Crossroads International Church Singapore Dr. Rick Griffith

14 July 2019 Message 54 of 66

NLT 40 Minutes

Title

**Be Orderly**

***Book of 1 Timothy***

**Topic:** Order

**Subject:** How can we defeat heresy in our church?

**Complement:** Obey God’s priorities for church order.

**Purpose:** The listeners will contribute to our church order to defeat false teaching.

**Attribute:** We worship the God of Order

**Reading:** 1 Timothy 1:1-7

**Songs:** This I Believe (The Creed), We Are the Body of Christ, O Church Arise, Agnus Dei

**Benediction:** 1 Timothy 5:21

# Introduction

### Interest: False teaching is all around us. Beware!

False

(4 slides)

#### The world has never had more “isms” than today. They don’t seem to die out. Like a cancer or virus, false teaching just seems to morph and replicate to attack in new ways.

#### Heresies have never been more accessible. You could find me 100 false theologies right there in your seat on your smart phone before you stand up!

### Need: But how can we defeat heresy?

Head in Sand

#### Should we just buy a book on it?

#### Should we just live and let live?

#### Should we put our heads in the sand?

#### Should we go on an all-out assault?

Assault?

#### Should we see how God says to defeat heresy? This seems the best strategy to me! Here is what he says…

God says?

### Main Idea: We can defeat heresy by obeying God’s priorities for church order. Paul says this in his key verse in 1 Timothy 3:14-15.

MI

(2 slides)

### Subject: What are God’s priorities for church order?

Subject

(2 slides)

#### This is the theme of 1 Timothy that we will study today.

#### Order doesn’t mean we wear a “neat freak” shirt!

#### Order means, in the church, we need to know how to manage, control, direct, act correctly, act with decorum, be civil, be good, be nice, be on our best behavior.

### Background: Paul left Timothy at the second-generation church of Ephesus which was facing serious heretics.

Overview

#### Timing: When did Paul write 1 Timothy?

##### Paul’s last letters before writing 1 Timothy were his Prison Epistles that ended with Philippians.

Map

MP

Top Priorities

##### Now he turns his attention to writing individuals, including Philemon.

#### Historical Context: What was happening at this time?

##### Of Paul’s 13 NT letters, at least 10 of them are written to defeat heresy!

##### Paul left Timothy at the second-generation church of Ephesus which was facing serious heretics. He pens here what Timothy is to do—with important parallels to us today.

#### Purpose: Why is this letter in the Bible?

To Do

##### It is not enough just to know the *importance* of combating heresy. We need to know *how* to do it!

##### This letter is not the only solution, as other letters also address how to fight false teachers. But it does give us five important handles on to be victorious in maintaining church order in an environment of false teaching.

### Preview: Paul gives five priorities to maintain church order so the heretics will be defeated.

### Text: Today we will cover Paul’s entire first letter to Timothy.

(What priority does God want first for church order?)

# Balance law and grace in your life (1 Tim 1).

[Avoid the extremes of too many rules and too few rules.]

## Paul’s apostolic authority should encourage Timothy to minister courageously amidst false teachers (1:1-2).

1 Tim 1

(7 slides)

## False teachers of the Law must not lead people away from love into speculation by majoring on minor matters (1:3-11).

## God's grace to Paul despite his former persecution of the church should encourage Timothy that God can use Timothy too (1:12-17).

## Paul charges Timothy to courageously defend the faith in the face of certain resistance (1:18-20).

Sub/MPI

(2 slides)

(What other priority does God want for church order?)

MP

# Require proper public worship led by godly leaders (1 Tim 2–3).

[Our church services must main order by not just letting anyone lead.]

## Prioritize prayer to show the local church’s dependence upon God for victory in the battle over people's souls (2:1-7).

Worship

(4 slides)

## Male teaching and authority in the service balanced with women's service and priority to their homes averts passive men and dominant women (2:8-15).

Women

(12 slides)

### Despite various views, Paul prohibited women from teaching public services to have men take the lead (2:8-12).

### Paul based this not on culture but on the creation order (2:13-15).

How Pick?

(4 slides)

## Following high qualifications for elders and deacons will help assure victory against those who seek to find fault in the church (3:1-13).

