

1 Timothy 6:1-21 **Closing Exhortations – Servants (employees) – Disputes – Riches** **- Focus**

Servants

1 Let as many bondservants as are under the yoke count their own masters worthy of all honor, so that the name of God and His doctrine may not be blasphemed.

2 And those who have believing masters, let them not despise them because they are brethren, but rather serve them because those who are benefited are believers and beloved. Teach and exhort these things.

Doctrine and Disputes

3 If anyone teaches otherwise and does not consent to wholesome words, even the words of our Lord Jesus Christ, and to the doctrine which accords with godliness, 4 he is proud, knowing nothing, but is obsessed with disputes and arguments over words, from which come envy, strife, reviling, evil suspicions, 5 useless wranglings of men of corrupt minds and destitute of the truth, who suppose that godliness is a means of gain. From such withdraw yourself.

Contentment with or without wealth

6 Now godliness with contentment is great gain. 7 For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out. 8 And having food and clothing, with these we shall be content.

9 But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and harmful lusts which drown men in destruction and perdition. 10 For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, for which some have strayed from the faith in their greediness, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.

Focus on Godliness Until Christ Returns

11 But you, O man of God, flee these things and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, gentleness. 12 Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, to which you were also called and have confessed the good confession in the presence of many witnesses.

13 I urge you in the sight of God who gives life to all things, and before Christ Jesus who witnessed the good confession before Pontius Pilate, 14 that you keep this commandment without spot, blameless until our Lord Jesus Christ's appearing, 15 which He will manifest in His own time, He who is the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings and Lord of lords, 16 who alone has immortality, dwelling in unapproachable light, whom no man has seen or can see, to whom be honor and everlasting power. Amen.

Advise for the Rich

17 Command those who are rich in this present age not to be haughty, nor to trust in uncertain riches but in the living God, who gives us richly all things to enjoy.

18 Let them do good, that they be rich in good works, ready to give, willing to share, 19 storing up for themselves a good foundation for the time to come, that they may lay hold on eternal life.

Call for Personal Commitment to True Doctrine

20 O Timothy! Guard what was committed to your trust, avoiding the profane and idle babble and contradictions of what is falsely called knowledge-- 21 by professing it some have strayed concerning the faith. Grace be with you. Amen.

NKJV

Facts Revealed:

Servants [1 Timothy 6:1-2]

- ✚ Let as many bondservants as are under the yoke count their own masters worthy of all honor, so that the name of God and His doctrine may not be blasphemed.
- ✧ If your performance is less than excellent, do not let anyone know you are a believer.
- ✧ Servants (employees) who are believers, are expected to do their work as though they were in direct service to the Lord. [Ephesians 6:5-8, Colossians 3:22-25]
- ✧ Their conduct is not focused just to please men, but from the heart to do the will of God.
- ✧ We have the assurance that from the Lord we will receive our reward.
- ✧ God does not show favoritism based on whether we are slave or free.
- ✧ We are all considered bondservants of Christ and our behavior at work reflects our relationship with Christ and is the basis of other's opinion of Christianity.
- ✧ If we misbehave on the job, the name of God and His doctrine may be blasphemed.
- ✧ And **whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord** and not to men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance; for you serve the Lord Jesus Christ. [Colossians 3:23-24]
- ✧ But he who does wrong will be repaid for what he has done, and there is no partiality. [Colossians 3:25]
- ✧ **Those who have believing masters**, let them not despise them because they are brethren, but rather serve them because those who are benefited are believers and beloved. [1 Timothy 6:2]
- ✧ These are the things we are to teach and exhort regarding our employment responsibility.

Doctrine and Disputes [1 Timothy 6:3-5]

- ✚ Those who teach otherwise demonstrate that they are proud, knowing nothing about godliness.
- ✧ They are obsessed with disputes and arguments over words.
- ✧ They are the source of envy, strife, reviling, evil suspicions, and useless wranglings.
- ✧ They are men of corrupt minds and destitute of the truth.
- ✧ They suppose that godliness is a means of gain.

- ✧ The best response toward such is to withdraw from them. To do otherwise is a waste of time and feeds their arrogance.

Contentment with or without wealth [1 Timothy 6:6-10]

- ✚ Godliness with contentment is of great value.
- ✧ Material possessions are not important, we came into the world without anything, and we carry nothing out with us.
- ✧ Like Paul, we should be content with food and clothing. [Hebrews 13:5, Philippians 4:11-12]

- ✚ Problem with covetousness:
 - ✧ Those who desire to become rich fall into temptation and a snare.
 - ✧ They will find themselves drowning in many foolish and harmful lusts to their own destruction and perdition.

- ✧ The **love** of money is the root of all kinds of evil.
- ✧ Some have strayed from the faith in their greediness to their own destruction and sorrow.

Focus on Godliness Until Christ Returns [1 Timothy 6:11-16]

- ✧ Paul's advise to Timothy is sound advise for us today:
 - ✧ But you, O man of God, flee these things and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, gentleness. [1 Timothy 6:11]
 - ✧ Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, to which you were also called and have confessed the good confession in the presence of many witnesses. [1 Timothy 6:12]
 - ✧ Before God and Jesus Paul commanded Timothy to keep this commandment without spot and blameless until the Lord Jesus Christ appears at His coming.
 - ✧ God is He Who gives life to all things.
 - ✧ Jesus confessed the good confession before Pontius Pilate: [Mark 15:2, Luke 23:3, John 18:23-38, 1 Timothy 6:13]
 - ✧ The appearance of Jesus will be manifest by God and in God's Own time.
 - ✧ Jesus is the Blessed and Only Potentate (Sovereign Ruler), the King of kings, and Lord of lords. [1 Timothy 6:15, Revelation 17:14, 19:16]
 - ✧ God alone has immortality, and dwells in unapproachable light, whom no man has seen or can see.
 - ✧ To God be honor and everlasting power. Amen [1 Timothy 6:16, 1 Corinthians 15:24-28, Philippians 2:5-11, 4:20]

Advise for the Rich [1 Timothy 6:17-19]

- ✧ The command for those who are rich in this present age is this:
 - ✧ Do not be haughty mentally exalting self above others.
 - ✧ Do not trust in uncertain riches. Wealth may fly away at any time.
 - ✧ Trust in the Living God, Who gives us richly all things to enjoy.
 - ✧ Do good for others that you may be rich in good works, ready to give, willing to share.
 - ✧ In so doing, you will be storing up for yourselves a good foundation for the time to come and you will be laying hold on eternal life.

Call for Personal Commitment to True Doctrine [1 Timothy 6:20-21]

- ✧ Paul called Timothy to Guard what was committed to his trust.
 - ✧ This is a call to guard the doctrine of the original Gospel message.
 - ✧ Avoid profane and idle babble and contradictions of what is falsely called knowledge (science).
 - ✧ Many people come along with great lists of scholastic achievements, with doctorate degrees and prestigious labels with their names to show they have gained recognized knowledge, but they only repeat false teachings that have been around for many years which God calls the doctrines of men and doctrines of demons. [Matthew 15:7-9, Mark 7:6-7, Ephesians 4:14, Colossians 2:20-23, 2 Timothy 3:1-8, 1 Timothy 4:1]
 - ✧ By professing it some have strayed concerning the faith. [1 Timothy 6:21]
 - ✧ Closing blessing, "Grace be with you! Amen."