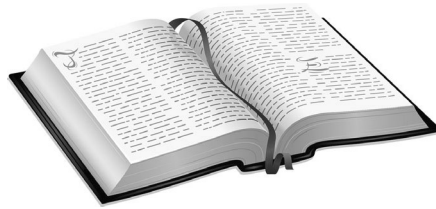


Bible Correspondence Fellowship



1 Timothy Lesson 1 of 2

Answer Sheet for English Standard Version (ESV)

The books of First & Second Timothy and Titus are unique from the rest of the writings in the New Testament in that they were written to individuals rather than churches. They are commonly known as the “Pastoral Epistles,” meaning they were written to give advice to these men who served as pastors or overseers of local churches. The letters are important today both to give instruction to modern day Christian leaders, but also for the doctrine and teaching about the Christian life that is valuable for all believers. It also helps Christians identify the qualifications and characteristics of church and ministry leaders.

INTRODUCTION

AUTHOR: The apostle Paul

PLACE OF WRITING: First Timothy was probably written from some place in Macedonia (1 Timothy 1:3), although the exact place of writing is not certain.

DATE OF WRITING: The letter was probably written around 65 A.D. after Paul’s imprisonment of Acts 28.



PURPOSE, THEME AND SUBJECT MATTER OF THE LETTER: The evidence of the Pastoral epistles suggests that Paul was released from prison in Rome after two years, and that he traveled to several cities and churches. During that time he left Titus in Crete (Titus 1:5) and Timothy in Ephesus (1 Timothy 1:3) to set things in order and appoint elders. For that reason Paul gives special attention to the qualifications of elders and deacons in the church in this epistle. He also instructs Timothy to pay attention to the sound doctrine that Paul taught him. Paul also gives instructions for Timothy's personal life and well being.

At the time of the writing of First Timothy the Christian faith was growing. As the churches became more numerous with more members, it became necessary for them to have specific guidelines about the selection of leaders and they needed a more formal form of government. This epistle gives a quite detailed list of requirements and qualifications for the leadership of congregations. Already by this point in the Church's history people were beginning to deviate from the sound teaching of Paul. There is evidence that believers were forsaking the clear teachings of God's grace that the Apostle Paul proclaimed and were returning to the legalism of Judaism (1 Timothy 1:3-8). The epistle also deals with how Christians should act toward one another, and how they need to care for each other.

Chapter 1

Please read the entire book of 1 Timothy. _____ Check.

Please memorize the following verse and be prepared to write it out at the end of this lesson.

*For there is one God, and one mediator also between God and mankind,
the man Christ Jesus, who gave Himself as a ransom for all,
the testimony given at the proper time.*

1 Timothy 2:5,6 NASB

GREETING AND WARNING AGAINST FALSE TEACHERS

Read 1 Timothy Chapter 1 _____ Check

1. (v. 1:1) Who wrote this letter? Apostle Paul
2. (v. 1:1) What does Paul call himself? an Apostle of Christ Jesus
Who appointed him to that position? God our Savior
3. (v. 1:2) To whom is this letter addressed? Timothy
How does Paul describe Timothy? my true child in the faith

Read Acts 16:1-3.

4. (v. 1:2) Why would Paul call Timothy his son if he was not? (See 1 Corinthians 4:14-17)
For I became your father in Christ Jesus through the gospel

5. (v. 1:3) Where was Timothy to stay while Paul was in Macedonia? Ephesus
6. (vs. 1:3-4a) What was Timothy to do there?
Charge certain person not to teach any other doctrine
nor to devote themselves to myths and endless genealogies

7. (v. 1:4) What are some things taught by false teachers and what do those teachings promote? myths and endless genealogies, which promote speculations rather than the stewardship from God that is by faith.
8. (v. 1:5) What is the goal of the command in verses 3-4? to have faith and love
9. (v. 1:5) Where does this love come from?
pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith
10. (v. 1:6) What have those that have forsaken these things turned to?
wandered away into vain discussion
11. (v.1:7) What did these people want to become and why could they not become that?
Teachers of the law, but they did not know what they are talking about
12. (v. 1:8) When is the Law good?
When used lawfully
13. (vs. 1:9-10) For whom was the Law made?
the lawless and disobedient, for the ungodly and sinners, for the unholy and profane, for those who strike their fathers and mothers, for murderers the sexually immoral, men who practice homosexuality, enslavers, liars, perjurers, and whatever else is contrary to sound doctrine,

Note: There are other scriptures that speak of the purpose and value of the Law. Paul makes it clear that Law had no power to save a person. All the Law could do was to point to an individual's need for Christ. Paul, in other passages, says that the Law was powerless to bring eternal life because of the flesh, our inherent sinfulness. He also describes it as a teacher or schoolmaster that was given to point us to Christ. The Law can only condemn, it cannot transform. True change can only come through the regeneration of the sinful nature which comes through a relationship with Jesus Christ and the renewing work of the Holy Spirit.