### We must use God’s methods to select leaders.

Qualify

(6 slides)

### Elders must meet biblical qualities

### Deacons should function as separate ministry groups under elder leadership.

Elders

(17 slides)

## Paul’s purpose in giving leadership qualifications and writing the letter itself is to maintain church order (3:14-16).

(What other priority does God want for church order?)

MP

(4 slides)

# Guard your personal life and doctrine closely (1 Tim 4).

[Your beliefs affect everything about you—privately and publicly. Watch them!]

## Some believers will reject Christianity for ascetic teaching that denies marriage and certain foods to show its demonic origin (4:1-5).

## Timothy must watch his life and doctrine to diligently use his teaching gift to protect himself and his people from heretics (4:6-16).

(What other priority does God want for church order?)

MP

(2 slides)

# Meet the needs of various church groups (5:1–6:10).

[Our church’s different subgroups must not be vulnerable to enemy attack.]

## Treat all people with respect as the general principle of interpersonal relationships (5:1-2).

## Care for older, godly widows without family while younger widows should remarry so as not to be a financial or social burden to the church (5:3-16).

3 Elder Types

## Elders should be well supported financially, not easily accused, and not hastily appointed so as to carefully guard the church (5:17-25).

5:18 Map

## Slaves of Christian masters must work harder than they would for unbelievers since they benefit believers (6:1-2).

1 Tim 6

### Reject heretics emphasizing financial gain and useless theologies to prevent church members from focusing on money and speculation (6:3-10).

(What is the last priority God states for church order?)

MP

# Don’t let the love of money ruin your spiritual life (6:11-21).

[Resist materialism that replaces godliness with apostasy.]

## Paul charges Timothy to flee materialism and speculation and pursue godly virtues to exhort him in spiritual rather than physical goals (6:11-16).

False Teaching

## The materially rich must be rich in deeds by sharing their wealth to the needy so they can have rewards in heaven and joy now by giving (6:17-19).

Money

(6 slides)

## Some professing Christianity have left the basics for speculation so Timothy must watch his own life lest apostasy take him in as well (6:20-21).

(How can we defeat heresy in our church?)

# Conclusion

MI

### Obey God’s priorities for church order (Main Idea).

Subject

### Main Points: How can you help our church order?

1 Tim 1

#### Balance law and grace in your life (1 Tim 1).

1 Tim 2-3

#### Require proper public worship lead by godly leaders (1 Tim 2–3).

#### Guard your personal life and doctrine closely (1 Tim 4).

1 Tim 4

#### Meet the needs of various church groups (5:1–6:10).

1 Tim 5

#### Don’t let the love of money ruin your spiritual life (6:11-21).

1 Tim 6

### Exhortation: Which of these five areas can you better help our church order?

Chart

### Prayer

Prayer

# Preliminary Questions

**Verses Questions**

# Context: What did the author record just prior to this passage?

### Paul’s last letters before writing 1 Timothy were his Prison Epistles that ended with Philippians.

### Now he turns his attention to writing individuals, including Philemon.

# Purpose: Why is this passage in the Bible?

### It is not enough just to know the *importance* of combating heresy. We need to know *how* to do it!

### This letter is not the only solution, as other letters also address how to fight false teachers. But it does give us five important handles on to be victorious in maintaining church order in an environment of false teaching.

# Background: What historical context helps us understand this passage?

### Of Paul’s 13 NT letters, at least 10 of them are written to defeat heresy!

### Paul left Timothy at the second-generation church of Ephesus which was facing serious heretics. He pens here what Timothy is to do—with important parallels to us today.

# Questions

### What kinds of false teaching did Timothy face?

### Which of these do we face today?

# Tentative Main Ideas

The way to be orderly is to combat false teachers.

The way to defeat heresy is to maintain church order.

The way church order defeats heresy is by obeying God’s priorities.

Order dispels disorder!

# Illustrations That Apply

**Combating Materialism**

One problem that Christian workers face is thinking that materialism cannot have grasp on them. This is why Paul warned Timothy against becoming a lover of money (1 Tim 6:3-10). Yet how can pastors, missionaries, and all believers fight the grip of materialism in practical terms? Here are some suggestions, most of which I keep myself:

1. Give your speaking honorariums over to the church or to another Christian organization—or don’t get paid for your speaking in the first place.

