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1 Timothy 6

(2019)

Bible House of Grace contains an easy to read New and Old Testament commentary full of spiritual treasures and pearls, complete with an insightful resource guide illuminating God's love and grace.



Although I believe my aim is pure and God's will perfect this document is still the product of a human man, as to such I neither claim perfect knowledge or perfect understanding.

1 Timothy 6.

Topics.

- Slaves regard your masters as worthy of all honour.
- Whoever has believing masters must not be disrespectful.
- Godliness is a means of gain.
- If we have food and clothing, with these we will be content.
- The love of money is a root of all kinds of evils.
- Fight the good fight of the faith.
- Jesus will display God at the proper time.
- The rich are not to set their hopes on riches

The previous chapter: in the previous chapter Paul spoke of honouring widows who are truly widows and of not supporting those who are self-indulgent. He talked of widows who had strayed after Satan, of not accepting an accusation unless it is supported by two or three witnesses and told Timothy to drink a little wine for the stomach's sake. He warned against laying hands on anyone too quickly and pointed out that some sins are noticeable, while others appear later.

NOTE: for information concerning people, places and the meaning of words see Map Locations and People of the Bible, and Bible Dictionary on Website Menu.

1 TIMOTHY 6:1

Slaves Regard your Masters as Worthy of all Honour.

- **1 Timothy 6:1:** Let all who are under a yoke as slaves (Servants in KJV) regard their own masters as worthy of all honour, so that the name of God and the teaching may not be reviled.

Honour: in this context means to respect and willingly obey.

Slaves: (servants in KJV) can refer to any of the following people:

- A person who is forced to work for somebody else for no payment and is regarded as the property of that person.
- A person who meekly accepts being ruled by somebody else.
- A person who is dominated by somebody.
- A person who works hard in bad conditions and for low pay
- A person who is willing to obey the wishes and orders of others.

Today the word slave would mostly apply to those who work for bosses, especially those in third world countries who are not only oppressed but also work long hours for pitiful wages. Here Paul is saying, for the sake of the name and testimony of God and by extension the Christian faith no matter what the working condition is show the boss respect and work with integrity and honesty so that you give no occasion for those outside the Kingdom of God to speak against the Christian faith and the Lord Jesus Christ.

A practical example: I was employed with a company in customer service my job was to give the customer the best service possible. This company employed about one-hundred and eighty people. We had two Christian men who did give the customers good service, but if there were no customers they just leaned on the service desk and talked until another customer appeared (in their section) which could at certain times be two to three hours while others (non-believers) around them filled the time by stacking stock and tiding shelves. The unsaved men I worked with despised these two Christian men for their laziness and naturally spoke against the Christian faith because of the testimony of these two men. This is why Paul is teaching brothers and sisters to work diligently so that those around them are not given occasion to speak against God, against Christ or against Christianity.

1 TIMOTHY 6:2

Whoever has Believing Masters must not be Disrespectful.

- **1 Timothy 6:2:** Those who have believing masters must not be disrespectful on the ground that they are brothers; rather they must serve all the better since those who benefit by their good service are believers and beloved. Teach and urge these things.

There is a tendency in human nature to become flippant with people who we know very well and take advantage of their good nature. This is the reason Paul is telling brothers and sisters who work for a Christian boss to work all the better because those who are benefiting by their labour are believers and as they profit so too will the Kingdom of God and others in the family of the Lord.

NOTICE: the beautiful way in which Paul refers to brothers and sisters in Christ, "They are Beloved (v2)" all who belong to the family of the Lord should see each other in this light, not one of us is perfect or without sin, but we are all beloved.

1 TIMOTHY 6:3

Unhealthy Cravings for Controversy and for Quarrels about Words

- **1 Timothy 6:3:** If anyone teaches a different doctrine and does not agree with the sound words of our Lord Jesus Christ and the teaching that accords with godliness,

This verse refers to the following two things:

1. The doctrine we are to agree on is, about believing in the death and resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ and recognising that we all fall short of God's Glory and absolute Holiness. It is about believing that throughout the entire history of mankind there has only ever been one man who has ever attained to God's perfect standard of holiness.

