

# A Job To Do

1 Timothy 6:11-21

Be an



of a faithful man

## 1 Timothy 6:11-21

But you, man of God, flee from all this, and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance and gentleness. Fight the good fight of the faith. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called when you made your good confession in the presence of many witnesses. In the sight of God, who gives life to everything, and of Christ Jesus, who while testifying before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, I charge you to keep this command without spot or blame until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ, which God will bring about in his own time--God, the blessed and only Ruler, the King of kings and Lord of lords, who alone is immortal and who lives in unapproachable light, whom no one has seen or can see. To him be honour and might forever.

Amen.

Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life. Timothy, guard what has been entrusted to your care. Turn away from godless chatter and the opposing ideas of what is falsely called knowledge, which some have professed and in so doing have wandered from the faith. Grace be with you.

But you, **man of God**, flee from all this, and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance and gentleness.

What a description ...



But you, man of God, **flee from all this**, and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance and gentleness.

—  
A positive negative!  
Something we have to get away from  
Temptation ....

Resist the devil BUT flee temptation  
James 4:7



But you, man of God, flee from all this, and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance and gentleness.

3 pairs of positive positives -  
Some things to actively go after.

Note the order

### Christian character qualities

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness (Matthew 5:6) (seek first)

Faith in and love of truth lived out vs. the false

In trials having a contented spirit



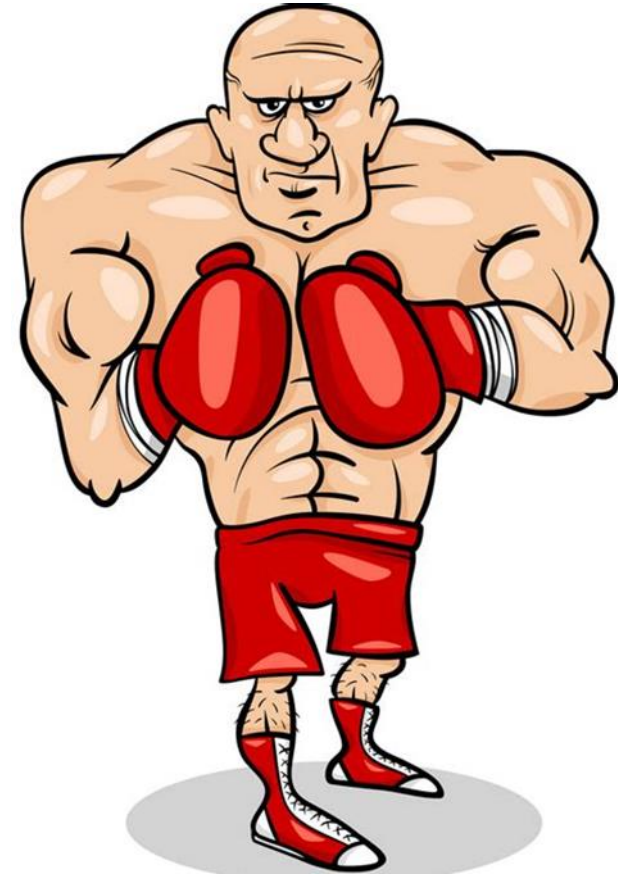
Fight the good fight of the faith.

We are in a spiritual war.

It's good – therefore, it's worth it

What should we fight for - **the faith**  
The truths of salvation in the gospel

Show yourself a good soldier



Fight the good fight of the faith.

With the Lord's weapons

2 Corinthians 10:4-5 For the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh but have divine power to destroy strongholds. We destroy arguments and every lofty opinion raised against the knowledge of God, and take every thought captive to obey Christ,





# God's call has entered his life

Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called

How ?

Recognise the value of this new life  
Its quality and quantity

'Fight the good fight with all thy might,  
Christ is thy strength, and Christ thy right;  
Lay hold on life, and it shall be  
Thy joy and crown eternally.  
Run the straight race through God's good grace,  
Lift up thine eyes and seek His Face;  
Life with its way before us lies,  
Christ is the path, and Christ the prize.'



## Timothy's commitment to the Lord = a good confession

Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called when you made your good confession in the presence of many witnesses.

