

II Timothy – Chapter Three

Dr. David Jeremiah points out in his commentary bible that there are five “faithful sayings” in the pastoral epistles: I Timothy 1:15/ I Tim. 3:1/I Tim. 4:8,9/ II Tim. 2:11-13/Titus 3:4-8. These faithful sayings put forth “key truths of the Christian life and it’s authority for believers.”

v.1-5 – Paul lets Timothy know that in the last days, the closer one gets to the second coming of the Lord Jesus, society and family will degenerate. These works of the flesh have existed since the beginning (Romans 1:28-31), but in the last days there will be an escalation of these things. Clarification of meaning of some of these: lovers of their own selves – self-centered, narcissistic; covetous – lovers of money; blasphemers – foul-mouthed, abusive; disobedient to parents – rebellious, lack of duty; without natural affection – heartless, no love; trucebreakers – unforgiving, refuse to make peace; false accusers – slanderers; incontinent – no self-control, passions rule life; fierce – brutal, violent; despisers of those that are good – no love for good; traitors – lean toward betrayal; heady – rash, reckless, impetuous; highminded – conceited. 5) Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof – lots of words and godly talk, have the look of godliness, some actions for show, but when the life is really examined, there is no evidence of the power of God working in their lives, unto true holiness and good works. Paul ultimately warns FROM SUCH TURN AWAY. Particularly, in official associations, because Paul already told Timothy to be kind to all men.

v.6,7 – These imposters have led some women astray (probably talking about specific in Ephesus); women ever learning (going from one fad idea to another) but never coming to the knowledge of the truth; not establishing that truth in their heart.

v.8,9 – Jannes and Jambres came against Moses. According to Jewish legend, these two were magicians in the court of Pharaoh who imitated the miracles of Moses, but were found to be tricksters. Their folly, eventually, became apparent (manifest) to all. Some Jewish tradition says these two were phony Jewish proselytes, and were responsible for the encouragement to serve the golden calves. The example is to show that like them, these imposters with false doctrine will eventually be exposed. (1:15, Phygellus and Hermogenes were ashamed of the truth; 2:17, Hymenaeus and Philetus erred in the truth; 3:9 Jannes and Jambres resisted the truth— Believer’s Bible Commentary).

v.10,11 – Paul says, you know my character and what I’ve suffered, persecutions and afflictions, in Antioch of Pisidia (Acts 13:45, 50) Iconium (Acts 14:3-6) Lystra (Acts 14:19,20). v.12) all that live godly in Christ Jesus SHALL SUFFER PERSECUTION.

v.13) evil men and seducers will grow worse, deceiving others and themselves. .14) But you Son Timothy, continue in the things you’ve learned, knowing exactly from whom you learned them.

v.15-17 - You’ve learned the scriptures from a little child, and they gave you knowledge leading you to salvation and faith in Christ.v.16,17 – ALL SCRIPTURE IS GIVEN BY INSPIRATION OF GOD, AND IS PROFITABLE FOR DOCTRINE, FOR REPROOF, FOR CORRECTION, FOR INSTRUCTION IN RIGHTEOUSNESS: THAT THE MAN OF GOD MAY BE PERFECT, THOROUGHLY FURNISHED UNTO ALL GOOD WORKS.