



**EPISODE 10: I TIMOTHY**  
**MARCH 20/21**

Introduction and Context

	Author	Date	Recipient	Place of Writing
I Timothy	Paul	62-64	Timothy in Ephesus	Macedonia?

**I. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE?**

- a. The Relationship: <sup>2</sup> *To Timothy, my true child in the faith: Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord. (1:2)*
- b. The Problem:
  - i. 3:15: <sup>15</sup> *... the household of God, which is the church of the living God, a pillar and buttress of the truth.*
  - ii. 4:1–3: *Some Will Depart from the Faith* <sup>4</sup> *Now the Spirit expressly says that in later times some will depart from the faith by devoting themselves to deceitful spirits and teachings of demons, <sup>2</sup> through the insincerity of liars whose consciences are seared, <sup>3</sup> who forbid marriage and require abstinence from foods that God created to be received with thanksgiving by those who believe and know the truth.*
- c. Guidance for Timothy's Leadership: <sup>6</sup> *If you put these things before the brothers, you will be a good servant of Christ Jesus, being trained in the words of the faith and of the good doctrine that you have followed. (4:6)*

**II. WHAT IS POWERFUL (DOCTRINE)?**

- i. The Law is Good: Timothy 1:8–11 (ESV): *Now we know that the law is good, if one uses it lawfully, <sup>9</sup> understanding this, that the law is not laid down for the just but for the lawless and disobedient, for the ungodly and sinners, for the unholy and profane, for those who strike their fathers and mothers, for murderers, <sup>10</sup> the sexually immoral, men who practice*

*homosexuality, enslavers, liars, perjurers, and whatever else is contrary to sound doctrine, <sup>11</sup> in accordance with the gospel of the glory of the blessed God with which I have been entrusted.*

- ii. The Centrality of the Gospel-- 1:15: <sup>15</sup> *The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the foremost.*

*Key Themes*

1. The gospel produces holiness in the lives of believers, and there is no legitimate separation between belief and behavior. Thus, those who profess faith but do not demonstrate any progress in godliness should question their spiritual state.	1:5; 2:8–15; 3:1–16; 4:6–16; 5:4–6, 8; 6:3–5, 11–14, 18–19
2. Worldwide evangelization is essential and is rooted in God’s own evangelistic desire.	1:15; 2:1–7; 3:16; 4:10
3. One key evidence of reception of the gospel is proper behavior in corporate worship (evangelistic prayer, unity, modesty, and submission).	2:1–15
4. Church leaders should be people whose lives are shaped by the gospel.	3:1–13; 4:6–16
5. Appropriate honor is a key element in how Christians should relate to one another in the church.	5:1–6:2
6. The created order (e.g., wealth) is good and is to be appreciated, though not worshiped.	4:4–5; 6:17–19
7. It is important to labor for the purity and preservation of the gospel.	1:3–7, 18–20; 4:6–16; 6:2b–3, 12, 20–21 <sup>1</sup>

**III. WHAT IS PROBLEMATIC (CONTROVERSIAL)?**

- a. *Women in Church and Leadership: 2:8–15: ...<sup>12</sup> I do not permit a woman to teach or to exercise authority over a man; rather, she is to remain quiet. <sup>13</sup> For Adam was formed first, then Eve; <sup>14</sup> and Adam was not deceived, but the woman was deceived and became a transgressor. <sup>15</sup> Yet she will be saved through childbearing—if they continue in faith and love and holiness, with self-control.*
- b. True Widows and “Young Widows” 5:1-16

<sup>1</sup> Crossway Bibles. (2008). [The ESV Study Bible](#) (p. 2322). Crossway Bibles.

#### IV. WHAT IS POETIC?

- a. “The mystery of Godliness:” A Hymn to Jesus at the center. 3:16:  
*<sup>16</sup> Great indeed, we confess, is the mystery of godliness:  
 He was manifested in the flesh,  
 vindicated by the Spirit,  
 seen by angels,  
 proclaimed among the nations,  
 believed on in the world,  
 taken up in glory.*

#### V. WHAT IS PERSONAL?

- a. Paul’s Relationship with Timothy (see above).

