



The Canadian *Lord's Day* Association

Bible Course

Acts to Revelation

Lesson 43

Name: _____

Read I Timothy 2

After emphasizing the need to counteract heresy and avoid shipwreck, Timothy is given instruction about some parts of church life that help avoid shipwreck: intercessory and thankful prayer, the role of women in church services (including a quick exhortation on women's dress), and qualifications of church officers.

1. Sometimes we hear a lot of criticism of our government leaders. It may be valid, but do we pray for them? (Paul was writing this during the reign of a terrible Nero.) Here Paul reminds us to pray for _____ and all in authority that we may lead a quiet and _____ life in all godliness and honesty. Not only is this good and _____ in the sight of God, but God seeks the salvation of our leaders... "who will have _____ men to be saved and to come unto the knowledge of the _____."
2. In v. 8 Paul mentions prayer again. We must remember that in prayer we cannot cling to our sins. Men (Greek word "*andres*" meaning "males") should pray _____ lifting up _____ hands (not hands clinging to sin, but with a pure life), without wrath and doubting (disputes). Paul is speaking about public prayer in all places of the world (see also I Cor. 1:2). This may mean in every locality – around the world, but the focus seems to be on the churches, not necessarily a stress on public prayer outside of churches.
3. Paul connects his instruction on prayer (to men) with instruction to women on preparation for prayer. At the same time, he seeks to correct errors to which women are prone. Women should wear _____ apparel, with shamefacedness and _____. The wealthy city of Ephesus abounded with expensive merchandise. Paul recognizes the desire to be

richly dressed. God not want anyone to draw attention to themselves. Women are counseled to stress inner beauty rather than external adornment. Genuine beauty lies in inner virtue which gets better with age rather than fading with age.

4. Since dress is an outward matter, the principle of moderation should be followed. There should be no display that feeds pride or lack of chastity. Paul continues that women should not have _____ hair (hair stacked up) or have lots of costly array such as _____ or pearls. What is the purpose of this other than to draw attention or show the people around that your focus is on the things below which will all burn up. The woman's good works should show for themselves, like Dorcas in Acts 9.
5. Paul lays out the roles when it comes to women in the church; they should learn in _____ (not have a teaching role in the church), not _____ authority over the man. For what reasons? First, in creative order Adam was formed _____. Second, Adam was not _____, but Eve was the first to transgress. You may think, what does that matter? Well, God could have created the woman first or both simultaneously, but He did not. Biblically we read of the plan for man to lead and the wife to follow.

Read I Timothy 3

Paul speaks of two church offices: bishop and deacon. A bishop is an overseer of the church with the important duties of prayer and ministry. We would use the term elder or minister today. A deacon (derived from the Greek word for servant) is similar in qualifications to that of elder and refers to those appointed to care for the church. They were first ordained to help because certain widows were neglected. When ministers, elders, and deacons are voted on in the church, what should you look for? What qualifications?

6. If we desire the office of bishop it is a good thing. It is a most important work. However, if we want it to be "the man in charge," what a dangerous situation. John warns of this type of person in III John 9, "_____, who loved to have the preeminence."
7. "Preeminent" means distinguished above others, outstanding.
8. When we vote for elder/minister, we should look for the following things: (We must realize that none of these things are in us by nature, except Christ and His spirit lives in us.) However, the old saying for choosing elders and deacons has been, 'if there is not gold, choose silver, if no silver, choose copper, if no copper,

then just use iron.’ However, rather than choosing an unconverted person, churches should prayerfully consider whether it is better to bear the cross of one less elder or deacon.

- a. Blameless means irreproveable, not guilty of sinning openly, has an honorable reputation. You may think, who is not guilty? We all have sinned and come short of the glory of God. Before conversion we likely did sin openly, but after conversion, if we have been kept by God grace from open sins we have this qualification.
- b. Husband of _____ wife means he has monogamous relationship or is faithful to his wife.
- c. Vigilant. “Vigilant” means watchful, alert, circumspect.
- d. _____ (serious and possessing good judgment, not frivolous)
- e. Of good _____ (orderly life, habits, work)
- f. Given to _____ (receives strangers warmly, treats guests well)
- g. Apt to _____ (not only “knows” but is able to communicate instruction)
- h. Not given to _____ (drinking excessively)
- i. No striker (not physically violent, quarrelsome).
- j. Not greedy of filthy _____ (greedy of gain, covetous)
- k. Patient
- l. Not a _____ (not quarrelsome or fighting over small matters)
- m. Not covetous (not ruled by materialism)
- n. One that ruleth well _____; having his children in _____, because if he cannot rule his own house, how will he _____
- o. Not a novice. “Novice” means inexperienced, a beginner (newly converted). Paul gives the reason for this: lest being lifted up with _____ he fall into the condemnation of the devil.
- p. Good report to them that are _____ (has no justified criticism by those outside the church so he doesn’t become a target of reproach or disgrace) ...meaning those outside the church.

9. What qualification does Paul give for deacons?
- a. Must be _____. (Sober – not a jokester)
 - b. Not double-_____ (not “talking out of both sides of your mouth,” telling people what they want to hear)
 - c. Not given to much _____.
 - d. Not _____ of filthy lucre (avoids dishonest financial profits)
 - e. Holding the _____ of faith in a pure conscience. (Some think that deacons don’t need to have the saving work of God in their soul, after all, they only deal with money, which they deem to be unspiritual. This contradicts that view. In fact, all of Scripture constantly emphasizes that to do anything right (parenting, office-bearing, job,... it must be of true faith.)
 - f. Similar to not a novice (see elder qualification) they should be _____ first, and then use the office of deacon.
 - g. Unlike elders, deacons’ wives are mentioned here...what should they be like? _____
 - h. Husbands of one _____.
 - i. Ruling their children and their own _____ well.
10. Paul wrote these things (v. 15) so that we might know how we ought to _____ ourselves in the _____ of God.
11. At the end of this chapter, Paul summarizes the essence and the mystery of godliness, “God was manifest in the _____ (Jesus came to this earth), justified in the Spirit, preached unto the _____, believed on in the _____, received up into glory.

Evaluator: _____

Meditation: Most ministers are accustomed to set Christ before the people. They lay down the gospel clearly and beautifully, but they do not urge men to enter in. Now, God says, Exhort, beseech men, persuade men; not only point to the open door, but compel them to come in. Oh, to be more merciful to souls. Oh, that we would lay hands on men, and draw them in to the Lord Jesus. *By R.M. McCheyne*