

PAUL'S CHARGE TO TIMOTHY

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TEXT:

"As I besought thee to abide still at Ephesus, when I went into Macedonia, that thou mightest charge some that they teach no other doctrine"(1Timothy 1:3).

INTRODUCTION:

1) The word "charge" is found several times in the Bible.

2) "Charge" - "A proclamation, a command or commandment, is strictly used of commands received from a superior and transmitted to others" (Vines).

(1) Implied - someone who gives a charge- ultimately is God.

(2) "All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works" (2Timothy 3:16-17).

(3) Implied - someone to receives the charge: (Timothy & us).

(4) Implied - God expects these charges to be carried out (fulfilled).

3) Notice some charges that are given in the books written to Timothy.

I. A CHARGE AGAINST TEACHING "OTHER DOCTRINE".

_____ 1) "As I besought thee to abide still at Ephesus, when I went into Macedonia, that thou mightest charge some that they teach no other doctrine, Neither give heed to fables and endless genealogies, which minister questions, rather than godly edifying which is in faith: so do" (1Timothy 1:3-4).

2) Obviously, Timothy wasn't to deviate from Christ's doctrine.

3) He was to charge others that they teach "no other doctrine".

4) See one doctrine not as good as another; also see that doctrine is important.

5) We today (especially those in leadership) need to charge that no other doctrine be taught, in our community, and as far as our influence can reach.

II. THE END OF THE COMMANDMENT (CHARGE)

1) "Now the end of the commandment is charity out of a pure heart, and of a good conscience, and of faith unfeigned:" (1Timothy 1:5).

2) Love, pure heart, good conscience.

3) Notice the connection between love & commandment (some abuse "love" say it is not connected with commandment keeping).

III. TO WAR A GOOD WARFARE.

_____ 1)"This charge I commit unto thee, son Timothy, according to the prophecies

which went before on thee, that thou by them mightest war a good warfare; Holding faith, and a good conscience; which some having put away concerning faith have made shipwreck: Of whom is Hymenaeus and Alexander; whom I have delivered unto Satan, that they may learn not to blaspheme” (1Timothy 1:18-20).

2) Christians are in a war and God wants us to war a good warfare.

3) Can't be neutral or passive.

4) “Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places” (Ephesians 6:10-12).

5) We sing the song, "Onward Christian Soldiers".

IV. A CHARGE RELATIVE TO WIDOW'S CARE.

1) “Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the commandment of God our Saviour, and Lord Jesus Christ, which is our hope; Unto Timothy, my own son in the faith: Grace, mercy, and peace, from God our Father and Jesus Christ our Lord. As I besought thee to abide still at Ephesus, when I went into Macedonia, that thou mightest charge some that they teach no other doctrine, Neither give heed to fables and endless genealogies, which minister questions, rather than godly edifying which is in faith: so do. Now the end of the commandment is charity out of a pure heart, and of a good conscience, and of faith unfeigned: From which some having swerved have turned aside unto vain jangling; Desiring to be teachers of the law; understanding neither what they say, nor whereof they affirm” (1Timothy 1:1-7).

2) Responsibility of the church and the home.

V. A CHARGE TO AVOID PREJUDICE (PARTIALITY)

1) “I charge thee before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, and the elect angels, that thou observe these things without preferring one before another, doing nothing by partiality” (1Timothy 5:21). Note the seriousness of the charge.

2) Had depicted obligations toward elder men & women, younger men & women, elders and rebuke. Do not show partiality.

VI. A CHARGE TO FAITHFULNESS (FIDELITY)

1) “I give thee charge in the sight of God, who quickeneth all things, and before Christ Jesus, who before Pontius Pilate witnessed a good confession; That thou keep this commandment without spot, unrebukeable, until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ:” (1Timothy 6:13-14).

2) Without spot, unrebukeable (Christ is coming.)

VII. A CHARGE TO THE RICH.

1) "Charge them that are rich in this world, that they be not highminded, nor trust in uncertain riches, but in the living God, who giveth us richly all things to enjoy; That they do good, that they be rich in good works, ready to distribute, willing to communicate; Laying up in store for themselves a good foundation against the time to come, that they may lay hold on eternal life" (1Timothy 6:17-19).

2) Riches should be obtained honorably, not become an idol, used properly in life, disposed of properly (we should be good stewards).

VIII. A CHARGE TO PREACH THE WORD

1) "I charge thee therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom; Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine" (2Timothy 4:1-2).

2) Again its seriousness, verse 1, judge the quick and dead at His appearing.

3) Preach - herald, the word, instant - to stand upon, be present, friendly or otherwise, reprove- to confute, to tell a fault, rebuke- censure, exhort - to call near, invoke (all longsuffering & doctrine)

CONCLUSION:

1) These are God's charges.

2) Paul says, "And how I kept back nothing that was profitable unto you, but have shewed you, and have taught you publickly, and from house to house" (Acts 20:20).