

Paul's Final Charge 1 Timothy 6:11-16

Introduction: The phrase, "man of God" is used in 2 Timothy 3:16-17 of anyone who **embraces** the truth of God's Word in his faith and life.

I. The Mandate 6:13-14

Timothy is charged to be faithful to his calling from a four-fold perspective:

1. **God is with you** ("in the sight of God who gives life") Rom 14:8; Ps 37:28
God is **sovereign** over the life that He gives.

2. **Jesus set the example for you** Matt 27:11; John 18:36-37; 19:10-11

3. **People are watching your life**

4. **Christ is going to return** Col 3:4; Rom 8:18

II. The Means 6:11-12

1. **Flee evil** 6:11; 1 Cor 6:18; 10:14; 2 Tim 2:22

These are sins where there is no room or time for **compromise**, rationalization, debate or consideration.

2. **Follow after virtues** 6:11-12

1) **Righteousness** = right thinking and behavior guided by the standards of God's **Word**. It is **doing** what's right and **treating** people right.

2) **Godliness** = living with a sense of **reverence** towards God; taking God and His Word **seriously**.

3) **Faith**/Faithfulness

4) **Love** = AGAPE/divine love that flows from a **Spirit**-filled life and manifests itself in self-sacrificing **service** (Matt 22:37; 1 Cor 13:1-3)

Apart from a loving heart, ministry is **ineffective** and shallow.

5) **Steadfastness** = perseverance; a steadfast obedience to the Word and to the Lord no matter what the **cost**.

6) **Gentleness** = a quality that is **tender** towards people and a humble **submission** to God's will

3. **Fight for the Truth** 6:12a

AGONIZOMAI/AGON are words that require discipline, commitment, struggle and a determination to **win**.

4. **Focus on the reality of eternal life** 6:12b; John 17:3; 15:5; Phil 1:21

It involves growing **deeper** in your knowledge of Christ, drawing upon His resurrection **power** and living with an **eternal** perspective.

III. The Motivation 6:15-16

Our great motivation is to remember **whom** you are serving. This is a doxology directed to God. We strive to fulfill our calling in awe of God's **greatness**.

1. **God is sovereign - do not fear**

- We need not fear **human or demonic** powers because God is sovereign over them (Isaiah 43:13)
- We need not fear death because God is sovereign over **life** (John 5:26; Job 12:10; Habakkuk 1:12).

2. **God is glorious in holiness and purity – do not doubt His goodness or justice (Ps 5:4; Ex 15:11)**

3. **God alone is worthy of honor and dominion - worship and surrender to Him alone**

THIS is the God whom we represent to the world and whose message we proclaim. And when we feel weak and threatened by the enemy, it is THIS God to whom we look for **strength** and **hope**.

Study Questions:

1. Who has God used in your life who is respected as a “man/woman of God” and motivated you to follow their example? What stood out in their lives?
2. How does the truth of the sovereignty of God sustain us in our times of trials (see Genesis 50:20; Romans 8:28)?
3. Note Paul’s challenge in 6:12 to “fight the good fight.” From the following verses, what are the enemies that we are to fight against that seek to damage our faith and testimony? How do we defeat them?
 - 1 John 2:15-17 –
 - Galatians 5:16-18 –
 - Ephesians 6:10-18 –
4. Read Paul’s doxology in 6:15-16. How does worship equip us to face the hardships in life and pressures from the enemy?