather* unto godliness.

3. Who is being spoken to here? 1 Cor 4:17 Why? Acts 20:35 What is the point of these instructions? 2 John 1:9 How do they apply today?

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4:8 For bodily **exercise** profiteth little: but godliness is profitable unto all things, having promise of the life that now is, and of that which is to come.

4:9 This *is* a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance.

4. Are we being told not to exercise? 1 Sam 15:22, Col 2:21-23 Discuss carnal vs spiritual. Why the emphasis in verse 9?

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4:10 For therefore we both labor and suffer reproach, because we trust in the living God, who is the Savior of all men, especially of those that believe.

5. Who is “both” here? Apply this verse to Christian Life today? To you? Psalms 37:40

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4:11 These things command and teach.

4:12 Let no man despise thy youth; but be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity.

4:13 Till I come, give attendance to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine.

6. Why “**command** and teach?” Tit 2:15 Despise whose youth? 2 Tim 2:15 Explain verse 13.

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**4:14** Neglect not the gift that is in thee, which was given thee by prophecy, with the laying on of the hands of the presbytery [body of elders, part of ecclesiastical government].

**4:15** Meditate upon these things; give thyself wholly to them; that thy profiting may appear to all.

7. What gift does who have? 2 Tim 1:6 Compare this prophecy with 1Tim 1:18. Why meditate? Jos 1:8
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**4:16** Take heed unto thyself, and unto the doctrine; continue in them: for in doing this thou shalt both save thyself, and them that hear thee.

8. What doctrine? 2 John 1:9 What is the single most effective thing that can be done to heed this instruction? Tit 1:9
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#### Summary:

In this 4<sup>th</sup> chapter to the book of 1st Timothy one needs to be constantly mindful of the double meaning to fully grasp Paul's writing. That is, the meaning for Timothy and the meaning for today's believers; you and me. Be mindful to compare our circumstances to that of Timothy, what he/we was/are faced with, what he/we was/are expected to do to further the Kingdom of Christ. Paul commands and encourages Timothy and us to discern and reject false doctrine and Satan's lures. Timothy and we are to be both a leader and an example to his brothers. What a wonderful chapter to be used as a daily devotional!

Thank you for attending,

Pat Turner

