

1 Timothy 3:14-16 Written So That We Can Know

Series 1 Timothy

Reading 1 Timothy 3:14-16 – October 22, 2017

Today we are going to look at the closing of chapter 3. This is a beautiful passage of scripture that is rich with practical applications. It is something that we must know and understand so we are going to take at least two weeks to go over it. Paul is leaving a legacy, yet more than that. He is leaving words of truth for us to cling to. It is written for us, for our advantage and profit. Let us not miss the importance of these closing verses.

(1Ti 3:14-15) “¹⁴ These things I write to you, though I hope to come to you shortly; ¹⁵ but if I am delayed, *I write* so that you may know how you ought to conduct yourself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth.”

- History
 - Paul has just given us the requirements, those characteristic of the men who are appointed to lead.
 - He wrote them...
 - Timothy was going to have to take authority over some who were teaching falsehood. 1:3
 - It was going to be a war to stand for truth. 1:18
 - He then lays out general directions for church behavior and then specific for differing types of leadership.
 - He is going to go on to talk about false teachers, give instruction on the content of true preaching, exhort Timothy to do His job, teach on the dealing with the different age groups in the church... on widows, and again on elders and masters... He tries to lay out right behavior in the Church.
- **Verse 15:** ... *I write* so that you may know
 - The importance of writing in ancient times.
 - We have so much pulp fiction that we have lost the blessing of the written word.
 - Free content, worthless.
 - Writing used to be a professional field, scribes, Jewish and then Christian monks and priests, only for kings and nobility.
 - Books (scrolls) were rare and expensive. Over a year's salary for a normal person.
 - What was written was valued more.
 - Augustine lists two interesting facts. The first autobiography and the first mention of reading to yourself. Not out load!
 - **Daniel 6:8** “Now, O king, establish the decree and sign the writing, so that it cannot be changed, according to the law of the Medes and Persians, which does not alter.”
 - **Daniel 6:9** “Therefore King Darius signed the written decree.”
- Word of Truth – Message logos written and preached. One thing. (19x Word and truth) (5x Word true)
 - **Ephesians 1:13** “In Him you also *trusted*, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise,”
 - **2 Timothy 2:15** “Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.”
 - **2 Timothy 4:1-2** “¹ I charge *you* therefore before God and the Lord Jesus Christ, who will judge the living and the dead at His appearing and His kingdom: ² Preach the word! Be ready in season *and* out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching.”
 - **James 1:18** “Of His own will He brought us forth by the word of truth, that we might be a kind of firstfruits of His creatures.”

- **John 1:13** “who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.”
- **1Peter 1:20-25** “²⁰ He indeed was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you ²¹ who through Him believe in God, who raised Him from the dead and gave Him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God. ²² Since you have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit in sincere love of the brethren, love one another fervently with a pure heart, ²³ having been born again, not of corruptible seed but incorruptible, through the word of God which lives and abides forever, ²⁴ because All flesh is as grass, And all the glory of man as the flower of the grass. The grass withers, and its flower falls away, ²⁵ But the word of the LORD endures forever. Now this is the word which by the gospel was preached to you.”
- *I write so that you may know...*
 - **God wants us to know.** Not just have a vague hope, but a living hope, a real knowledge.
 - He came to us!
 - **Romans 10:6-11** “⁶ But the righteousness of faith (parentheses and parenthetical content added: not works/law righteousness, but Christ’s righteousness) speaks in this way, Do not say in your heart, Who will ascend into heaven? (that is, to bring Christ down *from above*)⁷ or, Who will descend into the abyss? (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead).⁸ But what does it say? The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart (that is, the word of faith which we preach):⁹ that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.¹⁰ For with the heart one believes (*added: believeth kjv*) unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.¹¹ For the Scripture says, Whoever believes on Him will not be put to shame.”
 - Confess – To agree with, to put yourself under the teaching and authority of Jesus.
 - Our sin. Christ always deals with sin before offering salvation.
 - John 3:14-18 “¹⁴ And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up: ¹⁵ That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life. ¹⁶ For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. ¹⁷ For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved. ¹⁸ He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.”
 - The Samaritan woman in John 4:16: Go and call you husband!
 - Rich young ruler... Keep the law.
 - Salvation, being saved, the process of being born again is only after realizing that we are sinners, that there the consequence for our sin is death, that God’s wrath was poured out on a substitute, that we now accept not just the substitute, but the authority of Jesus as Lord in our lives. We must be “in Him.”
 - Faith depends on knowing God’s word.
 - True salvation starts with God’s word.
 - **Romans 10:17** “So then faith *comes* by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.”
 - How do we know that we are sinners? God’s law tell us His standards.
 - What do we do? Run? Hide? Repent? If so, How?
 - God’s word tells us.
 - We go to His word and take His promises in faith and go forward, believing.
 - **2 Peter 1:3-4** “³ as His divine power has given to us **all** things that *pertain* to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue, ⁴ by

which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises, that through these you may be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption *that is* in the world through lust.”

- **John 20:31** “but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name.”

God’s word was written so that all of the world might know that Jesus is the Christ the son of the living God. It is recorded so that it can never be changed. The work is complete, the instruction is complete. That is what Paul is saying... Are you taking it for what it is worth? Are you praying to God asking Him to give you understanding and light? You have that right. He has invited you to come to Him. Do play with the gifts of God.

Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be in abide with each of you