2. Require approval from someone (e.g., your spouse) for purchases over a certain amount (we use $100 as a guideline, except for groceries!).

3. Don’t make a purchase over a certain amount without both praying about it and sleeping overnight on it. (My wife’s and my guide is $100 here too, which has saved us from buying many a vacuum cleaner and encyclopedia set! Again, groceries are exempt here.)

4. Commit to living on a certain income for a time period and give the excess money earned back to the Lord’s work.

5. Don’t let sales people into your home unless both husband and wife agree. This means that a salesman will never enter your home when only one spouse is there.

6. Put budgeted money into respective envelopes and stop spending when they empty.

7. Don’t compare your salary with others. Don’t ask what others make or tell them your own salary. This will keep you from the twin sins of pride (if you make more) and jealousy (if you make less). Sometimes ignorance is better than knowledge.

8. Don’t purchase anything on credit (except a house) that you cannot pay off within one month. This will prevent purchase of depreciating items such as cars, furniture, computers, etc.

9. Never gamble—at the horse races, card games, or stock market. Instead, put your savings in lower-risk investments. They may have lower rates of return but at least you can’t lose all your money. Avoiding the stock markets (except mutual funds when someone else is managing your money) will also keep you from the temptation to always watch the rates to discern whether to buy or sell rather than invest yourself in ministry.

# New Testament Survey Notes

**1 Timothy**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Church Order**  **(is maintained by giving priority to…)** | | | | |
| **Combat  False Teachers** | **Uphold  Church Life** | **Guard  Life & Doctrine** | **Advise  Church Groups** | **Resist  Materialism** |
| **Chapter 1** | **Chapters 2–3** | **Chapter 4** | **5:1–6:10** | **6:11-21** |
| **Doctrine** | **Worship** | **Example** | **Respect** | **Priorities** |
| **Warning** | **People** | **Warning** | **People** | **Warning** |
| Salutation  Fight heresies  God’s grace  Charge | Prayer  Gender Roles  Leader Qualities  Purpose of Epistle | Future heresy  Watch life  Watch doctrine | Respect everyone  Widows  Elders  Slaves  False teachers | Spiritual goals  Wealthy must give  Closing charge |
| **Practical Exhortations Throughout**  (in contrast to the normal theology then application Pauline epistle structure) | | | | | |
| **From Macedonia to Ephesus** | | | | | |
| **Autumn AD 62** | | | | | |

**Key Word: Order**

**Key Verse: “… I am writing you these instructions so that…you will know how people ought to conduct themselves in God's household, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and foundation of truth” (1 Tim 3:14-15).**

**Summary Statement: The way to defeat heresy is to obey God’s priorities for church order.**

**Application: Do you actively guard your church against heresy—or do you expect others to do it?**

**1 Timothy**

**Introduction**

**I. Titles**: The Books of 1 Timothy (Pro.j Timo,qeon a, *First to Timothy*), 2 Timothy (Pro.j Timo,qeon b , *Second to Timothy*), and Titus (Pro.j Ti,ton *To Titus*) designate three of Paul's letters that, since the 18th century, have been called “Pastoral Epistles.” At least three facts make these unique:

A. The Pastorals are the only Pauline epistles addressed to individuals (except for Philemon, which some also consider a Pastoral Epistle). Timothy and Titus were younger men serving as apostolic delegates to different geographical areas, and, although the men are not specifically designated pastors in these writings, they fulfilled a pastoral-like role (hence the title “Pastoral Epistles”).

B. The Pastoral Epistles are Paul's last three writings in the New Testament. Thus they give many insights into Paul’s concerns at the end of his ministry.

C. The Pastorals provide the most information in Scripture on local church life, order, and leadership. All church leaders should be experts in these books—and those of us who follow them too!

**II. Authorship**

A. External Evidence: Support for Paul’s authorship is as good as for any other Pauline epistle except Romans and 1 Corinthians (Guthrie, 585).

1. Early support from the Church Fathers is strong. Many passages in 1 Clement (*ca.* AD 95) and the Ignatian letters (*ca.* AD 110) directly depend on the Pastorals (Kelly, 3). Polycarp quoted them (*Letter to the Philippians*; *ca.* AD 135 at latest) and by the mid-second century Irenaeus, Tertullian, Clement of Alexandria, and the Muratorian Canon cite them as Pauline (Kelly, 4).