Please read: Romans 3:19-20; Galatians 3:23-24; Romans 8:3-4, Titus 3:5

14. (v. 1:11) To whom was the gospel entrusted? Paul

GOD'S GRACE TO PAUL

15. (v. 1:12) For what is Paul thankful to the Lord Jesus Christ?

Him who has given me strength,
because He judged me faithful, appointing me to his service.

16. (v. 1:13) How does Paul describe himself before he was converted?

a blasphemer, persecutor, and insolent opponent.

17. (v. 1:13) Why was Paul shown mercy?

I had acted ignorantly in unbelief

18. (v. 1:14) What three things were poured out abundantly to Paul?

grace, faith, and love

19. (v. 1:15) What is the trustworthy (faithful – KJV) saying that deserves full acceptance?

Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners

20. (vs. 1:15-16) How does Paul describe himself?

I am the foremost of sinners

21. (v. 1:15) Why do you believe Paul considered himself to be the worst or chief of sinners?

He persecuted the church (Answer will vary)

22. (v. 1:16) Why was Paul shown mercy by God?

Jesus Christ might display his perfect patience as an example to those
who were to believe in him for eternal life.

Note: Paul describes himself as a pattern of God's grace to those that come after him. Paul was the first member of the Church, which is the Body of Christ. He was the first to be saved during the present Dispensation of the Grace of God. God saved him apart from the Law and made him a part of a unique and previously unknown program in which God offered salvation entirely by grace through faith. Paul's example of how God can save a wretched sinner, completely by grace, based upon faith in the death of the Lord Jesus Christ, is a pattern for how all of us have been likewise saved and made members of the Body of Christ.

23. How does your personal testimony serve as an example for others?
People can learn how great God's grace is. (Answer will vary)
-
24. (v. 1:17) How is God described in this verse?
King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God
-
25. (vs. 1:18-19) Why did Paul give Timothy these instructions?
that by them you may wage the good warfare
-
26. (v. 1:19) What happened to those who rejected this instruction?
some have made shipwreck of their faith,
-
27. (v. 1:20) What happened to Hymenaeus and Alexander because they rejected the sound teaching of Paul and why? (also read 1 Corinthians 5:1-5)
They were handed over to satan
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Chapter 2

Read 1 Timothy 2:1-15 _____ Check

1. (v. 2:1) What should we do for everyone?
supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made
for all people
-
2. (v. 2:2) Who is specifically listed that we should pray for?
for kings and all who are in high positions
-
3. (v. 2:2) How are we to live?
peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way.
-
4. (v. 2:3) How does God respond to this?
it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior
-
5. (v. 2:4) What does God want for everyone? (Read 2 Peter 3:9)
all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth
-

6. (v. 2:5) Who is the only mediator between God and man?
the man Christ Jesus

7. (v. 2:6) What did Jesus do for everyone?
gave himself as a ransom for all

8. (v. 2:7) To what was Paul appointed?
a preacher and an apostle

9. (v. 2:7) What and to whom did Paul teach?
a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.

10. (v. 2:8) What should men everywhere do and how should they do it?
men should pray, lifting holy hands without anger or quarreling

11. (v. 2:9) Describe the appropriate way a Christian woman should dress?
in respectable apparel, with modesty and self-control,
not with braided hair and gold or pearls or costly attire,

Note: Paul is not necessarily forbidding women from wearing any jewelry but rather he is telling them that their dress should be modest and appropriate. The excessive use of such things in Paul's time was considered inappropriate for a respectable woman.

12. (vs. 2:9-10) These verses are addressed to women. Can you think of ways in which they could apply to men as well?
Men should do likewise.