It is agreeing on the majestic Good News of the Gospel, which states; "Whoever humbly comes to God through repentance and faith in God's Son the Lord Jesus Christ is approved of and accepted by God the Father and all our sins are forgiven, not because we are deserving of it, by any self-effort or religious good works, but because through faith in Christ, righteousness is imputed from God to us as a pure and free gift. It is, believing that because of this free gift and our faith and God's grace whoever abides in the Lord will be resurrected to eternal glory and everlasting life. These are the doctrines we are all called to agree on. Since we all come from different cultures, have different educational backgrounds and not only come to Christ with all sorts of different baggage, but also grow intellectually at a different pace to one another and are at different levels of spirituality to each other there is always going to be certain things we will intellectually understand

differently to each other and because of all these differences the words, "If anyone teaches a different doctrine" cannot refer to every detail of the Bible since then we would all have to be walking Bible encyclopaedias. Rather the doctrine that is in focus here is that doctrine (i.e., the Gospel) that leads to God and to eternal life through the Lord Jesus Christ.

2. The teaching that accords with godliness; refers to teachings that guide and lead a person to good and right living that honours God and the Lord Jesus Christ, and to behaviour that fulfils the Royal Law which states, "Love your neighbour as yourself" (James 2:8) which means do not deliberately do harm to other humans. No sane person deliberately does things to inflict pain on themselves, loving others as you love yourself is not about feeling some warm and fuzzy emotion towards others, it is about not hurting others as you would not hurt yourself. The thing God hates the most is when we do harm to another person, physically, financially, sexually, verbally, mentally, emotionally or spiritually and the thing God loves the most is when we do good to others. It is interesting to notice that the major crime that God points out in Noah's time and one of the main reasons for the flood was because of all the violence in the land.

- Micah wrote: what the LORD requires of mankind is to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with their God (Micah 6:5-10).
- Isaiah says: the LORD loves justice, hates robbery and wrong doing (Isaiah 61:8).
- Jeremiah said: those who know God practise steadfast love, justice, and righteousness in the earth, because it is in these things that God delights (Jer. 9:24).

The great prophets Micah, Isaiah and Jeremiah clearly show us that the people the LORD loves are not only those who acknowledge God, but who also uphold justice, do not lie, deceive or make promises they do not intend to keep, but speak the truth, do what is right, show respect and give help to others when able and make choices that lead to peace. These are the things the LORD delights in and that bring His favour.

Biblically a wicked person is primarily one who deliberately and
consciously denies the existence of God
and does harm to other humans.

Unity and harmony: certainly we must all believe the message of the cross and the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ, but understanding that no-one has to be a walking Bible encyclopaedia to know the Lord Jesus Christ and be saved to eternal life means that there can be unity and harmony within the family of Christ despite some intellectual differences. When there is this kind of understanding it allows each brother and sister to grow at their own pace and walk before the Lord with their own conscience rather than having the ministers or the congregation's conscience imposed on them. Added to this brothers and sisters are able to reason together over the differences in a spirit of adventure and the excitement of discovery rather than feeling they must prove they are right and the other person is wrong which simply develops an attitude of defending and attacking which leads to argument, strife and contentions which is what Paul is referring to in the following verses.

1 TIMOTHY 6:4-5

Unhealthy Cravings for Controversy and Quarrels.

- **1 Timothy 6:4-5:** he is puffed up with conceit and understands nothing. He has an unhealthy craving for controversy and for quarrels about words, which produce envy, dissension, slander, evil suspicions, and constant friction among people who are depraved in mind and deprived of the truth, imagining that godliness is a means of gain.

The 'he' in this verse links back to the previous verses it refers to those who teach a different doctrine to the Gospel which declares salvation to eternal life is in the Lord Jesus Christ and comes by faith and God's grace and to those who teach doctrines that lead to behaviour that not only dishonours the law of love but also God, the Lord Jesus Christ and the Christian faith. Since it is eternal life and godly behaviour that are of great value to God and benefit human life Paul is saying, anyone who argues and quarrels over teachings that are contrary to the Gospel and not important to a person's salvation or to godly behaviour are puffed up with conceit and know nothing meaning they have no idea as to what is important to the heart of God and because of this they cause quarrels, tensions and divisions.