2. Despite the overwhelming evidence for Pauline authorship, most modern liberal scholars believe a “Paulinist,” or second to third generation follower of Paul, wrote the Pastorals in the second century. The reasons for supposing such a forgery are:

a. Pastorals are not in Marcion's canon and 1 and 2 Timothy were rejected by Tatian. But Marcion was a second-century heretic who denied much of the NT.

b. The earliest Greek manuscript, *p* 46, does not include the Pastorals. But the end of it is so unreadable that one cannot definitely say Pastorals were not originally there.

B. Internal Evidence: The letters claim Pauline authorship (1 Tim 1:1; 2 Tim 1:1; Tit 1:1) and contain the typical Pauline characteristics: divine call, many personal names, and doctrinal emphases (grace, redemption through Christ, purpose of the Law, the Scriptures, the need for practical godliness, etc.).

Liberal scholarship denies Pauline authorship based upon internal factors such as an inability to reconcile the contents historically with the book of Acts, a large number of words not found elsewhere in Paul's writings, a similarity to the vocabulary used in the second century, an ecclesiology “too advanced” for Paul's time, and “anti-Pauline” theology (Hellenistic terms “foreign to Paul”; 1 Tim 6:15-16; 2 Tim 1:10; Tit 2:10f.).

Each of these so-called “evidences” depends on presupposition rather than objective data, and biblical facts should never be ignored to harmonize with conjecture. Some even propose a fragments hypothesis where scraps of Pauline writings were pieced together in the second century to make the Pastorals, but this creates more problems than it solves and is rejected even by modern critics. Paul penned them after Acts and addressed local church issues with special vocabulary (e.g., “deacon”) that arose in the 60s, which began the second generation of the Church.

**III. Circumstances**

A. Date: The chronology of the last years of Paul's life is obscure (Guthrie, 623), yet one harmony of the internal and external data yields this scenario (Hoehner, 381-84):

**First Roman Imprisonment (Acts 28:30-31) February 60–March 62**

Paul writes **Ephesians, Colossians, Philemon,** and **Philippians** Autumn 60–early Spring 62

James, the Lord's brother, martyred Spring 62

**Freedom from Imprisonment Spring 62–Autumn 67**

Paul in Ephesus and Colosse (Timothy left at Ephesus) Spring–Summer 62

Peter travels to Rome 62

Paul in Macedonia Late Summer 62-winter 62/63

**1 Timothy** written from Macedonia to Timothy in Ephesus Autumn 62

Paul in Asia Minor Spring 63-Spring 64

Paul in Spain (anticipated in Rom 15:24) Spring 64-Spring 66

Christians persecuted by Nero and Peter martyred Summer 64

Paul in Crete (Titus left there; Tit 1:5) Early Summer 66

Paul in Asia Minor Summer-Autumn 66

**Titus** written from Asia Minor to Titus in Crete Summer 66

Paul in Nicopolis (Tit 3:12) Winter 66/67

Paul in Troas (2 Tim 4:13), Macedonia and Greece Spring–Autumn 67

**Second Roman Imprisonment Autumn 67–Spring 68**

Paul arrested and brought to Rome Autumn 67

**2 Timothy** written from Rome to Timothy in Ephesus Autumn 67

Paul beheaded Spring 68

**Destruction of Jerusalem 2 September 70**

B. Origin/Recipients: The above dates reveal that, after Paul's release from prison, he wrote 1 Timothy from Macedonia (1 Tim 1:3a). He sent it to his long-time traveling companion, Timothy (1 Tim 1:2), who he had left in Ephesus (1 Tim 1:3b). The letter to Titus followed (Tit 1:4) which he sent to Crete (Tit 1:5) from an unknown origin (perhaps Ephesus, Macedonia, or Corinth). Paul then penned 2 Timothy from Rome during his second Roman imprisonment shortly after his first defense before the Imperial Court (2 Tim 1:8-17; 2:9; 4:16-17). Since he did not expect to live much longer (2 Tim 4:6-8), he requested Timothy to hurry to him before winter (2 Tim 4:9, 21).

