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| 1  1 Timothy 6:1-5 Sermon Outline  04/07/24  “The Disease of Inordinate Love”  -Back in 1 Timothy – short hiatus (Palm Sunday + Resurrection Sunday)  -Last chapter  -Let’s read the passage: 1 Timothy 6:1-5  **INTRO:**  Think about deadliest diseases or epidemics history  -Cholera?  -Diphtheria?  -Malaria?  -AIDS?  -Spanish Flu?  -Perhaps “Black Death” (bubonic plague) 1400s?  -Arguably most deadliest in history  -took 1/3 Europe’s popu. = 25 mill. | 2  But there is disease = far deadlier  = can cast soul into hell forever  = It is the disease of inordinate love = title of our sermon today  And inordinate love = disease = because it will affect and infect every part of your soul if you let it  = Everything in your life will spiral into chaos if you misplace your affections  **MAIN POINT:**  Today you will see symptoms and root cause of this disease so that you will know and desire the cure  **BODY:**  Before getting into inordinate love = Paul addresses last group = slaves – masters  Some bible trans. = “bond-servant” = *doulos* = slave |
| 3  Slaves = dedicate entire sermon but not focus  6:1-2  “*All who are under the yoke as slaves are to regard their own masters as worthy of all honor so that the name of God and our doctrine will not be spoken against. Those who have believers as their masters must not be disrespectful to them because they are brethren, but must serve them all the more, because those who partake of the benefit are believers and beloved. Teach and preach these principles.”*  Ch. 5 onward = gospel affects = widows, then elders, now slaves  Greatest temptation if you were a slave?  A: To rebel and throw off your yoke as a slave  Gal. 3:28 = “Neither slave nor freeman”  Would be taking it out of context | 4  Paul’s primary concern = heart of the slave  If slave(s) rebelled = Roman Empire be in chaos  Christianity = slandered/ill-repute  Slavery = backbone or engine = economy of Roman Empire  Slaves = 1/3 population  You can imagine if a bunch of Christian slaves threw off the yoke = Rome would be economically in trouble = blame the Christians  Also, you have to understand that slavery in Bible does not equal slavery in America  Of course there are evil masters for both  But there are evil doctors too  does that make being a doctor or being in medical system evil? No |
| 5  Slaves became slaves through different reasons:  1) prisoner of war  2) born into a slave family  3) pay off debt  4) sell themselves into slavery because for some it was better to live as a slave than a freeman  But because we are so enlightened and so much more sophisticated than those barbaric times, everytime see word “slavery” = knee jerk reaction = “that’s evil!”  Now, Paul recognized that slavery was not ideal for the kingdom  We see that in letter to Philemon, a Christian slave master  Onesimus = runaway slave = Roman law, the head of household had right to punish slave severely, even kill him if that was his wish  But Paul pleaded for Onesimus’ debts and forgiveness | 6  Not only that, it seems like Paul was implying to Onesimus to even release him  V. 21  “*Having confidence in your obedience, I write to you, since I know that you will do even more than what I say*.”  So…what’s summary  1) Paul knew not wise to encourage not being a slave  Gospel witness at stake rather than our freedoms  2) Believing slaves to be especially respectful to believing masters  Even though we don’t have “slave” economy, same principle  Employee and employer relationship = gospel witness  Even when boss/employer is wicked man = still to be faithful, hard-working and respectful |
| 7  If only you are not complaining while everyone else is… = that’s quite a testimony  If your boss happens to be believer, even more respect and hard-working = because you are both doing it for the kingdom  Now Paul turns to false teachers again vv. 3-10  Ch. 1 = wrong use of Law  Ch. 4 = origin of teaching and details  Ch. 6 = motive and consequences of teaching  Verses 3-5:  “*If anyone advocates a different doctrine and does not agree with sound words, those of our Lord Jesus Christ, and with the doctrine conforming to godliness, he is conceited and understands nothing; but he has a morbid interest in controversial questions and disputes about words, out of which arise envy, strife, abusive language, evil suspicions, and constant friction between men of depraved mind and deprived of the truth, who suppose that godliness is a means of gain*.” | 8  Reason why “The Disease of Inordinate Love” = medical terminology  “sound” (“sound” words) = whogeeiano = “hygiene”  Lit. = “healthy words”  When diet consists of healthy doctrine = end result = godliness  “You are what you eat”  Diet = cotton candy, twinkies, and doritos = end up looking like a twinkie  = diabetes and hypertension  Low energy, cranky, overall miserable  End up six feet under sooner than you think  Backwards: If you aren’t living godly life = aren’t being fed sound or healthy diet of doctrine |
