

1 Timothy

Introduction

1 Timothy was a Letter (a Pastoral Epistle)

- The typical format:
 - The author– Paul
 - The recipient(s)– Timothy
 - Salutation– Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.
- This was a letter from one man to another that was in effect inspired by God Himself.

The Purpose of the Letter

- To know the purpose of the letter, first we need to know the players:
 - The Apostle Paul (name-Little or small)
 - Apostle-- a delegate; specially, an ambassador of the Gospel; officially a commissioner of Christ ("apostle") (with miraculous powers):—apostle, messenger, he that is sent.
 - There are many apostles that the church has commissioned over the years but only 13 Apostles of Christ Jesus.
 - Note his reference to “Christ Jesus” instead of “Jesus Christ”

The Players...cont.

○ Timothy

- **2 Timothy 1:5** When I call to remembrance the unfeigned faith that is in thee, which dwelt first in thy grandmother Lois, and thy mother Eunice; and I am persuaded that in thee also.
- **Acts 16:1-3**
- **1 Timothy 4:12** Let no man despise thy youth; but be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity.

The Players...cont

○ Timothy

- He was sent to various places as Paul's representative (Phil 2:19, 1 Thes 3:2)
- **1 Corinthians 4:16-17** Wherefore I beseech you, be ye followers of me. For this cause have I sent unto you Timotheus, who is my beloved son, and faithful in the Lord, who shall bring you into remembrance of my ways which be in Christ, as I teach every where in every church.
- **1 Corinthians 11:1** Be ye followers of me, even as I also *am* of Christ.

The Purpose

The Church at Ephesus had started out on fire but just as Paul had warned, false teaching had entered into the church.

1 Timothy 1:3-4

Errors in:

Leadership
teaching

Godliness and holiness
roles

Discipline

Theology and

Male/female

Handling a sinning leader

Purpose

- **1 Timothy 3:14-15** These things write I unto thee, hoping to come unto thee shortly: But if I tarry long, that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth. (key verse for the book)
- Paul was a mature leader in the faith writing to a young man who was his own son in the faith. He was giving instruction on how to behave in the church.

The Typical Response

- **Proverbs 16:25** There is a way that seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof *are* the ways of death.
- This is what we see in too many churches today.

Our Response to this Holy Spirit Inspired Letter

- **Proverbs 3:5-8** Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths. Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the LORD, and depart from evil. It shall be health to thy navel, and marrow to thy bones.

Our Response continued

① 2 Chronicles 34:14-21, 33

“By Command of God”

- 1 Timothy is the only epistle that Paul uses the term “by command of God”