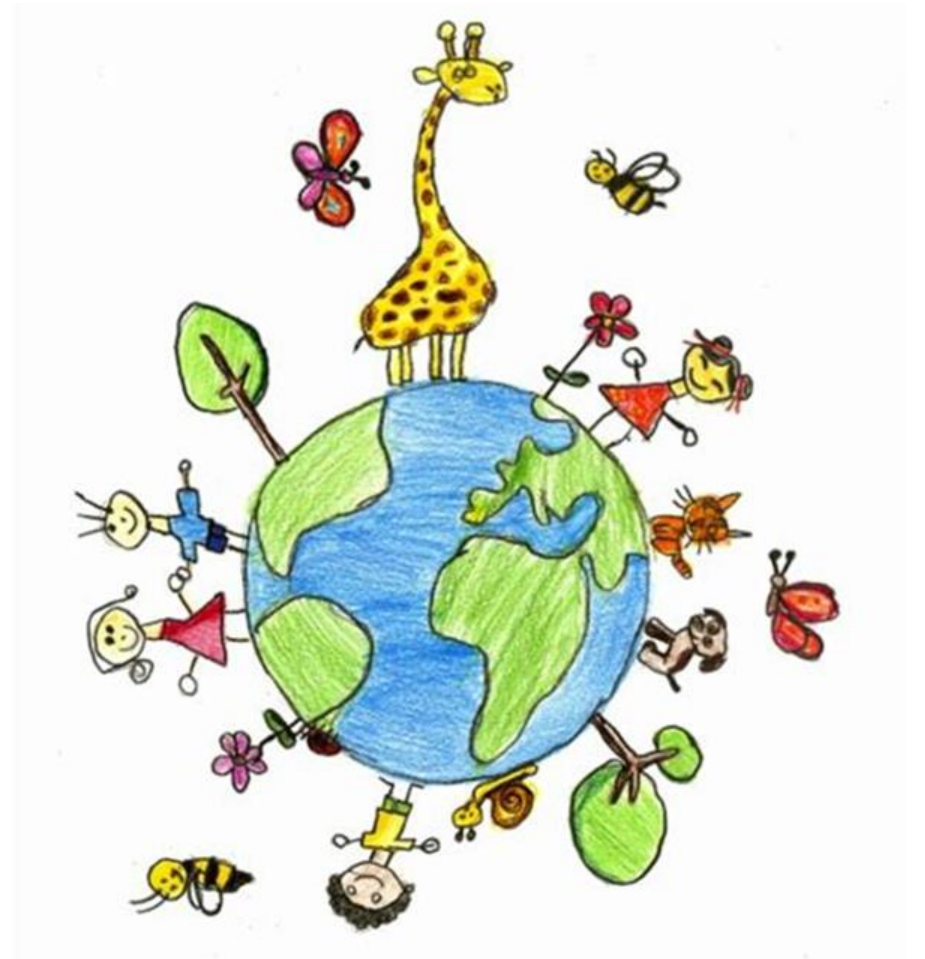
Paul remembers and may be reminding Timothy of what happened at his baptism.



# The ultimate witness

In the sight of God, who gives life to everything, and of Christ Jesus,

This is a serious charge - God sees NOW  
He is the real life-giver and sustainer  
The Messiah Jesus is also present as a  
witness.



# Our great example

Christ Jesus,  
who while testifying before Pontius Pilate made the good confession

While he was on trial conducted himself in a holy way  
and declared his Lordship – a good witness





I charge you to keep this command without spot or blame

A solemn charge – do this!

