

Which is better:

- Sunshine or rain?
- Lifting heavy objects or light objects?
- Things that taste bad or good?
- Wealth or poverty?
- Sickness or health?

*Paul's Letter to
the Disciple*



I Timothy

The Man of God

(Part One)

1 Tim. 6:11-16

1. The Man of God (11-15a)

- His Focus, Fight, Foundation, Faithfulness

2. The God of Man (15b-16)



1. The Man of God

- A title given to OT prophets
 - Moses, Samuel, Shemaiah, Elijah, Elisha, David, Igdaliah, several unnamed
- Used 2x in NT – *special ambassador*
 - Timothy (6:11): to encourage him and remind him of his Master, purpose, duty
 - Mature believers (2 Tim. 3:17)



1. The Man of God's *Focus*

- Lit: *But you, O man of God*
 - *Flee – run or move hastily away*
 - *These things* = desire to be rich, love of money, longing for money (6:9-10)
 - These are marks of false teachers
 - *peddling the word of God* (1 Cor. 2:17)
 - Paul worked instead (1 Cor. 9:3-18)



1. The Man of God's *Focus*

- Lit: *But you, O man of God*
 - *Pursue – to press hard after with earnestness and diligence in order to obtain* (cf. Phil. 3:12, 14)
 - Run vigorously away from sin and run diligently after holiness (see Heb. 12:14)
 - Put off / put on (Eph. 4:22-24; Col. 3:9-10)



1. The Man of God's *Focus*

- He pursues: *Righteousness* – doing what is right in the sight of God/man
- Not *salvific/judicial* but *practical/ethical* (see Rom. 4:5-6; Gen. 15:6 & 18:19)
- *He loves one who pursues righteousness* (Prov. 15:9; cf. Prov. 21:21)
- How? Learn what pleases God and do it (1 Thess. 4:1-8)



1. The Man of God's *Focus*

- He pursues: *Godliness* – proper respect, reverence, & submission to God in all circumstances (motive->obedience)
 - Based on sound doctrine [truth] (6:3)
 - Out of gratitude (see Heb. 12:28)
 - How? Discipline / training (4:7-10)



1. The Man of God's *Focus*

- He pursues: *Faith* – taking God at His word (see Heb. 12)
 - We are saved through faith (Eph. 2:8)
 - Increased by *testing* (James 1:2-4; 2:21-22)
 - Refined by trials (1 Pet. 1:6-16)
 - How? Trust God no matter what happens (Matt. 14:22-33)



1. The Man of God's *Focus*

- He pursues: *Love* – *selfless service*
 - The impetus and context for all Christian activity (1 Cor. 13; Gal. 5:13)
 - *Faith in action* (Gal. 5:6; James 2:1-17)
 - How? Treat *all people* the same way you want them to treat you (Matt. 7:12)
 - e.g. - be patient & kind, don't be jealous, ... (1 Cor. 13:4-7)



1. The Man of God's *Focus*

- He pursues: *Perseverance* – *endurance in the trials of life*
 - *Stick-to-itiveness*; just keep going
 - How? Understand God's plan
 - Tribulation -> perseverance -> character
(Rom. 5:3-4; James 1:2-4)



1. The Man of God's *Focus*

- He pursues: *Gentleness* –
disposition of meekness -> people
 - Accepts all things as *good* from God
 - Even injustice (see 1 Pet. 2:18-25)
 - ...Yet hates sin (e.g. - Mark 3:5)
 - How? Understand God's plan
 - God prunes, refines, tests, stretches...



1. The Man of God's *Fight*

- *Fight the good fight of the faith*

- See 1:18; 2 Tim. 4:1-8

- Doctrine: *Preach the word*

- Keep the message pure, unadulterated; guard it (6:20); proclaim it all to all men (Acts 20:26-32)

- *Contend earnestly for the faith* (Jude 3)



1. The Man of God's *Fight*

- *Fight the good fight of the faith*

- See 1:18; 2 Tim. 4:1-8 (cf. Jude 3)

- *Duty: Be sober in all things; endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry*

- Stay true to your task; be faithful in all you have been called to do



1. The Man of God's *Foundation*

- *Take hold of the eternal life*
 - *Grasp in order to make it one's own*
 - As believers we have the hope of the fulness of eternal life to come
 - But Paul's challenge is to *own it*; live it *now*
 - See 1 Tim. 6:18-19



So What?

- Anything you need to *flee from*?
 - Wrong desires? False gods?
- Are you *pursuing* what God desires?
 - Do you understand *grace*? (Titus 2:11-14)
 - Pick one thing to start (*baby steps*)
- How are you living *eternal life* right now?

