

INTRODUCTION

The Son of God, who is the very Word of God, took on flesh, becoming also the Son of Man. In true human nature, He was conceived in the womb of the virgin, Mary.

He was born, was wrapped in swaddling clothes, was laid in a manger, was announced by angels. He was named "Jesus" which means "God saves," because he would save His people from their sins.

Unlike the rest of us, He was not counted as sinning in Adam. He did not come into this world already corrupted by sin. Instead, He came as, a second Adam, and new, better Adam. Unlike the first Adam, Jesus did not succumb to temptation by the devil in the garden; instead, he resisted temptation in the desert. He lived in perfect righteousness, keeping Himself pure from sin, loving God and loving His neighbor at all times, in His thoughts, in His words, and in His deeds.

When He was about thirty years old, He began preaching that sinners should repent, and believe the good news that the kingdom of God is at hand, and that He, Son of God and Son of Man, came to give His life a ransom for many. He proclaimed everlasting life for all who believe in Him.

Many of the words that He spoke were written down perfectly by Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John, as the Holy Spirit spoke through them. To our souls, those words are healthy food and effective medicine.

John 5:24 "Most assuredly, I say to you, he who hears My word and believes in Him who sent Me has everlasting life, and shall not come into judgment, but has passed from death into life.

John 6:35 And Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life. He who comes to Me shall never hunger, and he who believes in Me shall never thirst.

John 7:37-38 On the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, "If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink. (38) He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water."

John 8:12 Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, "I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life."

Because the words of our Lord Jesus Christ are authoritative, coming from our Lord and Master, and because they are wholesome, healthful for our souls, we consent to them, we agree with them, and so these are the things we teach.

But there are those who do not consent to the wholesome words of our Lord Jesus Christ. Such people may be proud, conceited, puffed up, having too high an opinion of themselves. They may be ignorant, not knowing or understanding what they think they do. They may have an unhealthy interest in controversy.

We, the disciples of Jesus Christ, the godly, who have repented, turning from sin to follow Christ, who believe in Him, also consent to the doctrine that accords with that godliness, teaching us how to behave in the house of God. When we hear it, we believe it to be authoritative, and good for us. So that is what we want to teach and to learn.

But there are those who do not consent to the doctrine according to godliness, because in them is some combination of pride, ignorance, and obsession with controversy.

Today we review the doctrine that accords with godliness, as the apostle Paul puts it to Christian men and to Christian women in 1 Timothy, so we can be alert to those around us teach something else instead. We want to avoid listening to such people, and we want to resist any temptation to be like that ourselves.

TEXT

1 Timothy 6:1-5

BODY

I. For Men In the Congregation

A. How it is with Christian men consenting to the doctrine that accords with godliness

1. the apostle Paul taught and exhorted the doctrine that accords with godliness
 - a) 1 Timothy 2:8 I desire [will] therefore that the men pray everywhere, lifting up holy hands, without wrath and doubting;
 - b) 1 Timothy 3:2 ...the husband of one wife...
 - c) 1 Timothy 3:4 one who rules his own house well, having his children in submission with all reverence
 - d) 1 Timothy 5:8 But if anyone does not provide for his own, and especially for those of his household, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever.
2. the Christian man admits that he has not done these things perfectly, that he has sinned before God and against other people in these things; but he is repentant, trusting Jesus Christ ; he is working not to live like he used to live; he is
3. the Christian man lives out what he is learning
 - a) all week long, he prays and strives to keep his hands pure, doing nothing that displeases God or harms other people; he prays often, and meditates on the scriptures day and night; on the Lord's Day, he gets up early and does everything needed to get his household to the assembly; during worship, he participates eagerly; he is kind and longsuffering toward the other men, and submissive toward the elders
 - b) while he is single, he fights to be pure in thought, word, and deed; when he marries, he is faithful to his one wife; what he looks at on the screen, what he thinks about, what he says, and what he does are a wholehearted following in the steps of Jesus Christ
 - c) he keeps a constant watch over his children, to make sure they are obedient to him and to their mother, knowing this is a matter of life and death to his beloved children
 - d) he gets up in the morning and goes to work, taking whatever pains are necessary to do good work, so he can provide for his household

B. How it is with those who teach men something else

1. Examples
 - a) some are teaching that it doesn't matter that men have holy hands, because a man can do whatever he thinks is okay or necessary if it is for a good cause
 - b) some are teaching that we all should admit we are racists, and get angry and start fighting with anyone who isn't crusading for social justice
 - c) some are teaching that one man married to one woman is not the only thing our Lord Jesus ordained; instead, if we love Jesus and love people, we must promote every kind of deviancy
 - d) some are teaching that it is toxic for a man to rule over his own house, and that it would be abuse for him to use the rod to keep his children in subjection
 - e) some are teaching that a man must devote so much of his life to work in church programs and civic efforts that can't also provide for his own household without frustrating and exhausting himself