With commitment and integrity so that no one can justly criticise



He needed God's daily help

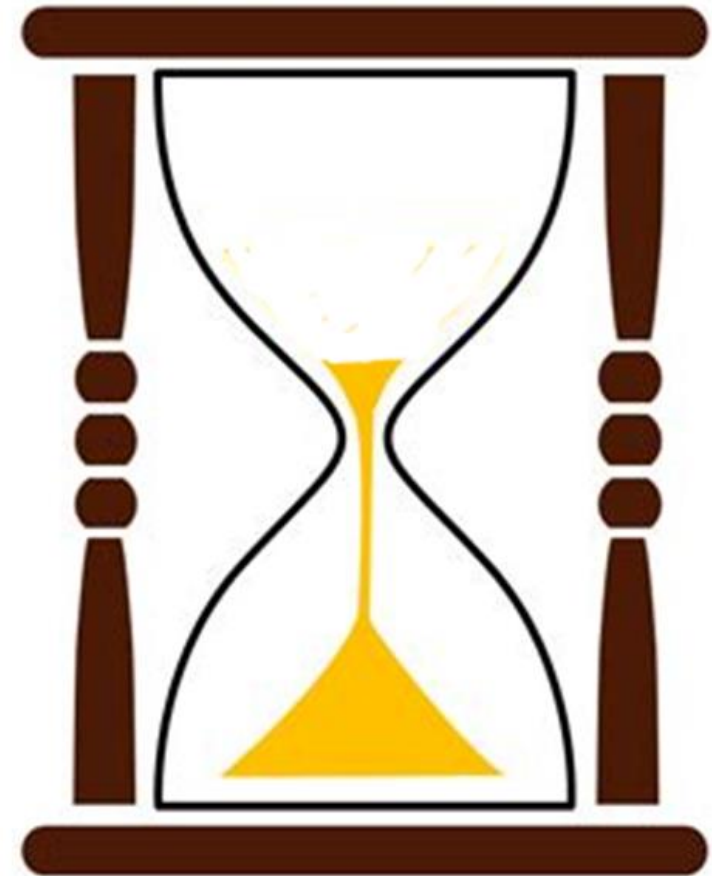
## It's a lifetime thing

I charge you to keep this command without spot or blame until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ,

It applies until Jesus returns – or you go to be with him.

Jesus is coming back in glory

Titus 2:13 waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Saviour Jesus Christ,



# It's no good trying to guess

until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
which God will bring about in his own time-

It is certain that He will return  
When – is unknown to us but not to God  
He has his own purposes - not to be  
rushed or delayed



# This is our God

**God, the blessed and only Ruler**, the King of kings and Lord of lords, who alone is immortal and who lives in unapproachable light, whom no one has seen or can see. To him be honour and might forever.  
Amen.

Blessed – worthy of praise  
There is only one ruler in this universe  
He is still in charge.





God, the blessed and only Ruler, **the King of kings and Lord of lords**, who alone is immortal and who lives in unapproachable light, whom no one has seen or can see. To him be honour and might forever.  
Amen.

This is God's superior place above earthly kings and authorities

This title is also applied to God's Son – Jesus in Revelation 17:14



God, the blessed and only Ruler, the King of kings and Lord of lords, **who alone is immortal** and who lives in unapproachable light, whom no one has seen or can see. To him be honour and might forever.  
Amen.

He is the only one to have life within his being eternally there.



God, the blessed and only Ruler, the King of kings and Lord of lords, who alone is immortal **and who lives in unapproachable light, whom no one has seen or can see.** To him be honour and might forever.  
Amen.

Earthly human eyes are not capable of seeing his glory in its fulness –

He is utterly glorious

Jesus said,  
“Blessed are the pure in heart,  
for they shall see God.”  
Matthew 5:8



God, the blessed and only Ruler, the King of kings and Lord of lords, who alone is immortal and who lives in unapproachable light, whom no one has seen or can see. **To him be honour and might forever.**

**Amen.**

Praise rightly belongs to him.

This is not simply a prayer but a declaration of what is true of God forever.

Amen – is the Hebrew ‘yes’ to Paul’s praise-prayer



## Back to earth practical considerations ...

Command those who are **rich in this present world** not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain,

A reminder to the rich in the congregation

They may be rich now – but this world is passing and all that belongs to it

Be wise while you have it.



**Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain,**

The danger of pride in present prosperous circumstances.  
Tell them that trust in wealth is not a good idea - things can change so quickly  
And even if they don't, wealth offers no security at the judgement





## This is not an option

**Command those** who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but **to put their hope in God**, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment.

The proper source of hope for the future is God – outside of time – but able to help in present needs



## God's amazing generosity towards us

Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in **God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment.**

**richly** - He has the resources  
All that he gives we can **enjoy**



We are unworthy – so this calls for gratitude in our enjoyment



# It's an order!

**Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds,  
and to be generous and willing to share.**

What are good deeds?

Doing what God commands – instructs – and teaches us

Real riches are only found in godly activity

Matthew 5:16, 'let your light shine ...  
that they may see your good works, and  
glorify your Father in heaven.'