The follow verse: "People imagining that godliness is a means of gain" (v5) can refer to two groups of people:

- 1 To people who believe that adhering to ceremonial rites, holy days, keeping religious customs and traditions and wearing holy garments etc., makes them righteous (i.e., godly) and of great worth to God and therefore they strive to legalistically and strictly adhere to the literal interpretation of religious laws, rules customs and traditions and by the strict adherence to these believe they are more righteous and in many cases spiritually superior to others who are not as zealous or committed as they are to keeping such laws. Though some of these things maybe good in themselves not one of them counts for anything in regards to a person's standing before the Lord. This is because it is not religious works that God values, but good and right behaviour especially behaviour that stems from love and shows kindness, compassion, grace and mercy toward others.
- 2 To those who believe that being a Christian will bring great gain, meaning God will abundantly prosper them with worldly wealth, success and the best of material possessions, they believe owning opulent houses and top of the range cars is a sign of God favour. Their belief is that if a person does right by God, God will in turn reward them with worldly riches, wealth and material possessions. The unspoken message of this corrupt teaching is that those who are not blessed with riches, wealth and worldly possessions are obviously (according to this distorted teaching) not in favour with God.

1 TIMOTHY 6:6-8

If we have Food and Clothing, with these we will be Content.

- **1 Timothy 6:6-8:** Now there is great gain in godliness with contentment,⁷ for we brought nothing into the world, and we cannot take anything out of the world.⁸ But if we have food and clothing, with these we will be content.

Strictly adhering to ceremonial rites, religious laws, rules customs and traditions, means nothing to God in regards to a person's godliness nor are riches, wealth and worldly possessions an evidence of a person's godliness. What is a sign of godliness is contentment meaning being satisfied, happy and thankful for what one has in contrast to always craving for more. This is the reason Paul says:

- We brought nothing into the world, and we cannot take anything out of the world, therefore we should be content if we have food and clothing."

Obviously today people need (especially if they live in the West) cars to get to work, school books or computers for their children shelter to protect from the weather and such like things, the idea conveyed in Paul's words is that if we have what we need to survive (i.e., to live) then we should be content in contrast to those he speaks about in the following verses who have what they need, but constantly crave more.

The Love of Money is a Root of all Kinds of Evils.

- **1 Timothy 6:9-10:** But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation, into a snare, into many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. ¹⁰For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evils. It is through this craving that some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pangs.

NOTICE: Paul does not say that “Money is the root of all evil,” or even that it is an evil at all. It is the love of it which is the source of the temptations that certain people who desire to be rich fall into. It should also be noticed that Paul says:

- The love of money is the root of all kinds of evils (v10)

Clearly money cannot be the root of all evils since rape, child abuse, arson and such like things are not motivated by money and it certainly was not the root cause of Adam’s and Eve’s transgression, but it is certainly the root cause of all the evils mentioned in the these verses (i.e., those who desire to be rich). Paul is telling Timothy that some brothers who desired to be rich have been deceived because of their craving after worldly wealth and seduced by the promise’s riches hold out and the prospect of wealth that they have departed from the faith. They have thrown away the promise of eternal life and everlasting glory for the pursuit of finding temporal pleasure and comfort in this present world. It is almost certain that Paul had observed throughout his ministry brothers who had forsaken their faith to pursue worldly riches and seen that not only had they been overtaken with stress, worry, anxiety and the fear of losing it once they achieved it, but that it also opened doors to all sorts of sinful pleasures that they became seduced by, thus the words, “They have pierced themselves with many pangs” (v10). But the greatest pain they have pierced themselves with by trading their faith to pursue the riches of this world will be the gross disappointment when they see those who have lived content with what they have and endured in their faith through the hardships of life rewarded with eternal joy and happiness to be lived out in everlasting glory. Whereas all that is awaiting those who turn aside from their faith, is a coffin and a grave since these are ultimately all that the richest man in the world can have from all his wealth.

NOTE: this does not refer to a Christian brother or sister who has the gift of establishing and running a successful business through which they become rich, there is nothing sinful in succeeding in honest work, added to this a certain percentage of the profits of their successful business are available for works of charity and expanding the Kingdom of God. Being rich and wealthy only become sinful when a brother or sister running the company is driven by the love of money and greed and the craving for far more than they need and therefore not only do they forsake their faith, but they oppress their workers to make greater profits to fulfil their own selfish ambition and lust for worldly riches.

