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| 1  1 Timothy 6:11-21 Sermon Outline  04/21/24  “The Man of God”  **INTRO:**  “You become what you believe”  A.W. Tozer “Knowledge of the Holy”:  “The history of mankind will probably show that no people has ever risen above its religion, and man’s spiritual history will positively demonstrate that no religion has ever been greater than its idea of God…”  Atheism = Russia/China  Millions + millions = murdered  Mass starvation + mass systematic slaughtering = evolution = humans no more than evolved animals = slime  Humans = not made in image of God | 2  Positive example  When nation acknowledges God and believes God cares for the poor, vulnerable, etc. = country flourished economically, reduces chance of mass “cleansings”  Israel = all along was to be like that = to be like no other nation where everyone was treated justly and there was no oppression of other people  “You become what you believe”  Principle = true for nations + individuals  **MAIN POINT:**  In this text 1 Timothy will conclude much in the same way it started = with the character of God  What you believe about God has temporal + eternal consequences for good or for bad. Only when you focus eyes on King of heaven that you will be able to fully live out the Christian life in the context of the local church |
| 3  **BODY:**  6:3-10 Issues of loving money and danger it brings but also provides the cure for this inordinate love  Right where we left of = Paul contrasts false teachers in it for greedy gain with a true godly leader looks like  Furthermore, he gets practical in that he shows how to appropriate this cure  V. 11  “*But flee from these things, you man of God, and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, perseverance and gentleness*.”  Original = “But you, O man of God…”  Legacy translates it like this  Unlike these false teachers, You O man of God are to be different  You know better than this | 4  “Man of God” = in line with Old Testament prophets, continuing tradition  = Raised up to herald God’s truth and salvation  “Man of God” = also broadly applies to anyone  How was Timothy to appropriate this cure?  A: By “fleeing” from these things  Flee = pheugo = fugitive  ILLUST:  Like Joseph fleeing from Potiphar’s wife  If fleeing away from something = then fleeing towards something  Refuge = pursuing these virtues listed  1 Pair) “Righteousness” + “godliness”  On our own, in our unbelieving state = impossible to live righteous life |
| 5  That’s why Christ had to fulfill all righteousness = you can receive the power to enable you to live the righteous life you were meant to live  Along with that: “Godliness”  “Godliness” = “piety”  “The duty that you owe to God” = worship  How passionate and devoted you are in your pursuit of righteousness  It’s not just doing what is right out of obedience, but doing it out of a passionate love for your Savior  2 Pair) “Faith” + “Love”  “Faith” = Trust  This is the centerpiece of all virtues that ties it all together  Do you truly believe and trust in the gospel? | 6  Do you truly trust that Christ has given you victory over sin so that you can live a righteous and godly life?  But it’s not trusting in God, having faith in Him  Do you love Him?  You can’t love someone you don’t trust +  You can’t trust someone you don’t love  They go hand in hand  Remember Paul 1 Tim. 1:5  “*But the goal of our command is*”…what? “*love*”  Timothy if you do ministry out of obligation rather than obedience that comes from a love for the Lord, you won’t make it in ministry |
| 7  3 Pair) “Perseverance” + “Gentleness”  “Perseverance” = endurance  Timothy you need to develop endurance through the tough times of ministry = you won’t make it  We see how Timothy had his low points = 2 Tim. 1:6  Discouraged likely from opposition from false teachers  “*I remind you to kindle afresh the gift of God which is in you through the laying on of my hands*.”  Not only perseverance but perseverance accompanied by “gentleness”  “Gentleness” = only occurs here = lit. opposite of an overbearing attitude = “meekness”  Temptation is to be overbearing and excessively harsh in rebuking false teachers  Temptation for anyone is when correcting someone, that we correct in pride/overbearing attitude | 8  Yes, you are called to be bold as = lion  Uncompromisingly standing for truth  Yet at same time meek as = lamb  Who perfectly was both? J.C.  Jesus = Lion from the tribe of Judah  Jesus = John Baptist = “Behold, the lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!”  But fleeing sin and pursuing righteousness = not walk in the park/not easy  Flesh will constantly get in way of Spirit  That’s why Paul said V. 12  “*Fight the good fight of faith; take hold of the eternal life to which you were called, and you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses.”* |
| 9  Word for fight = “agonize”  “Agonize” over the “agony” of faith  It’s a struggle! But it’s a good struggle  Struggle worth it = commandments aren’t burdensome  The psalmist says Ps. 119:97  *“Oh how I love Your law! It is my meditation all the day.”*  How do you fight?  “Taking hold of the eternal life that is in you”  Other words Phil. 2:12-13  “*work out your salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who is at work in you, both to will and to work for His good pleasure.*” | 10  Faith = Active + Passive  Active + Passive = Phil. 2:12-13  Active = *work out your salvation with fear and trembling*  Passive = *for it is God who is at work in you, both to will and to work for His good pleasure.*”  Not either or/  but both/and  Active = you have a choice in how much you are going to put into your godliness  Faith is not necessarily math but =  “You get what you put in” |
