

A Study of the Epistles of Paul

(NT Survey Lesson 182--1 Timothy 6)

Introduction: From the beginning of this epistle Paul has appealed to Timothy to watch out for false teachers who pervert the word of God for gain. In this chapter Paul urges Timothy to understand the motivations of those who preach error for material benefit and the need himself to avoid the love of money. Furthermore, Paul instructs Timothy as to how to help others avoid these problems.

Lesson aim: To warn against the dangers of materialism and to encourage the proper use of material things, remembering the value of the spiritual wealth we have in Christ.

Instructions for masters and slaves--1 Tim. 6:1-2

1. What attitude should servants have toward their masters who are unbelievers? Why?
2. What attitude should servants have toward their masters who are believers? Why?

False teachers--1 Tim. 6:3-10

1. How does Paul describe the doctrine that gospel teachers should preach and teach? (v. 3)
2. What does Paul say about the man who teaches a different doctrine? What are the results of his work?
3. What false assumption do false teachers make about godliness? What did Paul say about godliness? (v. 6) What kind of gain is this?
4. On the basis of what did Paul urge Timothy to be content? (v. 7) With what then should we be content?
5. What about those who want to get rich?
6. What dangers are there in the love of money?

How Timothy should conduct himself as a true teacher--1 Tim. 6:11-16

1. How did Paul tell Timothy to avoid the dangers of materialism? (v. 11)
2. As a soldier of Christ, Timothy was to do what? (v. 12)
3. Rather than desire earthly riches, Timothy needed to take hold of what?
4. What charge did Paul give to Timothy? (v. 13-14)
5. With what ideas does Paul praise God in v. 15-16?

Exhortations to the rich--1 Tim. 6:17-19

1. What was Timothy to instruct the rich not to do? In whom should the rich set their hope?
2. What do the rich need to do with their money?
3. In giving their money to others, what will the rich be doing? (v. 19)

A final appeal to Timothy to guard the truth entrusted to him--1 Tim. 5:17-25

1. What is Paul's final appeal to Timothy? Avoiding what?
2. Had some in Paul's day left the faith? Why?