

“FLEE AND FOLLOW”

1 Timothy 6:11 – “But thou, O man of God, flee these things, and follow after Righteousness, Godliness, faith, love, patience, meekness.”



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APOSTLE PAUL IS INSTRUCTING YOUNG TIMOTHY TO FLEE FROM FALSE TEACHERS WHO HAVE FINANCIAL GAIN AS THEIR MOTIVATION FOR LIVING, AND FOLLOW AFTER THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF GOD, WHICH IS SIMPLY WHAT GOD WANTS FOR YOUR LIFE!

IN THIS TEXT, NOTICE THAT PAUL IS SPEAKING TO THE MAN OF GOD – HIS MENTEE, HIS APPRENTICE, HIS SON IN THE MINISTRY -- WHICH MEANS THIS ADVICE GIVEN WAS FOR TIMOTHY AND ALL THOSE WHO WERE A PART OF THE FIRST CHURCH, AS WELL AS FOR US TODAY WHO ARE IN THE HOUSEHOLD OF FAITH! WE, THE BELIEVERS, ARE NOT TO LIVE BY THE STANDARDS OF THIS WORLD, BUT BY THE COMMANDMENTS OF GOD OUR FATHER. THE WORLD’S SYSTEM IS ALL ABOUT SELF-PRESERVATION AND SELF-GRATIFICATION. IT’S ALL ABOUT ME AND WHAT I WANT!

THE BIBLE WARNS US TO BE IN THE WORLD BUT NOT OF THE WORLD! PAUL WARNS TIMOTHY TO WATCH FOR: PRIDE, ENVY AND STRIFE. THESE TWO VICES AFFECT NOT ONLY INDIVIDUALS, BUT THE ENTIRE COMMUNITY OF BELIEVERS, CAUSING DISRUPTION AND DYSFUNCTION. HE CONTINUES TO WARN TIMOTHY TO WATCH FOR EVIL SURMISING (AN IDEA OR THOUGHT OF SOMETHING AS BEING POSSIBLE OR LIKELY), PERVERSE DISPUTING OF MEN OF CORRUPT MINDS DESTITUTE OF THE TRUTH, SUPPOSITION THAT GAIN IS GODLINESS, AND THE ADDICTIVE LOVE OF MONEY. THE BIBLE WARNS US THAT THE LOVE OF MONEY IS THE ROOT OF ALL EVIL!

THE TEXT SAYS AFTER YOU HAVE FLED THESE THINGS, THEN YOU ARE TO FOLLOW AFTER: GODLINESS WITH CONTENTMENT (GREAT GAIN), FAITH, LOVE, PATIENCE, MEEKNESS AND ETERNAL LIFE (REWARD WE WILL RECEIVE AT THE END OF THE RACE!) IF WHAT IS BEING OFFERED TO YOU IS DRAWING YOU AWAY FROM THE WILL AND PURPOSE OF GOD FOR YOUR LIFE, YOU NEED TO **FLEE THESE THINGS!** YOU AND I KNOW VERY WELL THAT THE ENEMY’S MISSION IS TO STEAL, KILL AND DESTROY YOUR DESTINY IN GOD! SO IF HE CAN DISTRACT YOU, DETAIN YOU, DELAY YOU AND DERAIL YOU, HE’S GOT YOU!

WE CAN’T HELP IT. WE ARE PILGRIMS IN THIS WEARY LAND. BUT WE DO NOT HAVE TO “*DO WHAT THE ROMANS DO*” JUST BECAUSE WE ARE IN ROME! AM I RIGHT? YOU MUST NOT LIVE IN FEAR BECAUSE OF WHAT YOU CANNOT SEE -- WHAT YOU DO NOT HAVE; BUT RATHER WALK IN FAITH – THE SUBSTANCE OF THINGS HOPED FOR, THE EVIDENCE OF THINGS NOT SEEN; BELIEVING GOD FOR THE IMPOSSIBLE! **FLEE FROM FEAR; FOLLOW IN FAITH!**

Blessed and Let Love Abound!

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