C. Occasion: Paul wrote 1 Timothy only a month or two after leaving him in Ephesus. It might seem strange that he would need to write him so quickly, but perhaps Paul had to leave Ephesus in a hurry without giving him adequate advice for church organization and oversight. Equally possible is that an emissary from Timothy asked for Paul's help. However, neither hypothesis is in the text so the reason for the letter must be determined from its contents that concern church order.

**IV. Characteristics**

A. Paul's first letter to Timothy contains more information on the qualifications for church leadership than any NT writing (1 Tim 3:1-12). He lists necessary qualities for both elders and deacons, in contrast to the letter to Titus that concerns only elders (Tit 1:5-9).

B. Paul does not mention Timothy's position in the Ephesian church. He evidently was not an elder since Paul spoke of the elders as individuals different from Timothy. In like manner, Titus was to appoint elders (Tit 1:5) but not be one himself. Some have referred to Timothy as the pastor, but the letter suggests that his function at the church was to represent Paul (1 Tim 1:3; 3:14; 4:6, 13).

**Argument**

Paul declares his purpose for writing the young Timothy: “… I am writing you these instructions so that…you will know how people ought to conduct themselves in God's household, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and foundation of truth” (1 Tim 3:14-15). Thus, Paul's aim is to help Timothy instruct others in keeping order in the church (cf. 2 Tim 2:2). When Paul penned the letter, false teaching was attacking the Ephesian church. Paul begins the epistle with a charge to Timothy to defend the faith using Paul's own life change as an encouragement to persevere (1 Tim 1). Proper conduct in public worship is discussed next so that the leadership and people might be above reproach before accusers (1 Tim 2–3), followed by an exhortation directed towards Timothy's life and doctrine (1 Tim 4). The letter concludes with instruction how to handle various groups in the church (5:1–6:10) and a warning of the perils of materialism to prevent the replacement of spiritual with material priorities (6:11-21). Throughout the letter Paul seeks church order not simply for order's sake alone, but as a deterrent to false teaching and practice that destroys local church ministry.

**Synthesis**

**Church order priorities**

**1 Combat false teachers**

1:1-2 Salutation

1:3-11 Warn against heresies

1:12-17 God's grace to Paul

1:18-20 Charge

**2–3 Uphold church life**

2:1-7 Prayer

2:8-15 Gender roles

3:1-13 Leadership qualifications

3:14-16 Purpose for epistle

**4 Guard personal life & doctrine**

4:1-5 Warning of future heresy

4:6-16 Watch life/doctrine

**5:1–6:10 Advise church groups**

5:1-2 Treat all people with respect

5:3-16 Widows

5:17-25 Elders

6:1-2 Slaves

6:3-10 False teachers

**6:11-21 Resist materialism**

6:11-16 Priority of spiritual goals

6:17-19 Wealthy should share

6:20-21 Closing charge

**Outline**

**Summary Statement for the Book**

**The way to defeat heresy is to obey God’s priorities for church order.**

# The way to defeat heresy is to accurately teach the Law and recall God's grace in our own life (1 Tim 1).

## Paul’s apostolic authority should encourage Timothy to minister courageously amidst false teachers (1:1-2).

## False teachers of the Law must not lead people away from love into speculation by majoring on minor matters (1:3-11).

## God's grace to Paul despite his former persecution of the church should encourage Timothy that God can use Timothy too (1:12-17).

## Paul charges Timothy to courageously defend the faith in the face of certain resistance (1:18-20).

# The way to defeat heresy is to require proper public worship and godly leadership (1 Tim 2–3).

## Prioritize prayer to show the local church’s dependence upon God for victory in the battle over people's souls (2:1-7).

## Male teaching and authority in the service balanced with women's service and priority to their homes averts passive men and dominant women (2:8-15).

## Following high qualifications for elders and deacons will help assure victory against those who seek to find fault in the church (3:1-13).

## Paul’s purpose in giving leadership qualifications and writing the letter itself is to maintain church order (3:14-16).

# The way to defeat heresy is to guard one’s personal life and doctrine closely (1 Tim 4).

## Some believers will reject Christianity for ascetic teaching that denies marriage and certain foods to show its demonic origin (4:1-5).