| 11  ILLUST:  1 minute reading the Bible and offering a quick prayer in the morning = won’t mature you as quickly as longer time in word and prayer  Job’s fight against lust = active  “I have made a covenant with my eyes so that I may not look lustfully at a young woman”  Active turning away from attractive ladies  Just like physical muscles need to be trained up, so your spiritual muscles need to be trained up as well  But…in addition to that  Timothy = “*take hold of confession he made in presence of many witnesses*”  confession = could mean salvation, but more likely = ordination to ministry | 12  So…Paul gives a charge  V. 13  “*I charge you in the presence of God, who gives life to all things, and of Christ Jesus, who testified the good confession before Pontius Pilate*.”  Serious + somber but also = encouraging/full of hope  Timothy’s ministry strength = comes from God’s very life essence  If Timothy worse cast scenario did lose life = God is able to give him life again  Timothy, you have the God who gives life to all things by your side, there is nothing to fear  This reality = further confirmed with Jesus’ trial before Pilate  Christ endured in His saving ministry all the way to His death |
| 13  He was faithful unto death testifying the truth before a wicked governor  Because Christ knew death could not hold Him…  The God of life = raise Him up  Timothy was to follow in that example  And V. 14  “*keep the commandment without stain or reproach until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ*.”  Specifically tying obedience to second coming of Christ  Christian author:  “If you read history you will find that the Christians who did most for the present world were just those who thought most of the next.” | 14  Apostle John in 1 John ties our purification from sin = beholding the second coming of Christ  1 John 3:2-3  *“Beloved, now we are children of God, and it has not been manifested as yet what we will be. We know that when He is manifested, we will be like Him, because we will see Him just as He is. And everyone who has this hope fixed on Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.”*  APPL:  Let’s be honest, if Jesus said to us he will return tomorrow, I think most of your days would looks absolutely different from what you would normally do  There are very few Christians I would guess that live life each day as if Jesus was going to return that day  We are much too fixated on earth |
| 15  Timothy to be faithful = “well done, good and faithful slave, enter into the joy of your master”  Right? That’s what we want to hear as well  I know I don’t ever want to fumble the ball, there are so many pastors who have brought reproach on the name of Christ through their adultery, their greed, their anger  Please Lord keep me from these sins, keep me close to you  Second coming reminds you that every opposition you receive, every false thing said to you will be made right when He returns  You may not get justice hear on earth for every sin committed against you, but God is not going to let injustice slip from Him  Christ will V. 15 “*bring that about at the proper time*” | 16  *He who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords. who alone possesses immortality and dwells in unapproachable light, whom no man has seen or can see. To Him be honor and eternal dominion! Amen*.”  Do you remember 3 doctrinal pillars = 1 Timothy  1) = 1rst chapter  2) 3rd chapter = mystery of godliness = gospel  3) 6th chapter = VV. 15-16 (more expanded)  Everything goes back to who you believe God is as Tozer said  “You are what you eat” = “You are what you believe”  Doctrine, theology matters = what you believe about God affects everything you do  If theology and doctrine was not very important  then Paul wouldn’t have told Timothy |
| 17  That he needed to be a workman needing not to be ashamed… “*handling accurately the word of truth*”  Christ = “blessed”  Christ does not need to be blessed in the same way that we need to receive the blessing of God  “Blessed” = worthy alone to receive honor, glory and thanks from man  Only Sovereign = uniquely all powerful and in control  Absolutely nothing that happens apart from God’s sovereignty  So Timothy don’t fear your opponents, don’t be discouraged = all in God’s control  When tragedy strikes = it might seem that God doesn’t care or is in control = but He is  God does not have a blind spot  Never is taken by surprise | 18  Proverbs = word picture of just a fraction of sovereignty  “The King’s heart is like channels of water. He direct it wherever he wishes  Furthermore Christ alone has immortality…lit. = without death = athanasian  Impossible for God to die  Romans 6:9  *knowing that Christ, having been raised from the dead, is never to die again; death no longer is master over Him.*  He is also bestower of deathlessness  He can gift men the gift of not dying every again  If you have trusted in Him, you also will become in the resurrection of the body athanasian = without death, never to die again |