1 TIMOTHY 6:11-12

Pursue Righteousness, Godliness, Faith, Love and Gentleness.

- **1 Timothy 6:11-12:** But as for you, O man of God, flee these things. Pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, steadfastness, gentleness. ¹²Fight the good fight of the faith. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called and about which you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses.

The words, “O man of God” refers to Timothy, but by extension to all who belong to the family of Christ and the things Paul is telling him to flee from is the love of money, the desire to be rich, controversy and argument and instead pursue what is right, good and kind.

Fight the good fight of the faith: there are three interesting things to notice in Paul's words, "Fight the good fight of the faith" (v12).

1. It is called a good fight, this is because this fight is not fought with fists and weapons of war, but with love compassion, kindness, forgiveness grace and mercy thus the reason it is called, "The good fight."
2. It implies that living the Christian life is not about living a charmed life, but enduring through persecution, hardship and troubles.
3. The fight is about eternal life, not obtaining worldly wealth and riches.

The good confession: (v12) Timothy made was most likely that he would commit his life to teaching the Scriptures and the many witnesses would refer to the council of elders who laid their hands on him (1 Tim. 4:14). Since Timothy's grandmother Lois and his mother Eunice had acquainted him with Scriptures from childhood (2 Tim. 1:5) and he no-doubt did his own research he was greatly qualified to be a teacher of the Gospel and an evangelist, (2 Tim. 3:15) added to this he was a man of integrity and good conscience so it is certain these elders who laid hands on him ordained him and gave him the authority to teach the word of God to the churches.

NOTE: earlier in this letter Paul told Timothy not to neglect the gift, which was given to him by prophecy when the council of elders laid their hands on him (1 Tim. 4:14). This gift Timothy had, refers to the authority he was given by these elders to proclaim the Gospel to the churches. The gift cannot refer to his knowledge of the Scriptures since no matter how gifted men of God maybe no-one can instantly gain full knowledge of them by having others laying hands on them.

1 TIMOTHY 6:13-14

6

Jesus Testimony before Pontius Pilate.

- **1 Timothy 6:13-14:** I charge you in the presence of God, who gives life to all things, and of Christ Jesus, who in his testimony before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, ¹⁴to keep the commandment unstained and free from reproach until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ.

The good confession Jesus made before Pontius Pilate is recorded in the book of Matthew who wrote:

- Now Jesus stood before the governor, and the governor asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" Jesus said, "You have said so" (Matt. 27:11)

And John referring to the same event wrote:

- Pilate said to him, "So you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. For this purpose I was born and for this purpose I have come into the world— to bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth listens to my voice" (John 18:37).

Paul encourages Timothy, by reminding him that even when Jesus was before Pontius Pilate about to be condemned and tortured he still made a good confession in that he did not deny who he was even though he faced being cruelly and brutally killed and then encourages Timothy and by extension every brother and sister in Christ to stand firm in their faith as Jesus did, regardless of what circumstance we might find ourselves in.

The awesome wonder and glory of the Christian faith: thousands of years before Christ was born the great prophet Isaiah wrote:

- For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace" (Isaiah 9:6).

Then thousands of years after Isaiah had made this prophecy God sent the angel Gabriel to a young virgin woman named Mary and the angel said:

- Behold, the Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; you will conceive in your womb and the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God and you shall call his name Jesus, he will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end” (Luke 1:26-35).

The birth of Christ changed the entire religious and spiritual word forever. What other birth and life has affected the entire history of mankind with such lasting power, but as beautiful and life changing as Christ’s life and his message is to all those who receive it the Lords, birth, life, death and resurrection is not the end of God’s eternal story. The ultimate, spectacular and dramatic climax of Isaiah’s and Gabriel’s words will be fulfilled when the Lord returns as, King of kings and Lord of lords (Rev. 19:11-16) to rule and reign from God’s Holy City Jerusalem (on Mount Zion God’s Holy Mountain) to establish God’s Kingdom on earth during his millennial reign. In the first resurrection (Rev. 20:4-5) the dead in Christ and the faithful, who are alive, will be gathered together to rule and reign as kings and priests with the Lord over those nations who are left outside the Holy City of God.

