



# SUNDAY SERMON

## RECAP

28 April 2024

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### Sermon Notes

**Sermon title:** The Book of 1<sup>st</sup> Timothy (Part 10)

**Pastor:** Claudio Silveiro

**Scripture Reading:** 1 Timothy 6:1-10 (NKJV)

#### Introduction

Pastor Claudio shared a Prophetic image he had of a person with a masterpiece of art at the entrance of their home. It then changed into a cloak that the person could wear wherever they went. Godliness isn't something that we put up for display, it is something that we put on, that we clothe ourselves with so that others are blessed.

#### 1. A culture of honour

1 Timothy 6:1-2 (NKJV)

Paul writes to Timothy and explains to him how slaves should treat their masters. In those days slavery was still rife. People could become slaves in various ways. Often it was due to them selling themselves into slavery as a result of debt.

So, in the church in Ephesus, many of the members would be masters or slaves. In some situations, a master may even have submitted to a slave, if the slave was in a spiritual leadership over them.

How were the slaves and masters to interact with each other? With honour!

We too need to honour those we work for. There are 3 levels of honour:

- a. We see everyone as being made in the image of God. (So, if you have a difficult boss the first step in honouring them is to know that God formed them in His likeness, just as He formed you in His likeness)
- b. We recognise that everyone has been gifted by God. (If we struggle to honour all aspects of a boss's behaviour or character, at least we can honour those things that he/she does well).
- c. We can honour the degree to which they are walking in Christlikeness. We do this by acknowledging the grace that is on their lives and celebrating it.

Honouring doesn't mean that we never disagree with those we work for. But it does mean that we are careful not to look through the lens of our opinion only. Otherwise, they will always be wrong in our eyes. When we disagree, we need to go back to the first level of honour as described above.

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Colossians 3:23-24 (NIV)

Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, <sup>24</sup> since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving.

1 Tim 6:2 says that if your master is a believer you should work even harder for them.

If a Christian friend is in business, don't ask for a discount. Rather pay them the full price so that they can flourish.

People will judge Christianity by:

- Who God is.
- What the Bible says.

And they will judge these things by looking at us, Christ's followers. We do not want His name or doctrine to be blasphemed.

Are we leading people to Christ or away from Christ by how we live and work?

## 2. Doctrine which accords with godliness.

1 Tim 6:3-5 (NKJV)

Paul advocates healthy, wholesome, sound doctrine that leads to godliness.

Our spiritual health comes from the degree to which we live according to the Word of God. How often do you look at the truth, study it, and let it change your heart?

In 1 Timothy 6 we are presented with two types of people:

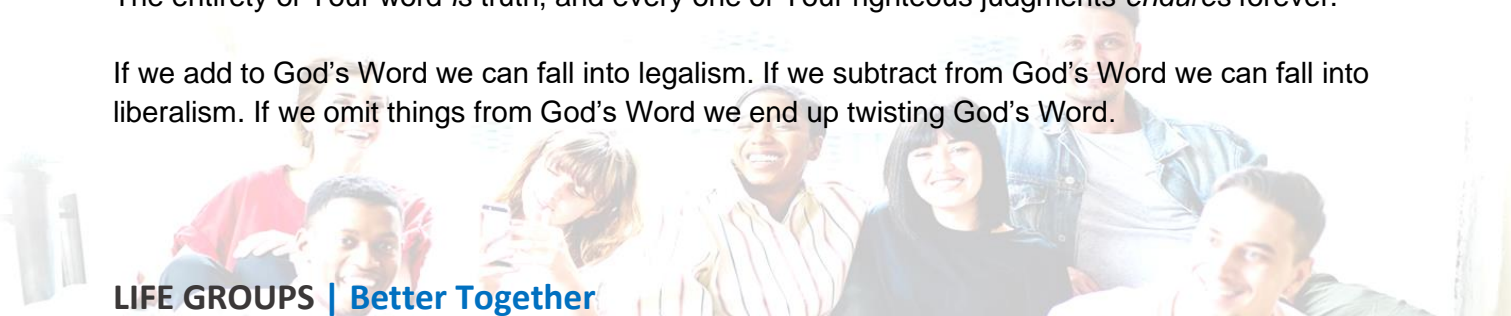
- People who pursue godliness with contentment.
- People who pursue godliness for personal gain.

We need to beware of people who teach strange doctrines for personal gain. The Bible tells us to withdraw from them. Need to be on guard. Some of them could have started out preaching with sincere hearts, but then started teaching one degree off, and later find themselves preaching something not in line with the Gospel.

Psalms 119:160

The entirety of Your word *is* truth, and every one of Your righteous judgments *endures* forever.

If we add to God's Word we can fall into legalism. If we subtract from God's Word we can fall into liberalism. If we omit things from God's Word we end up twisting God's Word.



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### 3. Godliness with contentment is great gain.

The word godliness is used 8 times in 1 Timothy and 4 of these times is in Chapter 6.

Godliness means to worship well. It is about receiving the gift of right standing with God and living it out.

2 Peter 3:18 “But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and for ever! Amen.”

When we are saved we are justified before Christ. Made righteous through His blood. Sanctification is a process where we remove things that shouldn't be in our lives and add things that should be in our lives (e.g. Fruit of the Spirit).

This involves living with an eternal perspective rather than with a temporal perspective.

If we live with a temporal focus we can get caught up with earthly things and fall into the traps of consumerism, greed and sin.

Living with an eternal focus protects us from the love of money which is a root of evil. Those who pursue money can experience much destruction and many sorrows.

Having wealth is not the problem. The danger is when the position that wealth takes in our lives becomes greater than our love for God.

The Lord wants us to live godly lives with contentment. To love Him with all our hearts and to live for things that have eternal value.

See Psalm 102:2, Psalm 42:1, Matthew 6:33, Mark 12:29.

### Conclusion

Ecclesiastes 12:13-14 “Now all has been heard; here is the conclusion of the matter: fear God and keep his commandments, for this is the duty of all mankind.”

The great gain referred to is right standing with the Father. Where we are dead to self and alive to God. No longer living for the pleasures of this world but living for the Lord.

