|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1  “Introduction to 1 Timothy”  12/31/23  Today embarking on new adventure: “Pastoral Epistles”  Paul to Timothy and Titus  Technically Timothy/Tit not pastors in permanent sense  -Assigned there for a specific task  Timothy there at church of Ephesus to combat heresy and to make church healthy in sound doctrine  Titus sent to Crete to establish church and to rebuke false teaching as well  Although “Pastoral Epistles” = for everyone  Out of pastorals we will start with 1 Timothy | 2  Elders to slaves, slaves to elders 1 Timothy written to address issues in church as well as give instructions for how God’s family is supposed to act  Timothy written to Timothy = “true child in the faith”  Only two given that designation: Timothy and Titus = intimate closeness with Paul  Paul wrote 1 Timothy because issues in church, doctrinal issues  Seen right away at beginning  1 Timothy 1:3-5  *“As I exhorted you when going to Macedonia, remain on at Ephesus so that you may command certain ones not to teach a different doctrine, nor to pay attention to myths and endless genealogies, which give rise to mere speculation rather than furthering the stewardship from God which is by faith.”*  False teachers adding to salvation |
| 3  Weird views = resurrection already taken place = forbid marriage  Denying certain foods (probably certain types of meat)  These teachers as we will see were motivated by greed and other immoralities  Unsound, unhealthy doctrine = detrimental to gospel  Personal letter of exhortation/encouragement in light of false teaching  How the church should operate as God’s family  1 Timothy will display beauty and glory of the gospel and what that means for the functioning of the church  But all starts with right thinking about who God is and what gospel is all about and implications for church | 4  To have right practice only possible when theology is correct  Sound doctrine = sound living for the glory of Christ  1 Timothy NOT:  Moralistic manual for church  Random instructions  “Hmm…let’s mention those false teachers in ch. 1, prayer in chapter 2, and then elders in ch. 3 and let’s throw in a few doxologies”  No, no, no Not a sloppy joe sandwich  Inspired Scripture that was carefully crafted to present a theological argument, to present theology through unique way in which he wrote  In terms of church:  Foundation for all right living is found in doxologies  Doxologies = structure |
| 5  1. Structure  1 Tim. 1:17  ***“****Now to the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.”*  Third Doxology  1 Tim. 6:15-16  “*which He will bring about at the proper time—He who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords, who alone has immortality and dwells in unapproachable light, whom no man has seen or can see. To Him be honor and eternal might! Amen.”*  Middle Doxology  3. 1 Tim. 3:14-16 | 6  ***“****I am writing these things to you, hoping to come to you soon,* *butin case I am delayed, I write so that you will know how one ought to conduct himself in the household of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and support of the truth. And by common confession, great is the mystery of godliness: He who was manifested in the flesh, Was vindicated in the Spirit, Seen by angels, Proclaimed among the nations, Believed on in the world, Taken up in glory.”*  In case he doesn’t make it, Timothy has everything He needs to order the household of God  To be the pillar and support of the truth, you have to know the truth, and that is to know Jesus, and to know Jesus is to know Him through His Word that is sitting in your laps  I don’t care how little or a lot you know theology, you are living according to your view of God. The difference is do you have sound theology or bad theology. |
| 7  1 Timothy will demonstrate that unsound theology will lead to unsound living and sound theology will lead to sound living  You live according to what you believe to be the truth  That’s why Jesus Himself said in John 17:17, *“sanctify them in the truth, your word is truth”*  Summary of that truth: 3:16  “Mystery of godliness” = the newly revealed way to be saved and to live in godliness = death, resurrection, ascension of Lord Jesus  “*He who was manifested in the flesh,* (the incarnation of Christ) *Was vindicated in the Spirit* (The resurrection of Christ) *Seen by angels, Proclaimed among the nations, Believed on in the world, Taken up in glory.”*  In other words, everything grounded = gospel | 8  Qualifications for elders/deacons, men and women in church, slaves and widows, all grounded in gospel of Jesus Christ and in the glory of God  Doxologies meant to lift up your heart in praise and worship to God so that nothing will take the rightful place and glory that God alone deserves  Gospel is too glorious for anything to diminish it whether sinful doctrine or sinful practice  Next week sequential expository preaching, but today overview  Sweeping jet tour of chapters 1-6 to give overall flow of the book and how different parts connect to one another  So follow along with me  OVERVIEW:  1:1 “apostle” of Jesus Christ = unique authority |