| 9  As mentioned before in 1 Timothy:  “Sound doctrine leads to sound living”  Can’t divorce doctrine and practice from each other  Intricately related, one affects the other  What are these “sound words?” = Jesus!  Everything in the Bible!  Not just Paul’s and Peter’s words, they are Jesus’ words too, because Jesus is God, and God breathed His thoughts through Paul and Peter’s thoughts  ILLUST:  Sometimes red letter edition we can get wrong idea/impression from it  Almost unconsciously put Jesus’ words as more authoritative than Paul’s or Peter’s.  In a different tier | 10  I have really nice red letter Bible = convenient to search for Jesus’ words  But be careful not to create tiers of authority between authors of Scripture  So then…  What are consequences or the “symptoms” (in keeping with medical terminology) of not conforming to healthy words of Jesus?  V. 4  *he becomes conceited and understands nothing; but he has a morbid interest in controversial questions and disputes about words, out of which arise envy, strife, abusive language, evil suspicions, and constant friction between men of depraved mind and deprived of the truth, who suppose that godliness is a means of gain*.  Makes one prideful, conceited = ultimately understanding nothing |
| 11  Creates “morbid” interest in controversial questions and disputes about words = envy, strife, abusive language, evil suspicions  “morbid” = lit. to be sick (mentally)  Word found uniquely here in NT = another medical term  These false teachers are seriously sick and in desperate need of Jesus’ cleansing power  ILLUST:  Remember Trinity heresy guy?  -Called a while back and called again recently  -Did same thing  -“I’m not arguing” = deceitful  -Tried to reason with him, show him grace/kindness but wouldn’t listen  Came out of the conversation = “this guy really is evil” | 12  Those verses of warning about false teachers and divisive people came alive:  2 Timothy 2:23  “*But refuse foolish and ignorant speculations, knowing that they produce quarrels*,”  or in Titus 3:10  “*Reject a factious man after a first and second warning*”  Seems initially harsh but it’s not  I realized how dangerous this man is if I ever allowed him to spread his teachings  You don’t even want to expose your people do someone like that because of how argumentative and persuasive he is  I could see new believers being persuaded and swept up by his teaching  His teaching is highly contagious |
| 13  Like Fentanyl, even touching it might kill you  Those are the type of guys you need to socially distance away from  “Sir stay not only 6 feet away from this church, but 6 miles from this church!”  Because these type of false teachers Paul continues produce  “*constant friction between men of depraved mind and deprived of the truth who suppose that godliness is a means of gain*.”  Language kind of reminds of villains in superhero movies who team up temporarily only to end up betraying each other  Have you noticed that?  It makes absolutely no sense why a villain would team up with other villains  Villains by nature are conceited and self-obsessed | 14  They have their own agenda to exalt themselves over and above everyone else including other villains  That’s why villains ultimately never can work together peacefully because it’s either their way or the highway  “deprived” = “defrauded”  Defraud not only themselves but others  What is the motive? Money, the peso, the denero, the Benjamin  Paul says, “*they suppose that godliness is a means of gain*”  All false teachers share a common interest: filthy lucor, money  2 Peter 2:2-3  “*Many will follow their sensuality, and because of them the way of the truth will be maligned;* |
| 15  *and in their greed they will exploit you with false words; their judgment from long ago is not idle, and their destruction is not asleep.*”  And I know only supposed to go to verse 5 but…  Want to give you taste of cure  Cure for deadly disease of inordinate love  Paul turns thought process of false teachers on its head:  “*But godliness actually is a means of great gain when accompanied by contentment*.”  “you know, you think you gain money something by using godliness”  “but you actually do gain something by living a godly life…not money but something far more precious  Previously Ch. 4: “*Godliness holds promise not only for the present life but also for the life to come*” | 16  No greater joy/peace = godly life in Jesus Christ  You were created in God’s image to love Jesus and be in relationship with Him  You were created to worship Jesus Christ and when you worship someone or something else…  When you have inordinate love for someone or something else…  You end up becoming miserable and empty in life  John D. Rockefeller, one of the richest Americans in history said,  “the poorest man I know if the man who has nothing but money”  Solomon said in Ecclesiastes 5:10,  *“He who loves money will not be satisfied with money, nor he who loves abundance with its produce. This too is vanity.”* |
| 17  The only solution to the vain pursuit of money is to pursue Christ  One Christian author  “You have made us for yourself o Lord, and our hearts is restless until it rests in you.”  Next Sunday we will look further at the cure for this inordinate love for money, but until then  rest in Christ’s love  lay all your troubles, and sorrows, and desires at His feet.  The good shepherd Matthew 11:28-30,  “*Come to Me, all who are weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.* *For My yoke is easy and My burden is light*.” | 18 |