

## SOME WILL DEPART FROM THE FAITH

### 1 TIMOTHY 4

- Chapter three closed with a glorious declaration of who our Savior is...

**1 Timothy 3:16** “And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifested in the flesh, Justified in the Spirit, Seen by angels, Preached among the Gentiles, Believed on in the world, Received up in glory.”

- I hope that everyone hearing this message agrees with this...
- I hope you declare that JESUS was god in the flesh...
  - That He was justified in the Spirit...
  - He was watched over by angels...
  - He was and is STILL being preached to us Gentiles...
  - His salvation was believed on in this old world... AND...
  - That He was received up in Glory... **BUT...**

**1 Timothy 4:1** Now (**Or but...**) the Spirit expressly says that in latter times (**IE, during the Church age**) some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving (**Lying**) spirits and doctrines of demons,

- Doctrines of demons are the theologies of making the minister wealthy and ignoring the poor, the poor in spirit, the widows, and the orphans.
- They were busy during Paul's days, and they are on television today. These ministries are raising millions and helping few.
- Please don't watch them, and for heaven's sake, don't send them money.
- Why not? **Because...**

#### **THEY WERE...**

2 speaking lies in hypocrisy, (**They did not practice what they preached**) having their own conscience seared with a hot iron,

- Like when we say, “How could they say that with a straight face?”

- “The border is not wide open...” “No new taxes...”
- Send a love gift to our ministry and God will heal you... LIARS!

### **DO THESE LIES SOUND FAMILIAR?**

3 forbidding to marry,

- This is SO sad to me that the Catholic Church STILL holds on to this thousand-year-old mistake to forbid marriage. (**1139**) They think it makes their priest like Christ, “who had no bride?”
- UM... EXCUSE ME... **He HAS a bride!!!**
- If you are watching today, Pope Francis, “Tear down that wall!”

### **MAKING UP MORE FALSE DOCTRINE**

and commanding to abstain from foods which God created to be received with thanksgiving by those who believe and know the truth.

- Let’s talk about the religion of vegetarianism. **IT’S A FALSE RELIGION.**
- Let’s talk about the choice to be a vegetarian. It’s your choice to make. But, DO NOT make it a religious thing or you have stumbled into a cult.
- **What creatures ARE ok to eat?**

4 For every creature of God is good, and nothing is to be refused if it is received with thanksgiving; 5 for it is sanctified by the word of God and prayer.

- NOW... You might hear from your Doctor, like I just did on Friday, that it is time to lay off the creatures and to EAT A SALAD!
- I will... But I am not going to make a religion out of it...
  - **“Low-calorie Chapel.”** NOPE
  - **“Lettuce... Pray Ministries...”** NOPE
  - **“What Would Jenny Craig Do?”** Forget it!!!
- BUT... Don’t forget to give God thanks every time you eat!

## A GOOD SERVANT OF CHRIST JESUS

6 If you instruct the brethren in these things, you will be a good minister of Jesus Christ, nourished in the words of faith and of the good doctrine which you have carefully followed.

- **COURSON** - Here's how to be a good minister: Stay away from esoteric (*occultic*) posturing, dietary discussions, and legalism. Keep the main thing the main thing. And the main thing is Jesus.
- **GUZIK** - Notice that the pastor's job is primarily *instruction* of the brethren. If the minister does not **instruct the brethren in these things**, then he isn't really a **good minister of Jesus Christ**.

## STICK TO DOCTRINE!

7 But reject profane and old wives' fables, and **exercise yourself** toward godliness.

- **A good warning from Wiersbe** - A believer cannot rediscover new doctrines. Paul admonished Timothy to remain true to "the good doctrine which you have closely followed up to now" ([1Ti 4:6](#), literal translation). He warned him not to "give heed to fables and endless genealogies" ([1Ti 1:4](#)). While a pastor must know what the enemy is teaching, he must not be influenced by it. A chemist may handle and study poisons, but he does not permit them to get into his system.
- We need to be carefully skeptical when some preacher tells us that God gave him a word that contradicts the scripture.

## THE FIRST PART OF THIS NEXT VERSE HAS BEEN ADOPTED BY MANY AS THEIR "LIFE VERSE"

8 For bodily exercise profits a little, (**We SHOULD exercise, but...**) but **godliness** is profitable for all things, having promise of the life that now is and of that which is to come. 9 This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance.

- **COURSON** - There is, indeed, a little profit in bodily exercise. It's a good thing—but not nearly as important as exercising oneself in godliness. If you have to choose between working out and worshiping, opt for worship every time. If you have to choose between Bible study and bodybuilding,

always go with Bible study. It's good to jog and to do deep knee bends, presses, and curls. But I wish people would put the same emphasis on jogging their memory of Scripture, bending their knees in prayer, pressing on in the faith, and curling up with a good Book—the Word of God.

## **TIMOTHY, TEACH THIS!**

10 For to this end we both labor and suffer reproach, (**defame, rail at, chide, taunt:**) because we **trust** in the living God, who is the Savior of all men, especially of those who believe. 11 These things command and teach.

- If we are not suffering, being defamed, chided, or taunted for your faith, maybe we need to speak up more...
  - Some might say, "Well, I'm an undercover believer..."
  - My little light is hidden under a bushel...
  - I say, "Don't let Satan blow it out..."
  - This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine!"
- When someone mocks our faith, we will smile and pray for them. The day is coming when mocking will cease, BUT... We had better have prayed!

## **YOUNG PEOPLE... Listen UP**

12 Let no one despise your youth,

- Being young is NOT a character fault... Sometimes it is a benefit, BUT... In the ministry, it can be LOOKED UPON as a detriment.
- Don't get snarky about your youth, like the kid whose father said:

"Son," said the concerned father, "you're not studying the way you could. When Abraham Lincoln was your age, he didn't have computers or electric lights. He walked fifteen miles through the snow to check out books at the library—and then walked fifteen miles home so that he could read them by the light of the fireplace. When he was your age, that's what he did."

"Well," replied the son, "when Abraham Lincoln was **your** age, he was President of the United States!"   **COURSON**

## Young people – DO THIS...

but be an example to the believers (**HOW?**) in word, (**Both language, and THE WORD**) in conduct, in love, in spirit, (**gentle & sweet**) in faith, (**& faithfulness**) in purity. (**Innocence**)

- IE, just live the faith you believe in... How? Like this...

13 Till I come, give attention to reading, (**the Scriptures**) to exhortation, (**Explaining the Scriptures**) to doctrine. (**Smith – clear unfolding of the Word**)

## **REMIND YOURSELF...**

14 Do not neglect the gift that is in you, which was given to you by prophecy with the laying on of the hands of the eldership.

- WHAT, do you suppose, would make Timothy WANT to neglect his gifts?
  - Discouragement? Failure? Opposition? Disrespect?
  - Hang in there, Timothy!

15 Meditate on these things; (**The ministry**) give yourself entirely to them, that your progress may be evident to all.

16 Take heed to yourself and to the **doctrine**. Continue in them, for in doing this you will save both yourself and those who hear you.

Beloved, continue...Endure...Remain...Carry on...Restart...  
Resume... Persist... Keep putting one foot in front of the other...  
Never give up... Never give in! God is with you. "Gods got this," one of our ladies told Mike this week!