## Timothy must watch his life and doctrine to diligently use his teaching gift to protect himself and his people from heretics (4:6-16).

# The way to defeat heresy is to treat various groups in the church wisely to meet financial and other needs (5:1–6:10).

## Treat all people with respect as the general principle of interpersonal relationships (5:1-2).

## Care for older, godly widows without family while younger widows should remarry so as not to be a financial or social burden to the church (5:3-16).

## Elders should be well supported financially, not easily accused, and not hastily appointed so as to carefully guard the church (5:17-25).

## Slaves of Christian masters must work harder than they would for unbelievers since they benefit believers (6:1-2).

## Reject heretics emphasizing financial gain and useless theologies to prevent church members from focusing on money and speculation (6:3-10).

# The way to defeat heresy is to resist the materialism that destroys godly virtues and leads to apostasy (6:11-21).

## Paul charges Timothy to flee materialism and speculation and pursue godly virtues to exhort him in spiritual rather than physical goals (6:11-16).

## The materially rich must be rich in deeds by sharing their wealth to the needy so they can have rewards in heaven and joy now by giving (6:17-19).

## Some professing Christianity have left the basics for speculation so Timothy must watch his own life lest apostasy take him in as well (6:20-21).

**Selecting Leadership for the Local Church**

**I. How Do Most Churches Select Their Leaders?**

(i.e., What criteria is often used to find out who will be the church deacons, elders, etc.?)[[1]](#footnote-1)

A. Popularity (attractiveness, charisma, and likableness)

B. Past (tradition, “He's always had that office” mentality)

C. Politics (shrewdness, clout, manipulation)

D. Pocketbook (wealth, large church contributions, even bribery)

E. Profession (occupational standing–why do so few middle- and lower-class elders exist?)

**II. How *Should* Churches Select Leaders? What Process of Selection and What Qualifications Must Potential Church Leaders Meet?**

A. Scriptural Examples:

1. APOSTLES: The Replacement of Judas (Acts 1:12-26)

a. Process of Selection: Congregational selection of candidates, prayer, drawing of lots, apostolic appointment. Since we no longer have apostles, this is not a pattern for us!

b. Qualifications: To be in “the twelve,” one had to be a participant in Christ’s ministry and eyewitness of His resurrection (Acts 1:21-22). For other apostles, only the latter was required (cf. 1 Cor 9:1). This is why no one today qualifies as an apostle.

2. DEACONS: The Church at Jerusalem (Acts 6:1-6)

a. Process of Selection: Congregational selection, apostolic appointment (Gr: “ordain”)

b. Qualifications: Good reputation, full of the Spirit and of wisdom (v. 3; but see especially 1 Tim 3:8-13 that is explained later in this study)

3. ELDERS: Titus' Responsibility (Titus 1:5-9)

a. Process of Selection: undefined, but Paul told Titus as his apostolic representative to appoint (Gr: “ordain”) men once they had been selected. Elders were likely selected by church vote just as were the leaders in the Jerusalem church (cf. Acts 6:1-6). With no apostolic delegates today to ordain elders, ordination must be by the church leadership.

b. Qualifications: Titus 1:6-9; 1 Tim 3:2-7 (explained on the following pages)

B. Scriptural Principles:

1) Qualifications *apply only to men* (women are excluded).

2) Qualifications are not optional but *essential* (all qualities must be true of one being considered; failure in one area should be reason for withholding appointment).

3) Qualifications primarily refer to one's *present lifestyle* and character, not his past (unless Scripture designates past actions as applicable to the present).

4) Qualifications refer to the *office of elder* (i.e., bishop, overseer, pastor) *or deacon* but not other church leadership positions (e.g., Sunday School teacher, care group leader).

5) Qualifications *must be maintained* to stay an elder. Those who at first meet the qualifications but later neglect to maintain the standards must resign or be removed from the board.

6) Qualifications emphasize a man's *character far more than his abilities* (which may disqualify some of the most successful and shrewd businessmen in the church).

7) Qualifications emphasize a man's ability to manage his *home* more than his work.

