

1 Timothy: God's Church, God's Way



1 Timothy 4:1–5

- The doctrine presented in the hymn at the end of chapter three is true, but not everyone will accept or teach it
- In the last times some will depart from the faith
 - They must be connected to the faith at some level. You cannot leave something you are not part of.



1 Timothy 4:1–5

- The doctrine presented in the hymn at the end of chapter three is true, but not everyone will accept or teach it
- In the last times some will depart from the faith
 - Rather than holding to the faith they will embrace deceitful spirits and demonic teaching
 - They will promote lies they received from hypocrites



1 Timothy 4:1–5

- Two specific false teachings that will be prevalent:
 - Forbidding people to marry
 - Abstaining from certain foods
- God created these foods for believers to partake with thanksgiving
- Those who teach otherwise are teaching lies



1 Timothy 4:6–8

- This false teaching in Ephesus needed to be contradicted
- Timothy was to present these truths, laying them out in front of the brothers for their instruction (and presumably, their examination)
- If he did this, he would be considered a good servant/minister of Christ Jesus



1 Timothy 4:6–8

- In addition to refuting false teaching and promoting healthy doctrine, Paul commanded Timothy to reject myths
 - *bebēlos* - “worthless, pointless”
 - *graōdēs* - “characteristic of an old woman”; they are the types of things that old women gossip about or tell stories when they get together



1 Timothy 4:6–8

- Timothy's training was to be in godliness
- *gymnazō* - the root of our word “gymnasium, training center”
- Paul expected that he could train himself based on the instruction he had already received from his mother and grandmother, his church in Galatia, and Paul



1 Timothy 4:6–8

- Paul's explanation has a positive/negative contrast:
 - From the literal meaning of *gymnazō*, Paul said that physical training provides only a little benefit
 - However, the result of training in godliness benefits all areas since it holds promise for both this life and the next



1 Timothy 4:9–10

- Paul’s third “faithful saying” is in verse 8:

“Physical training is beneficial for some things, but godliness is beneficial for all things holding promise of life now and to come.”



1 Timothy 4:9–10

- Paul and his team labored and struggled to promote healthy doctrine and training in godliness
 - Because they had placed their hope in the living God
 - Because he is the savior of all people, but especially believers
 - Because it is hard work to present healthy doctrine in a world that doesn't want it and to people who are easily distracted





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