

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

Week Five

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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 than that thus the Title of this study.

Chapter five discusses elders and widows and how the church should handle them.

## Chapter Five

**5:1** Rebuke not an elder, but entreat *him* as a father; *and* the younger men as brethren;

**5:2** The elder women as mothers; the younger as sisters, with all purity.

1. What is “elder” referring to here? Act 14:23, 1Pet 1:5 Why were these rules important? 2Tim 2:24, Gal 6:1.

**5:3** Honor widows that are widows indeed [actually, in reality].

**5:4** But if any widow have children or nephews, let them learn first to show piety [ye worship] at home, and to requite [repay] their parents: for that is good and acceptable before God.

**5:5** Now she that is a widow indeed, and desolate [destitute or deprived of inhabitants], trusteth in God, and continueth in supplications [humble and earnest prayer] and prayers night and day.

2. How do we handle widows today? Are we biblical? Deu 14:29 What do you think was happening that caused Paul to give these instructions? Act 6:1

**5:6** But she that liveth in pleasure is dead while she liveth.  
**5:7** And these things give in charge, that they may be blameless.  
**5:8** But if any provide not for his own, and especially for those of his own house, he hath denied the faith, and is worse than an infidel [unbeliever].

3. What does it mean to “live in pleasure?” Deu 28:26 Who is “they” in verse 7? How does to “provide not” deny ones faith? Tit 1:6
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**5:9** Let not a widow be taken into the number under threescore years old, having been the wife of one man,  
**5:10** Well reported of for good works; if she have brought up children, if she have lodged strangers, if she have washed the saints' feet, if she have relieved the afflicted, if she have diligently followed every good work.

4. What is a “score?” Why this threescore restriction? How would you characterize this kind of life? Heb 13:21
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**5:11** But the younger widows refuse: for when they have begun to wax wanton against Christ, they will marry;  
**5:12** Having damnation, because they have cast off their first faith.  
**5:13** And withal they learn *to be* idle, wandering about from house to house; and not only idle, but tattlers also and busybodies, speaking things which they ought not.  
**5:14** I will therefore that the younger women marry, bear children, guide the house, give none occasion to the adversary to speak reproachfully.  
**5:15** For some are already turned aside after Satan.

5. Why is it implied the young widows would “wax wanton against Christ” that would result in damnation? Isa 3:16 How are these young widows being done a favor by being refused by the church? 1 Cor 11:34
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**5:16** If any man or woman that believeth have widows, let them relieve them, and let not the church be charged; that it may relieve them that are widows indeed.

6. The intent of this verse appears to be clear enough; explain. 1Tim 5:4 How would it apply to families today?
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**5:17** Let the elders that rule well be counted worthy of double honor, especially they who labor in the word and doctrine.  
**5:18** For the Scripture saith, Thou shalt not muzzle the ox that treadeth out the corn. And, The laborer *is* worthy of his reward.

7. Explain verse 18. Relate the un-muzzled ox to the elders worthy of double honor.  
1Cor 8:9-10
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**5:19** Against an elder receive not an accusation, but before two or three witnesses.  
**5:20** Them that sin rebuke before all, that others also may fear.  
**5:21** I charge *thee* before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, and the elect angels, that thou observe these things without preferring one before another, doing nothing by partiality.

8. Does this refer to a pastor? How is this different from the Matthew 18 principle?  
Mat 18:15-17 Can you approach a pastor directly if he offends you? 2Cor 13:1, John 8:17
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**5:22** Lay hands suddenly on no man, neither be partaker of other men's sins: keep thyself pure.  
**5:23** Drink no longer water, but use a little wine for thy stomach's sake and thine often infirmities.

9. Does this say not to beat people up or is it talking about ordination? Acts 6:6, 2Tim 1:6 Why would Paul give Timothy the advice in verse 23? Timothy's health?
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**5:24** Some men's sins are open beforehand, going before to judgment; and some *men* they follow after.  
**5:25** Likewise also the good works *of some* are manifest beforehand; and they that are otherwise cannot be hid.

10. Explain the use of the term "beforehand." What is Paul advising Timothy here?
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#### Summary:

In this 5<sup>th</sup> chapter to the book of 1st Timothy, Paul gives Timothy advice on how to lead and support his sheep as well as how to build the church leadership.

Thank you for attending,

Pat Turner

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