| 9  False teachers likely discrediting his authority  But Paul is “sent” by Jesus  V. 3 Paul wastes no time and commands to Timothy to not pay attention to myths/endless genealogies  Contrary  False teachers V. 5 = motivated by love from pure heart, good conscience, and sincere faith  Want to be teachers of Law but know nothing  Use and abuse the Law unlawfully = salvation  Verse 9 “the law is not made for a righteous person but for those who are lawless and rebellious.”  Gal. 3:24 = schoolmaster to lead us to Christ  Law = destroy any hope you might have on yourself and your works and place them on Christ | 10  Abusing the Law = requirement for salvation  V. 11 Proper understanding of Law comes from proper understanding of gospel  V. 11 *“glory of the blessed God, with which I have been entrusted”*  Notice: V. 10 Sound teaching/sound doctrine mentioned  Connected to V. 11 = “glory” of the blessed God  John Piper  “God is most glorified in us when we are most satisfied in Him”  I would add:  “God is most glorified in us when our theology is sound in Him”  Also V. 11 = defending apostolic authority because “entrusted” with gospel |
| 11  Paul expounds “entrusted” VV. 12-16:  Nothing in him that merited salvation  Nothing in him or in what he did that merited salvation  Based purely on mercy of Jesus Christ  V. 17  *“Now to the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.”*  Good of God’s people + God’s glory = together  False teachers = diminishing the glory of God and glory of the gospel  Paul is not trying to maintain his influence primarily but exalting and lifting up God’s glory for all to see | 12  Paul not just commanded Timothy to rebuke but gives reason for rebuke:  Because God is not being glorified and magnified in Timothy’s church as it should  V. 18 Now Paul entrusts to Timothy the entrusted  He is to “fight the good fight”  Not w/physical weapons of war but spiritual  2 Corinthians 10:3-5  “*For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh, for the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but divinely powerful for the tearing down of strongholds, as we tear down speculations and every lofty thing raised up against the knowledge of God, and take every thought captive to the obedience of Christ.”*  No middle ground. You can’t stay neutral and tolerate false teaching. You too will be shipwrecked |
| 13  Ends Ch. 1 = naming individuals  Chapter 2: Implications of the glory of the gospel =  Gospel should:  Motivate believers to pray for kings/rulers  -For gospel witness  -For gospel to go forth unhindered  Unlike false teachers, this Gospel is for everyone, it is not partial towards Jews, not partial to Gentiles, for all types of people  Rich and poor, Rulers and slaves  Not the Law, not works, but through the one man Christ Jesus who is the mediator between God and man  Contrast motive  2:7 He is not lying, an apostle = love from pure heart, good conscience, sincere faith | 14  Gospel humbles man and unites men together  It gets rid of wrath and dissension  Not only false teachers but women out of line  Glory of gospel diminishes = women’s appearance  Glory of gospel diminished = women preachers and teachers over men  -Grounded in creation  So if false teachers not qualified  Women not in their role to lead men, then who?  Answer: Biblically qualified elders and deacons  Ch. 3 = Must first be a man  Then = above reproach |
| 15  Then qualifications of office of deacon VV. 8-13  Identical to office of elder  Difference: Able to teach  Point of both: Godly Character  Because a man’s character is a reflection of his theology  Paul transitions to center of book VV. 14-16  Foundation of foundation of book  The church is church because it is depository of truth  Upholder  Defender of truth  This is all for sake of truth because the only thing that matters is truth. The truth that saves sinners | 16  Church not to be in business in attracting world through worldly means  Not about numbers  Not about popularity  It is about charging into this world with the truth that saves a sinner from hell  Then V. 16: Praise and doxology  “Mystery of the gospel”  Foundation for being above reproach is = gospel  Ch. 4  Paul addresses issue of apostasy  Goes into a little bit of detail of false teaching as mentioned before  Resurrection and eating certain meat |
