

The Book of Acts

This Week:

Lesson: Introduction to I Timothy

Scripture: I Timothy

Written: By Paul, after release from house arrest in Rome, 62-63AD

Next Week:

Homework Scripture Read: Titus

Lesson Text:

- I Timothy 1:1-3, 18-20** Leadership Manual; To Timothy, for instructing church leaders
- I Timothy 2:1-8** Church is to pray!
- I Timothy 2:9-15** Paul's infamous passage on women, notice that his reason (v13-14) is immune to cultural considerations
- I Timothy 3:1-13** Qualifications for Bishops and Deacons
- I Timothy 4:1-5** Against practices of Jewish legalists, also pertains to contemporary cults and the then-future Catholic church.
- I Timothy 4:6-16 (12,16)** Key verses
- I Timothy 5:1-2, 17-22, 1:19-20** Church discipline
- I Timothy 6** General (closing) instruction, especially regarding those who would use the ministry to get rich!

Discussion:

- **Date/Setting Note 1:** Paul has been released and returned to missionary work in Macedonia, coordinating with Timothy, who travels separately. 1Timothy is written (presumably) while Paul is in Philippi and Timothy is at Ephesus.
- **Date/Setting Note 2:** Nero burns Rome in 64 AD and Christianity will become an illegal religion, starting the great persecutions. 2Timothy will be written in 67AD, after Paul is again arrested.
- **Purpose of I Timothy:** 1Timothy has a distinct purpose in that it addresses many aspects of church leadership – both as personally to Timothy, and to a greater degree, regarding the church in general.

- **Discuss 1Timothy 3:1-13** in terms of the requirement for 1 wife – does this prohibit divorcees or only polygamists?
- **Discuss 1Timothy 4:12** in terms of personal application
- **Discuss 1Timothy 4:16** “Practice what you preach!”