**Be Orderly**

***1 Timothy***

**Exegetical Outline (Steps 2-3)**

# *Exegetical Idea*: The way to defeat heresy is to obey God’s priorities for church order.

# The way to defeat heresy is to accurately teach the Law and recall God's grace in our own life (1 Tim 1).

## Paul’s apostolic authority should encourage Timothy to minister courageously amidst false teachers (1:1-2).

## False teachers of the Law must not lead people away from love into speculation by majoring on minor matters (1:3-11).

## God's grace to Paul despite his former persecution of the church should encourage Timothy that God can use Timothy too (1:12-17).

## Paul charges Timothy to courageously defend the faith in the face of certain resistance (1:18-20).

# The way to defeat heresy is to require proper public worship and godly leadership (1 Tim 2–3).

## Prioritize prayer to show the local church’s dependence upon God for victory in the battle over people's souls (2:1-7).

## Male teaching and authority in the service balanced with women's service and priority to their homes averts passive men and dominant women (2:8-15).

## Following high qualifications for elders and deacons will help assure victory against those who seek to find fault in the church (3:1-13).

## Paul’s purpose in giving leadership qualifications and writing the letter itself is to maintain church order (3:14-16).

# The way to defeat heresy is to guard one’s personal life and doctrine closely (1 Tim 4).

## Some believers will reject Christianity for ascetic teaching that denies marriage and certain foods to show its demonic origin (4:1-5).

## Timothy must watch his life and doctrine to diligently use his teaching gift to protect himself and his people from heretics (4:6-16).

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## Treat all people with respect as the general principle of interpersonal relationships (5:1-2).

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## Elders should be well supported financially, not easily accused, and not hastily appointed so as to carefully guard the church (5:17-25).

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## Paul charges Timothy to flee materialism and speculation and pursue godly virtues to exhort him in spiritual rather than physical goals (6:11-16).

## The materially rich must be rich in deeds by sharing their wealth to the needy so they can have rewards in heaven and joy now by giving (6:17-19).

## Some professing Christianity have left the basics for speculation so Timothy must watch his own life lest apostasy take him in as well (6:20-21).

**Purpose or Desired Listener Response (Step 4)**

The listeners will contribute to our church order to defeat false teaching.

**Homiletical Outline** (Cyclical deductive form)

# Introduction

### Interest: False teaching is all around us. Beware!

### Need: But how? How can we defeat heresy?

### Main Idea: We can defeat heresy by obeying God’s priorities for church order.

### Subject: What are God’s priorities for church order?

### Background: Paul left Timothy at the second-generation church of Ephesus which was facing serious heretics.

### Preview: Paul gives five priorities to maintain church order so the heretics will be defeated.

### Text: Today we will cover Paul’s entire first letter to Timothy.

# Balance law and grace in your life (1 Tim 1).

## Paul’s apostolic authority should encourage Timothy to minister courageously amidst false teachers (1:1-2).

## False teachers of the Law must not lead people away from love into speculation by majoring on minor matters (1:3-11).

## God's grace to Paul despite his former persecution of the church should encourage Timothy that God can use Timothy too (1:12-17).

## Paul charges Timothy to courageously defend the faith in the face of certain resistance (1:18-20).

# Require proper public worship led by godly leaders (1 Tim 2–3).

## Prioritize prayer to show the local church’s dependence upon God for victory in the battle over people's souls (2:1-7).

## Male teaching and authority in the service balanced with women's service and priority to their homes averts passive men and dominant women (2:8-15).

## Following high qualifications for elders and deacons will help assure victory against those who seek to find fault in the church (3:1-13).

## Paul’s purpose in giving leadership qualifications and writing the letter itself is to maintain church order (3:14-16).

# Guard your personal life and doctrine closely (1 Tim 4).

## Some believers will reject Christianity for ascetic teaching that denies marriage and certain foods to show its demonic origin (4:1-5).

## Timothy must watch his life and doctrine to diligently use his teaching gift to protect himself and his people from heretics (4:6-16).

# Meet the needs of various church groups (5:1–6:10).

## Treat all people with respect as the general principle of interpersonal relationships (5:1-2).

## Care for older, godly widows without family while younger widows should remarry so as not to be a financial or social burden to the church (5:3-16).

## Elders should be well supported financially, not easily accused, and not hastily appointed so as to carefully guard the church (5:17-25).

