

# Outline of the Book of 1 Timothy

The book of 1 Timothy, written by the Apostle Paul, is a pastoral epistle that provides guidance for church leadership, sound doctrine, and practical living. Paul addresses Timothy, his protégé, on how to manage the church in Ephesus and warns against various dangers that could undermine the faith and effectiveness of the believers. Below is an exhaustive outline of 1 Timothy, highlighting the dangers facing believers.

## I. Introduction (1:1-2)

- A. Salutation (1:1-2)
  - 1. Paul's apostleship by the command of God (1:1)
  - 2. Greeting to Timothy, his true son in the faith (1:2)
  - 3. Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord (1:2)

## II. Instructions on False Doctrine and Law (1:3-20)

- A. Warning Against False Teachers (1:3-11)
  - 1. Charge to remain in Ephesus and command certain people not to teach false doctrines (1:3-4)
  - 2. The goal of the command is love from a pure heart, a good conscience, and sincere faith (1:5)
  - 3. Problems caused by false teachers (1:6-7)
  - 4. Proper use of the law (1:8-11)
- B. Paul's Testimony and Charge to Timothy (1:12-20)
  - 1. Paul's gratitude for God's mercy and grace (1:12-14)
  - 2. Christ Jesus came to save sinners (1:15-16)
  - 3. Doxology: Praise to the King eternal (1:17)
  - 4. Charge to Timothy to fight the good fight of faith (1:18-20)

## III. Instructions for Worship and Church Leadership (2:1-3:16)

- A. Instructions on Worship (2:1-15)
  - 1. The importance of prayer for all people, especially leaders (2:1-4)
  - 2. God's desire for all to be saved (2:5-7)
  - 3. Instructions for men and women in worship (2:8-15)
- B. Qualifications for Church Leaders (3:1-13)
  - 1. Qualifications for overseers (3:1-7)
  - 2. Qualifications for deacons (3:8-13)
- C. The Mystery of Godliness (3:14-16)
  - 1. Purpose of writing: proper conduct in the household of God (3:14-15)
  - 2. The mystery of godliness revealed (3:16)

## IV. Instructions on False Teaching and Godly Living (4:1-16)

- A. Warning Against False Teachers (4:1-5)

1. The Spirit's warning about deceiving spirits and things taught by demons (4:1-2)
2. Characteristics of false teachings (4:3-5)
- B. Exhortation to Godliness (4:6-16)
  1. Training in godliness (4:6-10)
  2. Instructions for Timothy's ministry (4:11-16)

## V. Instructions for Various Groups in the Church (5:1-6:2)

- A. Instructions for Different Groups (5:1-16)
  1. Proper treatment of older and younger members (5:1-2)
  2. Care for widows (5:3-16)
- B. Instructions for Elders (5:17-25)
  1. Honor and remuneration for elders (5:17-18)
  2. Proper handling of accusations against elders (5:19-21)
  3. Avoidance of hastiness in ordaining elders (5:22-25)
- C. Instructions for Slaves (6:1-2)
  1. Attitude of slaves towards their masters (6:1-2)

## VI. Final Instructions and Warnings (6:3-21)

- A. Warning Against False Teachers and the Love of Money (6:3-10)
  1. Characteristics of false teachers (6:3-5)
  2. Godliness with contentment (6:6-8)
  3. Dangers of the love of money (6:9-10)
- B. Charge to Timothy (6:11-16)
  1. Pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance, and gentleness (6:11-12)
  2. Keep the command without spot or blame (6:13-16)
- C. Instructions to the Rich (6:17-19)
  1. Exhortation to the rich to be generous and store up treasure in heaven (6:17-19)
- D. Final Charge and Benediction (6:20-21)
  1. Guard what has been entrusted (6:20)
  2. Avoid godless chatter and contradictions (6:20-21)
  3. Benediction (6:21)

## Dangers Facing the Believer Highlighted in 1 Timothy

### 1. False Doctrine (1:3-11; 4:1-5; 6:3-5):

- **Danger:** Being led astray by false teachings and myths.
- **Application:** Remain steadfast in the sound doctrine and teachings of Christ, focusing on love, a pure heart, a good conscience, and sincere faith.