| 17  Likely reference that resurrection already taken place, no need to be married  Mosaic Law requirement for salvation in addition to Jesus  ANOTHER CONTRAST  Train up the young men in sound doctrine for purpose of godliness again connecting doctrine and practice  Two are vitally connected  VV. 11-16  V. 16 *“Pay close attention to yourself and to your teaching; persevere in these things, for as you do this you will save both yourself and those who hear you.”*  V. 16 clear = doctrine and practice cannot be separated.  You are what you think | 18  Ch. 5 Paul gives command to rest of church body  5:1 In rebuking and correcting, treat them like he would family member  It is God’s “family”  Gives instruction to widows and how church is to take care of and honor widows  Honor elders as well  Ch. 6 = God is ultimate judge  If elder were to sin = only matter of time before it is revealed to everyone  Some are obvious, but some need more time to reveal itself  Either way, God will purify His church no matter what  No one is above sin |
| 19  Ch. 6 Implications of gospel for slaves  Tempted to be rude/disrespectful because gospel has freed them  But they should give masters worthy of all honor  6:3-10  Paul once again focuses on false teachers this time describing motive for their teaching  Love of money  Desires to get rich  They love the world  But…6:11-14  Timothy is to flee these things and pursue…  Then 6:15 breaks out into third and final doxology similar to first | 20  King is too lofty, too glorious for one to dwell on the riches of this earth  Focus on eternity, not this earth  Paul concludes much in same way as he started  What does Paul want you to understand in his letter to Timothy?  2 Quick Applications  1. Gospel is too glorious to tolerate bad teaching and bad doctrine  There are times we need to fight the good fight because God’s glory is at stake  You as follower of Christ is to maximize glory of God in your own life as well as encourage it in others  In love and gentleness but never compromising the truth |
| 21  If things get nasty over doctrine remember the saying:  “It is better to be divided over the truth, than united in error”  Secondly:  Sound doctrine is immensely practical  Doctrine and practice can never be divorced  Some people put them at odds with each other  You are called to fight for truth because people live based on what they believe to be true  Doctrine affects your worship and if doctrine is off, your worship will be off balanced too  So expose yourself to sound theology. Study the Scriptures and when you come to a difficult passage, consult others | 22  What does it say in Ephesians?  God has given pastor-teachers, evangelists, and so forth as a gift to church to equip the saints for the work of ministry  These applications are for believer….  What about for those of you haven’t confessed Christ as Lord and Savior?  You’re not going to see glory of gospel because your eyes have not been opened to see the glory of the gospel  You are blind to the truth and you need power of Christ to open your blind eyes to behold Him in all glory and beauty  You cannot live godly life unless you first confess Christ as your Lord |
| 23  1 Tim. Wants you to come to point of confessing  3:16: “*And by common confession, great is the mystery of godliness: He who was manifested in the flesh, Was vindicated in the Spirit, Seen by angels, Proclaimed among the nations, Believed on in the world, Taken up in glory.”*  God became flesh and entered this world as man  Fully God and fully man  He lived and died for you and your sins because without Him = no mediator  Only wrath and judgment  But He paid the penalty for your sins and was raised from the dead so that He can apply the life and death of Christ to your life  If you believe in Him and what He did for you by faith, you will be saved | 24  2 Timothy 2:9  *“has saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace which was given to us in Christ Jesus from all eternity.”*  Trying to save yourself will only damn you to hell for eternity  You don’t have immortality but Christ does  He can give it to you if you turn from your sins and trust in the one and only mediator, the man Christ Jesus  Let’s pray |