2. In what ways?
 - a) in some cases, they teach things contrary to such doctrine
 - b) in some cases, they give very little attention to it, or none at all; they strongly insist on other aspects of religion, whether true or false, but say little about the practical matters of holy living
 - c) in some cases, they urge men to activities that really aren't our Lord's commands for His disciples, things that really can't be done without neglecting those things that are our Lord's commands
3. Why is a person not consenting to the doctrine which accords with Godliness?
 - a) he is proud, puffed up, conceited
 - b) he is ignorant, lacking understanding
 - c) he is doting about questions and strifes of words

II. For Women In the Congregation

A. How it is with Christian women consenting to the doctrine that accords with godliness

1. the Christian woman gives heed to the apostle Paul teaching and exhorting the doctrine that accords with godliness
 - a) 1 Timothy 2:9-10 In like manner also, that women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with shamefacedness and sobriety; not with broided hair, or gold, or pearls, or costly array; 10 But (which becometh women professing godliness) with good works.
 - b) 1 Timothy 2:11-14 Let the woman learn in silence with all subjection. 12 But I suffer not a woman to teach, nor to usurp authority over the man, but to be in silence. 13 For Adam was first formed, then Eve. 14 And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived was in the transgression.
 - c) 1 Timothy 3:11 Likewise, their wives must be reverent, not slanderers, temperate, faithful in all things.
 - d) 1 Timothy 5:9-10 Do not let a widow under sixty years old be taken into the number, and not unless she has been the wife of one man, (10) well reported for good works: if she has brought up children, if she has lodged strangers, if she has washed the saints' feet, if she has relieved the afflicted, if she has diligently followed every good work.
 - e) 1 Timothy 5:14 Therefore I desire [will] that the younger widows marry, bear children, manage the house, give no opportunity to the adversary to speak reproachfully.
2. the Christian woman admits that she has not done these things perfectly, that he has sinned before God and against other people in these things; but she is repentant, trusting Jesus Christ ; she is working not to live like he used to live
3. the Christian woman lives out the doctrine she is learning
 - a) she makes her appearance to be modest---not trying to put on a show, her main concern being that she be beautiful in good works
 - b) when she is in the assembly, and the Bible is being taught, she remains silent, giving attention to learning what is being taught; she puts down any temptations to want to be in charge
 - c) she exercises self control, to be faithful in all good things
 - d) if possible, she gets married and has children, devoting herself to loving her husband and children and managing the house
 - e) as she has opportunity, she shows kindness to those of her fellow believers who are in need of help

B. How is it with those who are teaching something else

1. in what ways
 - a) in talks they give
 - b) in what they write
 - c) in conversation
 - d) in what they approve and disapprove
 - e) in their example of what they do
2. examples
 - a) as a woman, you should cut your hair short like a man's, or color it with some artificial color, or you should fix it in some elaborate or trendy hairdo---anything else but just having it long
 - b) you should dress in what is showy, wearing either what is revealing, or trendy, or expensive
 - c) you should wear lots of makeup and lots of jewelry
 - d) if your husband and the men at church aren't giving effective leadership, you should take leadership
 - e) the good works you should do for Jesus are volunteering to run programs at your church and your parachurch ministry organization
 - f) you should teach, even preach at your church
 - g) if your husband does not make you happy, you should leave him, and find the one God has made to be your soul mate
 - h) you don't want to have children, or not many, and you want to have someone else raise them as much as possible; you need to go back to work instead of "just staying home"
3. why is such a person not agreeing with the words of our Lord Jesus Christ?
 - a) the person is proud or puffed up with conceit - this person thinks his culture's values and norms should overrule what the Bible says
 - b) the person is ignorant
 - (1) knowing only a little of what the Bible says about men and women - Gal 3:28 ...there is neither male nor female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus
 - c) the person has an unhealthy interest in controversy, and strife about words
 - (1) submission to your husband can be very scary
 - (2) always arguing about various questions surrounding this is a way to avoid actually doing what the Bible says

CONCLUSION

Seeing that much of the doctrine that accords with godliness is put to men in particular, let Christian men watch out for those who teach otherwise. And let each of us guard his own mind against the pride, ignorance, and obsession that would take us that direction.

Seeing that much of the doctrine that accords with godliness is put to women in particular, let Christian women watch out for those who teach otherwise, whether in words or in the example they set.

This care we take is for the good of our own souls, for the good of this congregation, and for the good of the generation we are bringing up. This care we take to watch out for bad teaching also is an important part of holding up the gospel truth to sinners in need of salvation. And in keeping a careful watch, we are giving glory to the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, whose doctrine we are taking care to obey.

Dillon - Call to Worship and Opening Prayer - Matthew 1:20-23

~~Jeremiah~~ Jeff - Scripture Reading - please choose either Luke 2:1-14 or John 1:1-14

Thad - Congregational Prayer

Jeff - Benediction - Acts 1:11

Rita - Prelude

Rita - Trinity 164 "Angels, From the Realms of Glory" - ~~Alex lead~~

Haven - Trinity 150 "All My Heart This Night Rejoices" - ~~Andrew lead~~

Allison - Trinity 421 "Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me"