

A Study of the Epistles of Paul (NT Survey Lesson 180--1 Timothy 4)

Introduction: In this chapter Paul predicts the coming apostasy. He urges Timothy to fulfill his role as a minister of the word in order to insure the salvation of himself and those who heard him preach.

Lesson aim: To understand the features of a good minister of the word.

The coming apostasy--1 Tim. 3:16-4:5

1. What does the word "mystery" convey in the N.T.? Paul speaks here of the greatness of the mystery of what? What are some of its features? (v. 16)
2. In contrast, Paul describes the unfolding of another "mystery" (Cf. 2 Thes. 2:7). What is it? How did Paul know about it?
3. Paul said people would depart from the faith by paying attention to what? Describe the teachers who would lead men into apostasy? How would they seek to convince others of their piety?
4. In contrast to the apostates, what did Paul affirm about all food?

The qualities of a good minister of Christ--1 Tim. 4:6-16

1. How would Timothy prove himself to be a good minister of Christ?
2. By what was Timothy to be "nourished" (NASV)? What was Timothy to avoid?
3. Timothy was to discipline himself for what? What did Paul say about bodily exercise? About godliness?
4. For what is the gospel preacher laboring and striving? Why?
5. What was Timothy told to do in v. 11?

6. How might Timothy keep others from despising his youth? Of what was Timothy to be an example of the believers?
7. To what was Timothy to give attention?
8. What exhortation did Paul give Timothy about his spiritual gift? Who imparted this gift to Timothy? (See 2 Tim. 1:6) Who is the "presbytery" who laid their hands on Timothy? For what purpose might they have done this? (Cf. Ac. 13:3)
9. How did Paul urge Timothy to be conscientious in his work? (v. 15)
10. A good minister pays close attention to _____ and to his _____.
As he does this he insure salvation for whom?