

INTRODUCTION

This letter, 1 Timothy, is about how we ought to conduct ourselves in the congregation of the living God. In chapter 5, as in some other places in the Bible also, we learn that congregation, the church of Jesus Christ, has a duty towards its members, to provide the basic necessities of life for those members who cannot provide for themselves.

But the church is not the institution primarily responsible to provide such things. Instead, the more primitive institution, the family, which God created in the beginning, is responsible to provide people with food, clothing, and other necessities.

So, here in 1 Timothy 5, where the subject matter is the duties of the church, there is the need to set down first what are the duties of the family. If people understand their family duties, and fulfill them, then the church will not be burdened unnecessarily, and so will be able to do its duty toward those members who don't have any family.

So, then, give your attention to what the word of God says about your family duties. **The fundamental family duty taught here in 1 Timothy chapter 5 is to provide for your own.**

TEXT

1 Timothy 5:8

BODY

The fundamental family duty taught here in 1 Timothy chapter 5 is to provide for your own.

I. A Fundamental Family Duty Is to Provide

A. We're talking about providing physical necessities for life in this world, most particularly food and clothing

B. Greek NT word from 1 Timothy 5:8 G4306 *pronoeo*

1. G3539 *noieo* Strong: to exercise the mind; consider; think
2. G4253 *pro* Thayer: before
3. G4306 *pronoeo*
 - a) RWP: to think beforehand
 - b) Thayer: to think of beforehand; to provide for

C. Hebrew OT words

1. Proverbs 27:23 - more directly for the man - two terms

a) v. 23a GEN, KJV, NKJV Be diligent to know

(1) H3045 *yada*

(a) K&D *to take knowledge*

(b) Strong: to know (properly to ascertain by seeing)

(2) ESV, CSB Know well

b) v. 23b NKJV attend to

(1) H7896 *sheeth*

(a) K&D here, to be careful regarding anything

(2) GEN take heed

(3) KJV look well

(4) ESV give attention CSB pay attention

2. Proverbs 31:15 - more directly for the woman

a) Proverbs 31:14-15 She is like the merchant ships, She brings her food from afar. (15) She also rises while it is yet night, And provides food for her household, And a portion for her maidservants.

b) 14 - she brings her food into her house

c) 15 - she gives food out to her household

(1) verb - gives

(2) what she gives; both words mean "portions" or "servings"

(3) first word means what is torn or divided

(a) Hebrew - gives portions

(b) GEN giveth the portion

(c) KJV giveth meat

(d) NKJV, ESV, CSB provides

(4) second word means what is appointed or ordered

D. English word: Provide - 1828 Webster

1. Latin *provideo*

2. pro - before

3. video - to see

4. literally - to see before

E. Summary: to provide means to think ahead about what will be needed, to take care of your business so that it produces what is needed, to bring in what is needed, and to give out portions of what is needed

A fundamental family duty is to provide

II. A Fundamental Family Duty Is to Provide for Your Own

- A. First, your own household; those living under your roof (1 Tim 5:8b)
 1. normally this includes your closest relatives, such as your wife or husband and your own children
 2. often, people other than your immediate family live in your household
 3. I remember learning long ago that the Bible more often speaks of the “household” than the “family”
- B. Second, your own parents or grandparents if they are in need (1 Tim 5:4)
 1. the reason your own parents and grandparents are above your more distant relatives is that you are descended from them
 - a) “nephews” or “grandchildren” literally descendants
 2. this is a primary kind of piety [G2151 *eusebeo*], shown at home
 3. this is not charity, but a debt to repay
- C. Third, any of your own relatives who are in need (1 Tim 5:8a)
 1. the closer the relative is to you, the more likely you are to be the closest relative who can provide
 2. the more distant the relative, the more people who are closer relatives, and more responsible to provide
- D. With special attention to any relative of yours who is a widow (1 Tim 5:4a, 16)
 1. a woman whose husband has died
 2. a woman left without a husband for other reasons

- III. Consider How Bountifully the Lord Jesus Christ Provides for His Own
- A. He knew ahead of time what His own needed, which is forgiveness of sins
 - 1. all that ever would happen is by God's eternal decree
 - 2. God the Father and God the Son eternally are in covenant together for the salvation sinners
 - B. He went out and got it for us
 - 1. He worked hard for it and earned it for us with His own obedience
 - a) doing all that duty required of Him
 - b) suffering all that the Father ordained for Him to suffer
 - 2. He paid dearly for it in His own blood, shed on the cross; He gave Himself to redeem us
 - C. Now He serves portions to all who are His
 - 1. He knows those whom the Father has given Him to save
 - 2. He sends the Gospel message
 - 3. He moves by His Spirit in the heart
 - a) giving faith
 - b) granting repentance
 - 4. He intercedes with the Father on our behalf
 - 5. He nourishes us with His word
 - a) as babes with milk at first
 - b) then with strong meat when we are mature
 - 6. He purifies us, always further sanctifying us
 - 7. He prepares a place for us in the Father's house
 - 8. He encourages us with the blessed, living hope of His glorious appearing yet in the future
 - D. He shall come again, and when He does
 - 1. He shall provide a renewal of body and soul, making us fit for eternal life
 - 2. He shall seat us at His table, at the great wedding supper of the Lamb

CONCLUSION

Ponder the example of the Lord Jesus Christ, who provides perfectly for all His own.

Think ahead of time about what your own household and your own relatives need, especially any widows you have.

Pray to God the Father, in the name of Jesus Christ, that He will provide your daily bread.

Then give all due attention to your business, your way of earning your living. Be neither idle nor lazy, but work with your hands, with all your might as unto the Lord. Pray and trust that the Lord will bless the work of your hands, so that your work will be fruitful.

With your earnings, exert yourself to bring into the house what best meets the needs of the household. Then work with that to give portions to all in your household.

If your own parents or grandparents are in need, do what you can for them according to what they need.

That done, do what you can to provide for any other relatives, if any are in need, and are not being provided for by anyone closer.

In all of this, give special attention to any widows among your relatives.

Do these things not thinking to earn God's favor, not being puffed up with pride at your own goodness, but in humility following the example of our Master, the Lord Jesus.

Then, the congregation will not be unnecessarily burdened taking care of your relatives; your conduct will be good, and acceptable to God; and you will be blameless in the sight of men, as you will fulfill the fundamental family duty to provide for your own.

Thad - Call to Worship and Opening Prayer - Joshua 24:14-15

Dillon - Scripture Reading - Proverbs 27:23-27

Roel - Congregational Prayer

Benediction

Journey - Prelude - Trinity 689 "One Day"

Allison - Trinity 719 "A Shelter In the Time of Storm"

Rita - Trinity 446 "That Man Is Blest"

Rita - Trinity 174 "Praise the Saviour Now and Ever" (Andrew leading)

John 14:1-6 "Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. (2) In My Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. (3) And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also. (4) And where I go you know, and the way you know." (5) Thomas said to Him, "Lord, we do not know where You are going, and how can we know the way?" (6) Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.

1 Peter 2:9-10 But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light; (10) who once were not a people but are now the people of God, who had not obtained mercy but now have obtained mercy.

Hebrews 3:6 but Christ as a Son over His own house, whose house we are if we hold fast the confidence and the rejoicing of the hope firm to the end.

Titus 2:11-14 For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men, (12) teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age, (13) looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, (14) who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from every lawless deed and purify for Himself His own special people, zealous for good works.