(Answer will vary)

13. (v. 2:11) How should a woman learn?
quietly with all submissiveness

14. (vs. 2:12-14) Is the woman permitted to teach or have authority over a man? Why?
No, because Adam was formed first, then Eve; and Adam was not deceived,
but the woman was deceived and became a transgressor.

Note: These verses clearly state that women are not to have authority over men within the realm of the local church. The Bible does not place restrictions on women in society in general, but within the family and the church there are many verses that teach that primary authority rests with men. The language of verse 12 in the original Greek suggests that Paul is talking about women that are trying to dominate men, not merely have some say or influence in decisions. The Greek word translated “have authority over,” *authentein*, is very strong and is used to imply complete, domineering, autocratic, absolute rule. Likewise the command to be silent implies one that is appropriately quiet in proper circumstances. It does not imply that a woman is forbidden from saying any words whatsoever.

Note: Verse 15 is one for which no firm interpretation can be made. There are other verses like this in the Bible, such as 1 Corinthians 15:29, which speaks of baptism for the dead. In both that case and this one, these kind of statements are isolated with no other verses anywhere in the scriptures to give us better understanding of the meaning of the passage. Therefore, in such cases it is best to not try to give a clear interpretation and accept the fact that we will never know what God meant in this case. It is safe to assume that whatever the meaning of the passage is, knowing cannot be that important or the Holy Spirit would have given us more material to help us understand it.

Chapter 3

Read 1 Timothy 3:1-13 _____ **Check also read Titus 1:5-9**

Note: In this section of 1 Timothy as well as the parallel passages in Titus, Paul describes the characteristics of two offices in the local church, elders or overseers (these titles refer to the same office) and deacons. Elders refer to men in the church that serve as spiritual leaders. These people had special authority and leadership responsibilities and thus God established some very high moral and ethical standards for them. The office of deacon had less to do with leadership and more with service. The Greek word translated deacon is diakonos and is used several times in the New Testament to refer to ministers. Paul uses it of himself. There is a sense in which all believers are to be ministers, those that serve and help others for the glory of God. However, it appears there are those within local churches that are given a special designation of deacon. It seems that the role of the deacon was to care for the more physical concerns of the church and the well being of its members, so as to free the elders for spiritual leadership (Acts 6:1-6)

1. (v. 3:1) How does Paul describe the work of an overseer or bishop?

It is a noble task

2. (vs. 3:2-3) There are eleven requirements, or character traits of an elder listed in these two verses. By looking at those requirements write your own description of what type of person a church leader should be.

Above reproach, the husband of one wife, sober-minded, self-controlled,
respectable, hospitable, able to teach, not a drunkard, not violent but gentle,
not quarrelsome, not a lover of money.

3. (v. 3:4) How must an overseer manage his home?

manage his own household well, with all dignity keeping his children
submissive,

4. (v. 3:5) Why is it important that an overseer be able to manage his family well?

If someone does not know how to manage his own household,
how will he care for God's church?

5. (v. 3:6) Why should a leader not be a recent convert?

He may become puffed up with conceit and fall into the condemnation
of the devil.

6. (v. 3:7) What must an overseer's reputation be and why?
He must be well thought of by outsiders, so that he may not fall into disgrace,
into a snare of the devil.
7. (v. 3:8) What are the qualities that a deacon should have?
He must be dignified, not double-tongued,[c] not addicted to much wine,
not greedy for dishonest gain.
8. (v. 3:9) What should deacons hold on to?
They must hold the mystery of the faith with a clear conscience.
9. (v. 10) What must happen before someone can serve as a deacon?
let them also be tested first; then let them serve as deacons if they
prove themselves blameless.
10. (v. 11) How should a deacon's wife be?
She must be dignified, not slanderers, but sober-minded, faithful in all things.
11. (v. 12) How should a deacon manage his household?
He should manage his household and children well.
12. (v. 13) What has one that has served well as a deacon earned?
Gain a good standing for themselves and also great confidence in the
faith that is in Christ Jesus.

Read 1 Timothy 3:14-16 _____ Check

13. (v. 14) What about this verse implies that Paul was no longer in prison, as in Acts chapter 28?

He hoped to be able to go to Timothy soon.

14. (v. 15) Why did Paul leave these instruction?

That you may know how one ought to behave in the household of God,
which is the church of the living God.

15. (v. 15) How does Paul describe the household of God?
a pillar and buttress of the truth.
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