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| 1“Introduction to 1 Timothy”12/31/23Today 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  | 2Elders 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  |
| 3Weird 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  | 4To 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 doxologiesDoxologies = structure  |
| 51. 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 lapsI 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.  |
| 71 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  | 8Qualifications 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  |
| 9False teachers likely discrediting his authorityBut 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  | 10Abusing 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  |
| 11Paul 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  | 12Paul 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 |
| 13Ends 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 motive2:7 He is not lying, an apostle = love from pure heart, good conscience, sincere faith  | 14Gospel humbles man and unites men togetherIt 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  |
| 15Then 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  | 16Church not to be in business in attracting world through worldly meansNot about numbersNot about popularityIt 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  |
| 17Likely 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  | 18Ch. 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  |
| 19Ch. 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 teachingLove 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  | 20King 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  |
| 21If 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  | 22What 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 ministryThese 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 gospelYou 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  |
| 231 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  | 242 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  |