#### VI. WHAT IS PRACTICAL? Congregation Leadership and Character

- i. 1 Timothy ESV): Qualifications for Overseers (Episkopos) 3:1–7
1. *<sup>1</sup> The saying is trustworthy: If anyone aspires to the office of overseer, he desires a noble task. <sup>2</sup> Therefore an overseer must be above reproach, the husband of one wife, sober-minded, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, able to teach, <sup>3</sup> not a drunkard, not violent but gentle, not quarrelsome, not a lover of money. <sup>4</sup> He must manage his own household well, with all dignity keeping his children submissive, <sup>5</sup> for if someone does not know how to manage his own household, how will he care for God’s church? <sup>6</sup> He must not be a recent convert, or he may become puffed up with conceit and fall into the condemnation of the devil. <sup>7</sup> Moreover, he must be well thought of by outsiders, so that he may not fall into disgrace, into a snare of the devil.*
- ii. Qualifications for Deacons (Diakonos) 3:8-13
1. *<sup>8</sup> Deacons likewise must be dignified, not double-tongued, not addicted to much wine, not greedy for dishonest gain. <sup>9</sup> They must hold the mystery of the faith with a clear conscience. <sup>10</sup> And let them also be tested first; then let them serve as deacons if they prove themselves blameless. <sup>11</sup> Their wives likewise must be dignified, not slanderers, but sober-minded, faithful in all things. <sup>12</sup> Let deacons each be the husband of one wife, managing their children and their own households well. <sup>13</sup> For those who serve well as deacons gain a good standing for themselves and also great confidence in the faith that is in Christ Jesus.*
- iii. Paul’s Words to the People (6:1–10): Paul addresses four types of individuals. 6:1–16
1. Women (2:8-15, See above)
  2. Slaves (6:1–2): Paul urges Christian slaves to render faithful service to their masters, lest the name of God be slandered.
  3. The wicked (6:3–5)
    - a. They deny the faith (6:3–4a).
    - b. They are conceited and argumentative (6:4b).

- c. They cause confusion, envy, and friction (6:4c).
- d. They use spiritual things for financial gain (6:5).
- 4. The wise (6:6–8): They realize that godliness with contentment is great gain.
- 5. The wealthy (6:9–10)
  - a. The desire (6:10): “The love of money is at the root of all kinds of evil.”
  - b. The destruction (6:9): This kind of greed, if unchecked, will result in ruin and destruction.

**VII. WHAT IS PRAYERFUL (THE PART HE PRAYS TO GOD)?** *First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, <sup>2</sup>for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way. (2:1-2)*

**VIII. PASTORAL SUMMARY**

- a. For Timothy himself (personally) ch.4-5
  - i. The Do’s and Don’ts 4:6–16
    - 1. Don’t waste time arguing over foolish ideas and silly myths (4:7a).
    - 2. Don’t be intimidated because of your youth (4:12a).
    - 3. Don’t neglect your spiritual gift (4:14).
    - 4. *Do* Warn the church members concerning apostasy (4:6).
    - 5. *Do* keep spiritually fit (4:7b–11).
    - 6. *Do* be a godly role model in all you do (4:12b).
    - 7. *Do* continue to publicly read, teach, and preach the Word of God (4:13).
    - 8. *Do* give yourself wholly to the ministry (4:15).
    - 9. *Do* keep close check on your own life (4:16).<sup>16</sup> *Keep a close watch on yourself and on the teaching. Persist in this, for by so doing you will save both yourself and your hearers.*
  - ii. Timothy’s Health (5:23): *“Drink a little wine for the sake of your stomach because you are sick so often.”*
  - iii. Timothy’s Heart (Spiritual Heart): <sup>12</sup> **FIGHT THE GOOD FIGHT OF THE FAITH.** (6:11-12)
    - 1. Flee from evil, and follow after good (6:11).
    - 2. Fight the good fight of faith (6:12).
    - 3. Faithfully fulfill your ministry (6:13–14, 20a).
    - 4. Warn the rich (6:17–19).
      - a. What they should do (6:17–18): Don’t trust in your money (6:17) and use it to help others (6:18).
      - b. Reject godless philosophies (6:20b–21).
    - 5. Remember whom you serve: The blessed and only Almighty God (6:15a), The King of Kings (6:15b), The Lord of Lords (6:15c), The immortal and invisible God (6:16a), The One dwelling in unapproachable light (6:16b).