| 19  He dwells in unapproachable light  Dwells in blazing glory no one can see God directly and live  Even Moses = couldn’t see directly = only hind sight of God  God’s glorious light = warmth of sun = gives life to all things = but yet come too close it becomes deadly  Yet, wonder of gospel = this light instead of consuming us, saves us  It burns to ashes our sin, but gives us the warmth of salvation  Hebrews: Jesus the exact imprint of the Father  John 1: Jesus exegetes the Father = lit. explains the Father to us in Himself  Thomas = if you have seen Me, you have seen the Father | 20  V. 16 “*To Him be honor and eternal dominion! Amen*”  Legacy: Eternal *might*  In light of this glorious God, what are you to do if you are wealthy in response?  V. 17  “*Instruct those who are rich in this present world not to be conceited or to fix their hope on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who richly supplies us with all things to enjoy.*”  He gives life to all things, He gives us all good things to enjoy…  Everything on loan by God  Not my house, it’s God’s house  Not my car, it’s God’s car  You won’t blessings in your riches, you will find blessing in God Himself |
| 21  God may richly bless you with wealth  But He does that so that you would use that to invest in eternity and to bless others  As Jesus said, it is more blessed to give than to receive  Money can never bring you true and lasting happiness, only God can  You are to V. 18  *“do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share, storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of that which is life indeed.”*  Paul ends much same way as he began  V. 20  “*O Timothy, guard what has been entrusted to you, avoiding worldly and empty chatter and the opposing arguments of what is falsely called “knowledge”—* | 22  *which some have professed and thus gone astray from the faith. Grace be with you*.*”*  Paul could have said, “Love the word and you will know what is false from what is true”  = that would be true  But also defending what you love is showing your love for what you are defending  Different angle = two sides to the same coin  Loving Jesus and His Word means eventually rejecting everything that contradicts it  Rejecting false doctrine is showing you love the truth  “Time and truth go hand in hand”  “Love and truth go hand in hand” as well  God is too glorious to allow false doctrine, division, disunity to diminish the glory of what He has done for sinners |
| 23  So important for pastors to not be ok with false teaching = V. 21 apostasy  If we love people enough, whether it’s false doctrine or sinners simply rejecting the gospel we will warn them of the dangers ahead  When it comes to hell, same attitude of Spurgeon  “if sinners be damned, at least let them leap over to hell over our dead bodies. And if they perish, let them perish with our arms wrapped about their knees, imploring them to stay. If hell must be filled, let it be filled in the teeth of our exertions, and let no one go unwarned and unprayed for.”  Rebuking others, even publicly calling them out is not to show that we are better than them  It’s not us versus them  It’s a battle of love, it’s for the well-being of their soul | 24  Church has become so infected with the world’s notion of love that they think love = tolerate bad doctrine  Loving someone is loving them enough to tell them truth  **CONCLUSION:**  I hope + journey 1 Timothy = you have come to love God more  Gospel = too glorious = allow sinful standards and false doctrine to exist in the church  Christ paid way too high a price for us to diminish his work on the cross in any way  Some of those standards = not easy to follow but obeying God = greatest joy and delight you can ever know in life  If here today, maybe you realize = not right with Lord today |
| 25  Maybe been coming to church a long time = but never committed yourself to Christ  Maybe you are new here today listening on the livestream or presently here  Maybe you come because your spouse believes and you are trying to show your support for him or her  But what about you?  Because at the end of the day, your spouse’ faith is not going to answer for you or save you when Jesus Christ returns  What you are going to answer Him when He asks you “why should I let you into my kingdom?”  You will be speechless…  Because you will be without hope  Where is your hope? | 26  The only hope you have is the hope of Christ and Him crucified for your sins  And I plead with you that if you have forsaken your life of sin and embraced eternal life in Jesus Christ  Do so today!  The most foolish thing you can do in life is to reject the physician’s cure for your souls  You can mess up and try to fix most things in your life  You can’t do that with Christ  Christ your king is commanding you to repent of your sinful lifestyle and receive his gift of eternal life,  unmerited favor  Receive the grace of God  When D.L. Moody the famous evangelist was preaching at a meeting, a man stood up and said |
| 27  “I am not quite sure, but I am going to trust and I am going to obey”  And that man’s confession turned into a famous hymn  “Trust and obey, for there’s no other way, than to be happy in Jesus, than to trust and obey”  Are you going to trust and obey Christ today? | 28 |