

Bible Reading Notes
1 Timothy
2 Timothy

Pastor Jeff Landis

1 Timothy 1-2

Timothy has been sent to pastor the church in Ephesus where he has encountered opposition. Paul writes to encourage him and give him direction.

1:7 – The early church was plagued by false teachers who wanted to make a name for themselves.

1:8-11 – Paul is referring to the first and second use of the law which restrains sin and calls the sinner to repentance.

1:16 – All of us are saved primarily for the glory to God to be revealed in our salvation. Paul was no exception.

1:20 – **handed over to Satan** – These men were excommunicated from the church. **Learn** has the idea of correcting someone by discipline.

1 Timothy 2

2:4 – **all people** – The context makes it clear that Paul's point is that God saves all kinds of people as seen in vv. 1-2. This is true of "all" in v. 6 as well.

2:12 – This verse is the reason we do not have women officers in our church. Notice that in vv. 13-15 Paul does not ground this practice in culture but in the order of creation and the fall.

2:15 – **saved through childbearing** – Paul's point is that Christian women will be preserved as they embrace their God-given roles. He is not suggesting that childbearing merits eternal salvation.

1 Timothy 3

Paul continues with directions to Timothy about how to put in order the situation in Ephesus.

3:1 – overseer – This term is synonymous with elder and describes the elder’s work in watching over the church.

3:2-7 – The qualifications for an elder are almost all character related. The one skill that an elder must possess is the ability to teach (v. 2). Other than being able to teach, the qualifications for deacons (vv. 8-13) are very similar.

3:11 – Their wives – Paul is either referring to the wives of deacons or to women who assisted the deacons in their labors but were not deacons themselves.

3:16 – This appears to be a confession of the early church that Paul is quoting.

1 Timothy 4

4:1 – later times – This is the time period between the first and second coming of Christ; the time we now live in.

4:6-16 – Paul’s directions for ministers of the gospel.

4:10 – toil = work strenuously; **strive** = agonize in your effort.

4:14 – laid their hands on you – This is a reference to Timothy’s ordination as a pastor.

1 Timothy 5

5:4 – Children have the primary responsibility to care for their parents in return for the care the parents provided them.

5:9 – **enrolled** – This section has been understood to refer to either enrollment in the number of widows who will be supported by the church or into a roll of widows recognized as doing special work for the church. I believe the context favors the former position.

5:17 – The OPC’s understanding of this verse is that there are two classes of elders: ruling elders and teaching elders. Both deserve honor but teaching elders’ double honor is seen in their financial support from their congregation (v. 18).

1 Timothy 6

6:2 – It must have been odd and uncomfortable to have believing masters and slaves worship as equals and then return to their normal status afterwards.

6:6-10 – Godliness is evidenced in contentment with what the Lord has given and not craving more.

6:11 – Instead of craving more material gain, the believer is to crave godliness.

6:17-19 – Being rich is not sinful, but wealth brings certain temptations that wealthy people need to be diligent to flee from.

2 Timothy

2 Timothy 1

2 Timothy is the last letter we have that was written by Paul.

We believe he wrote it during his second Roman imprisonment which ended in his death. Timothy is still the pastor in Ephesus.

1:7 – This was needful for Timothy to know since he is presented in 1 Timothy as being somewhat timid and lacking confidence.

1:8 – **suffering** – Paul encourages Timothy to suffer for the sake of the gospel just as Paul is doing. Suffering will come up in 2:3; 3:11; and 4:5.

1:14 – **good deposit** – The biblical teaching that Paul had passed on to Timothy. We are responsible as a church to guard the sound teaching of Scripture and pass it on to the next generation (2:2).

2 Timothy 2

2:11-13 – This appears to be an early Christian confession of faith.

2:19 – This is a reflection of Numbers 16:5 where God made clear those who were his in the midst of Korah's rebellion. God knows the elect and will keep them to the end.

2:23-24 – Pastors and church members need to avoid the foolish controversies that so many engage in. It detracts from ministry and the gospel.

2 Timothy 3

Earlier Paul referred to the danger of false teachers in the church. In this chapter he goes into greater detail about them.

3:1 – last days – These are the days between Christ’s first and second coming.

3:8 – Jannes and Jambres – The Jews identified these two men as Pharaoh’s magicians in Exodus 7.

3:10-17 – The antidote to the false teachers is a commitment and loyalty to the Word of God.

2 Timothy 4

4:2 – This is an abbreviated job description for every biblical pastor.

4:7 – Paul knows that his death is immanent.

4:9-18 – You can sense the loneliness of Paul. He is not under house arrest as he was for his first imprisonment but was probably being held in a dungeon. He has no one around him for encouragement but Luke (v. 11).