

# 1 Timothy 6

## 1 Timothy 6.1-2

- V1** – How does the typical human being try to get rid of something like slavery? Violence
- What does the New Testament advise though? Peaceful means
  - Why? To honor God and keep a good reputation for the gospel
  - Some very important principles here:
    - In dealing with crude and mean people, the best response is usually love and obedience and respect
    - Good advice for the marriage relationship
    - According to William Barclay, Roman Empire had about 60,000 thousand slaves – if Christianity had encouraged a rebellion, the Empire would have viciously attacked the church
  - What other New Testament passage talks about this? *1 Peter 2*

- V2** – What about the Christian slave who has a Christian master? Be even more respectful and obedient
- The slave should be grateful to get to serve a Christian master

## 1 Timothy 6.3-5 – going back to the theme of the church – more warnings against false teachers

- V3** – It is very possible that some of the false teachers were inciting the slaves to rebel

- V4** – Characteristics of false teachers? Conceited and not understanding, with a morbid interest in controversial questions and disputes about words
- At one school of preaching that the author of these notes is aware of, in one class the big discussion was over whether or not there would be announcements in heaven (let us hope not!)

- V4-5** – What were the results of that argumentative spirit? Envy, strife, abusive language, evil suspicions, constantly friction
- Their ultimate goal? To make money off of the gospel
  - Another possible reference to false teachers who were encouraging slaves to rebel

## 1 Timothy 6.6-10

- V6** – What is the way to happiness? Not by having more, but by wanting less

- V7** – How long do we have our earthly possessions? Only for this life
- We should be concerned only for what we can wisely use in this life
  - Read Proverbs 30.8-9

- V8** – What are the only two real necessities of life? Food and clothing

**V 9 – Does Paul condemn all rich people?** No, just those who want to get rich  
-Some get rich without really planning for it, because of hard work, honesty, and the blessings of the Lord  
-**Result of wanting to get rich?** Ruin and destruction (think of the application to gambling)

**V 10 –** This is probably the most misquoted scripture in the entire Bible – not “money,” but the “love of money”  
-**What does the love of money cause for a Christian?** He wanders away from the faith  
-Most of us know people who have wandered away from the faith, because of the love of money

## **1 Timothy 6.11-16**

**V 11 –** “*you man of God*” = not just referring to preachers, but to all Christians (*2 Timothy 3.17*)  
-**Flee what things?** Love of money and false doctrines described in this letter  
-**What was Timothy told to pursue?** Righteousness, godliness, faith, perseverance, gentleness

**V 12 – How is the Christian life described?** A fight  
-There will be fierce opposition to our faith  
-It is a struggle, not a life of ease  
-“*good confession*” – made at baptism  
-See *Romans 10.9-10, Hebrews 10.23, 2 Corinthians 9.13, Acts 8.37*  
-**Under what circumstances did Timothy make the Good Confession?** Before many witnesses

**V 13 – When did Christ make the Good Confession?** Before Pilate  
– Read **John 18.37** and **Luke 23.3**

**V 14 – What was Paul’s “charge” to Timothy?** To keep the commandment without stain  
-**What “commandment”?** The gospel of Jesus Christ (notice: “commandment” is singular)  
-**Was Timothy supposed to live until the Second Coming?** No, for a Christian, death is the appearance of Jesus Christ

Beautiful language in v 15-16:

**V 15 –** Three titles for Jesus in vs. 15:  
-Blessed and only Sovereign  
-King of Kings (*Revelation 17.14, 19.16*)  
-Lord of Lords

**V 16 – Do we possess immortality?** Only in one direction (future)  
-God has it in past and future  
-**Why would Paul know about the light that God has?** Paul was blinded on the road to Damascus

## **1 Timothy 6.17-21**

**V 17** – **Message to the members of the church at Ephesus?** Not to fix their hopes on their wealth

-**How will our needs be supplied?** By God (see: *Philippians 4.19*)

**V 18-19** – **Future instructions to the rich?** Do good, and be rich in good works, be generous, ready to share, be storing up treasures in heaven

**V 20** – Paul is pleading with Timothy to hold fast to the faith: Don't add to it or subtract from it

-A Christian must not exalt one truth above others

-What is "falsely" called "knowledge"

**V 21** – **Once Saved Always Saved?** No, once held to the truth

-A peaceful ending to the letter

**V 21b** – "You" is plural in the Greek, so the letter was really written to the whole church

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