## Slaves of Christian masters must work harder than they would for unbelievers since they benefit believers (6:1-2).

## Reject heretics emphasizing financial gain and useless theologies to prevent church members from focusing on money and speculation (6:3-10).

# Don’t let the love of money ruin your spiritual life (6:11-21).

## Paul charges Timothy to flee materialism and speculation and pursue godly virtues to exhort him in spiritual rather than physical goals (6:11-16).

## The materially rich must be rich in deeds by sharing their wealth to the needy so they can have rewards in heaven and joy now by giving (6:17-19).

## Some professing Christianity have left the basics for speculation so Timothy must watch his own life lest apostasy take him in as well (6:20-21).

(How can we defeat heresy in our church?)

# Conclusion

### Obey God’s priorities for church order (Main Idea).

### Main Points: How can you help our church order?

#### Balance law and grace in your life (1 Tim 1).

#### Require proper public worship lead by godly leaders (1 Tim 2–3).

#### Guard your personal life and doctrine closely (1 Tim 4).

#### Meet the needs of various church groups (5:1–6:10).

#### Don’t let the love of money ruin your spiritual life (6:11-21).

### Exhortation: Which of these five areas can you better help our church order?



**Rick Griffith**

14 July 2019

Message 54 of 66

**Be Orderly**

***1 Timothy***

# Introduction

### Main Idea: We can defeat heresy by obeying God’s priorities for church order.

### Subject: What are God’s priorities for church \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_?

# Balance law and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in your life (1 Tim 1).

# Require proper public \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ led by godly leaders (1 Tim 2–3).

## Prioritize prayer to show the local church’s dependence upon God for victory (2:1-7).

## Male teaching and authority in the service balanced with women's service and priority to their homes averts passive men and dominant women (2:8-15).

## Follow high qualifications for elders and deacons (3:1-13).

## Paul’s purpose in writing the letter itself is to maintain church order (3:14-16).

# Guard your personal life and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ closely (1 Tim 4).

# Meet the needs of various church \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (5:1–6:10).

## Treat all people with respect as the general principle of interpersonal relationships (5:1-2).

## Care for older, godly widows without family while younger widows should remarry so as not to be a financial or social burden to the church (5:3-16).

## Elders should be well supported financially, not easily accused, and not hastily appointed so as to carefully guard the church (5:17-25).

## Slaves of Christian masters must work harder than they would for unbelievers since they benefit believers (6:1-2).

## Reject heretics emphasizing financial gain and useless theologies to prevent church members from focusing on money and speculation (6:3-10).

# Don’t let the love of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ ruin your spiritual life (6:11-21).

# Conclusion

### Obey God’s priorities for church \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (Main Idea).

### How can you help our church order?

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**1 Timothy**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Church Order**  **(is maintained by giving priority to…)** | | | | |
| **Combat  False Teachers** | **Uphold  Church Life** | **Guard  Life & Doctrine** | **Advise  Church Groups** | **Resist  Materialism** |
| **Chapter 1** | **Chapters 2–3** | **Chapter 4** | **5:1–6:10** | **6:11-21** |
| **Doctrine** | **Worship** | **Example** | **Respect** | **Priorities** |
| **Warning** | **People** | **Warning** | **People** | **Warning** |
| Salutation  Fight heresies  God’s grace  Charge | Prayer  Gender Roles  Leader Qualities  Purpose of Epistle | Future heresy  Watch life  Watch doctrine | Respect everyone  Widows  Elders  Slaves  False teachers | Spiritual goals  Wealthy must give  Closing charge |
| **Practical Exhortations Throughout**  (in contrast to the normal theology then application Pauline epistle structure) | | | | | |
| **From Macedonia to Ephesus** | | | | | |
| **Autumn AD 62** | | | | | |

**Key Word: Order**

**Key Verse: “… I am writing you these instructions so that…you will know how people ought to conduct themselves in God's household, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and foundation of truth” (1 Tim 3:14-15).**

**Summary Statement: The way to defeat heresy is to obey God’s priorities for church order.**

**Application: Do you actively guard your church against heresy—or do you expect others to do it?**

1. Chuck Swindoll, *Excellence in Ministry* (Fullerton, CA; Insight for Living, 1985), 39. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)