# It's an order!

**Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds,  
and to be generous and willing to share.**

Be open-hearted to the needs of others

We can have a different view of our possessions

Enjoyed together



**In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life.**

Treasures in heaven – into the kingdom age  
A good investment in the future



In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, **so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life.**

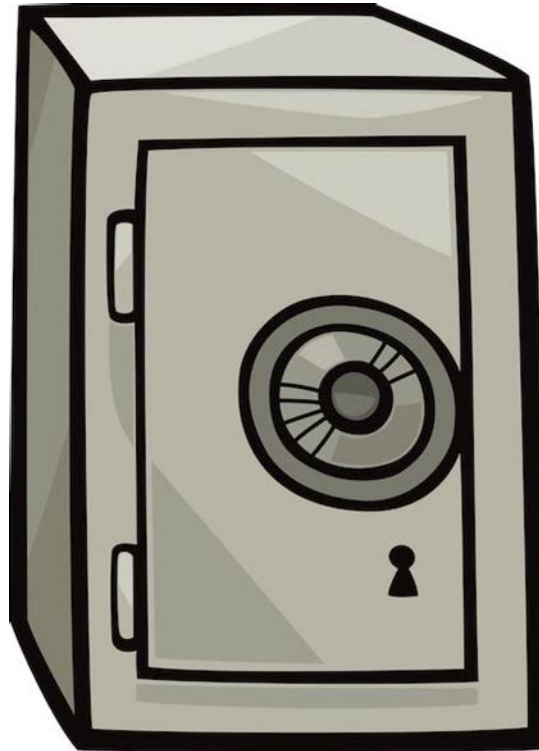
Godly living prepares us for the kingdom. And it also brings us into the blessing of experiencing its qualities now, even before we enter it fully - this is real living



Paul wants for them what he wanted for Timothy

Timothy, guard what has been entrusted to your care.

God's gracious gifts are to be valued and protected by faith and right living





# How to protect your treasure

Turn away from godless chatter and the opposing ideas of what is falsely called knowledge

**Things to avoid** – very dangerous things

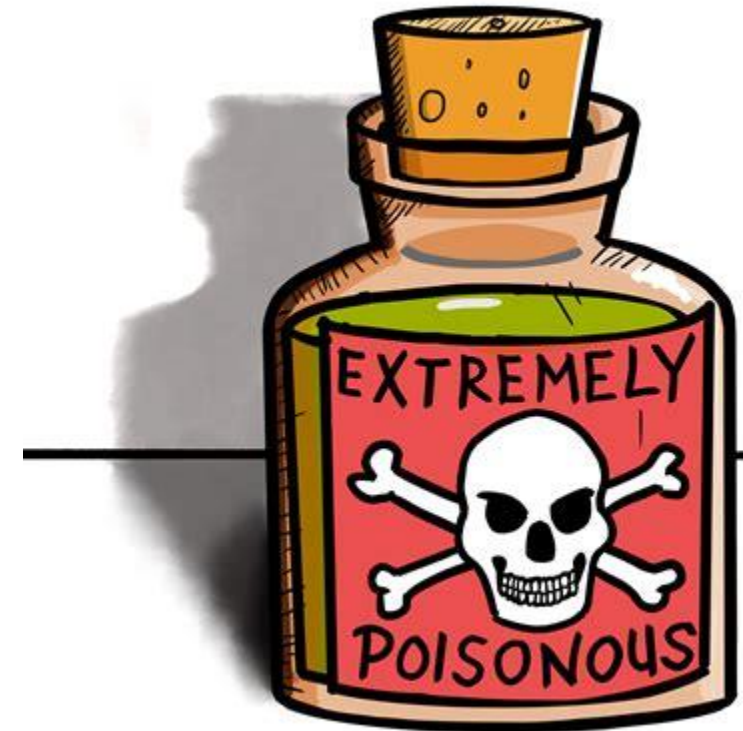
Gossip!

Empty speculations – the ideas of these false teachers.

They call their stuff ‘knowledge’

but it isn’t based on truth

so it can’t be what they claim.



of what is falsely called knowledge, **which some have professed and in so doing have wandered from the faith**

You can see its terrible effects in the foolish ones who have been taken in by it and have become disconnected from the faith and the life and power that goes with it.



Grace be with you.

God's undeserved favour  
His gracious activity on our behalf  
His gracious presence at work in our lives.



This is what we need