### 2. Misuse of the Law (1:7-11):

- **Danger:** Misinterpreting and misapplying the law.
- **Application:** Understand the proper use of the law, which is to reveal sin and guide believers towards righteous living.

### 3. Lack of Prayer (2:1-4):

- **Danger:** Neglecting prayer for all people, including leaders.
- **Application:** Prioritize intercessory prayer, recognizing its importance in the life of the church and the salvation of others.

### 4. Improper Conduct in Worship (2:8-15):

- **Danger:** Disrupting the order and decorum of worship through inappropriate behavior.
- **Application:** Maintain proper conduct in worship, with men leading in prayer and women demonstrating godliness through modesty and submission.

### 5. Unqualified Leadership (3:1-13; 5:22-25):

- **Danger:** Appointing unqualified individuals to positions of leadership.
- **Application:** Ensure that church leaders meet the biblical qualifications, emphasizing character, faithfulness, and ability to teach.

### 6. False Teachers and Apostasy (4:1-5):

- **Danger:** Falling away from the faith due to deceptive spirits and false teachings.
- **Application:** Be vigilant against false teachings and adhere to the truth of God's Word.

### 7. Neglect of Godliness (4:7-10):

- **Danger:** Failing to pursue godliness and spiritual discipline.
- **Application:** Train in godliness, recognizing its value for all aspects of life and the life to come.

### 8. Disrespect for Various Groups (5:1-16):

- **Danger:** Failing to honor and care for different groups within the church, such as older men, younger members, and widows.
- **Application:** Treat all members of the church family with respect, honor, and appropriate care.

### 9. Improper Handling of Elders (5:17-25):

- **Danger:** Mishandling accusations against elders and hastily ordaining leaders.
- **Application:** Honor and protect church leaders, handle accusations justly, and carefully evaluate candidates for leadership.

### 10. Disrespect for Authority (6:1-2):

- **Danger:** Slaves showing disrespect to their masters, thereby dishonoring God's name and teaching.
- **Application:** Encourage respect and faithful service in all positions, recognizing it as service to the Lord.

### 11. Love of Money (6:6-10, 17-19):

- **Danger:** Falling into the trap of greed and the pursuit of wealth.
- **Application:** Cultivate contentment and generosity, storing up treasure in heaven rather than on earth.

## 12. Godless Chatter and Contradictions (6:20-21):

- **Danger:** Engaging in meaningless talk and contradictions that oppose sound doctrine.
- **Application:** Guard the truth entrusted to you and avoid godless chatter, focusing on the sound teaching of the faith.

### Well-known Passages from 1 Timothy

[1 Timothy 1:15-17 ESV] The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the foremost. But I received mercy for this reason, that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display his perfect patience as an example to those who were to believe in him for eternal life. To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

[1 Timothy 2:1-6 ESV] First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way. This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.

For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself as a ransom for all, which is the testimony given at the proper time.

[1 Timothy 4:7-11 ESV] Have nothing to do with irreverent, silly myths. Rather train yourself for godliness; for while bodily training is of some value, godliness is of value in every way, as it holds promise for the present life and also for the life to come. The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance. For to this end we toil and strive, because we have our hope set on the living God, who is the Savior of all people, especially of those who believe. Command and teach these things.

[1 Timothy 6:6-11 ESV] But godliness with contentment is great gain, for we brought nothing into the world, and we cannot take anything out of the world. But if we have food and clothing, with these we will be content. But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation, into a snare, into many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction.

For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evils. It is through this craving that some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pangs. But as for you, O man of God, flee these things. Pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, steadfastness, gentleness.

[1 Timothy 6:12-16 ESV] Fight the good fight of the faith. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called and about which you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses. I charge you in the presence of God, who gives life to all things, and of Christ Jesus, who in his testimony before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, to keep the commandment unstained and free from reproach until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ, which he will display at the proper time—he who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords, who alone has immortality, who dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see. To him be honor and eternal dominion. Amen.

## Conclusion for 1 Timothy

By understanding these dangers and applying Paul's instructions, believers can strengthen their faith, maintain sound doctrine, and live lives that honor God and promote the health and growth of the church community.