



## Widows in the Church

### 1 Timothy 5:3-16

- 1) The church must deal properly with its widows (5:3-8)
  - a) Only true widows can be supported (3)
    - i) If widow relies solely on God in her destitution (5)
    - ii) Unless she gives herself to worldly pleasures (6)
  - b) Families of widows are obligated to give aid (4, 8)
- 2) An official office for widows in Christ's church? (5:9-16)
  - a) Only for older women w/ reputation for godliness
  - b) For those who vow to remain chaste
  - c) Not for young widows
  - d) How the church deals w/ widows is a witness for Christ
    - i) Widows are special to God (Exod. 22:22-23)
    - ii) God cares for widows (Deut. 10:18; cf. 14:28-29; 24:19ff.; 26:12-13)
    - iii) Jesus raised to life the son of a widow (Luke 7:11-14)
    - iv) True Christians help the helpless (Jas. 1:27)