Christ the King united with his people will not only bring peace to the Middle East, but establish God’s Kingdom of steadfast love, faithfulness, righteousness, joy and peace throughout the world and the glory of God will cover the earth. Jesus will do justice to the poor and oppressed, he will be a faithful and compassionate King forever. He will not allow anyone to strike terror in the earth or use lies and deception to enlarge their own wealth and power. The land will abundantly produce and even the deserts will flourish. The animals will not feed on each other and even the lamb will be able to lie down with the wolf and everyone will eat of their own hands because all that they plant will produce. All nations the LORD has made will come and worship before the Lord Jesus Christ. They will glorify God’s Name, proclaiming the LORD is great and does wondrous things and that He alone is God. The book of Revelation states:

- Jesus Christ, the faithful witness who loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood has made us kings and priests unto God and his Father is coming in glory and every eye shall see him, and they also who pierced him and all kindreds of the earth (Revelation 1:5-7).

And in Revelation chapter five we are told that:

- Christ was slain, and by his blood he redeemed a people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation and made them a kingdom and priests to God and they shall reign on the earth (Revelation 5:9-10).

At the end of this glorious Kingdom age God descends to earth on a Great White Throne the sea, death and hades (the grave) give up the dead. They stand before God and are judged according to what is written in certain heavenly books according to what they have done. Death and those counted unworthy are cast into the Lake of Fire a symbol of eternal destruction (i.e., total extinction) (also called the, Second Death) (Rev 20:11-15). Christ hands the Kingdom over to his heavenly Father and God is ALL in ALL and ETERNITY begins in all its fullness and majestic royal glory.

For further information see titles:

- Kingdom of God (ON WEBSITE MENU).
- The Second or Great White Throne Judgment.

In, Resurrection (ON WEBSITE MENU).

Jesus will display God at the Proper Time.

- **1 Timothy 6:15-16:** which he (God) will display (the appearing of the Lord Jesus Christ) (v14) at the proper time—he (God) who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords, ¹⁶who alone has immortality, who dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see. To him be honour and eternal dominion. Amen.

From these verses we learn that God the Father is the source of all life and at the appointed time God will gloriously bring about the return of the Lord Jesus Christ. Amongst Christianity some religious teachers have used this verse to support the mistaken theory that Jesus God's most beloved Son is actually God the Father. They assume this idea because of the words, "King of kings and Lord of lords" which in the book of Revelation clearly refers to the Lord Jesus Christ (Rev. 19:11-16), but that does not mean that the title should be forced to refer to Jesus in these verses. To apply the title, "King of kings and Lord of lords" as used in these verses to Jesus is flawed because these verses state:

1. He alone is immortal meaning he cannot die, whereas Jesus did.
2. He dwells in unapproachable light whereas Jesus was approachable by all.
3. No-one has ever seen him, whereas Jesus was seen by all.

Added to these the title King does not always refer to Jesus, many times in the Old Testament God the Father is called the King as the following verses show:

- For the LORD is a great God, and a great *king* above all gods (Psalm 95:3).
- Yet God my *king* is from of old, working salvation in the earth (Psalm 74:12).
- Mine (Isaiah's) eyes have seen the *king the LORD* of hosts (Isaiah 6:5).
- I am the LORD, your Holy One, the creator of Israel, your *king* (Isaiah 43:15).
- The LORD is the true God, he is the living God, and an everlasting *king* (Jer. 10:10).
- Also see the list following 1 Timothy 1:17 (above).

These verses and the ones following (1 Timothy 1:17) (above) clearly show that God the Father is the Sovereign, Immortal, King who dwells in unapproachable light whom no one has ever seen or can see of all ages while Christ is God's anointed and foreordained King of the age we live in and the eternal age to come since he is the fulfilment of God's eternal plan of salvation.

God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Paul is not implying that Jesus the Son is actually God the Father as some religious teachers proclaim. Paul starts his message in (v11) thanking God the Father for His plan of salvation and ends in (v17) with thanking the Father again giving Him the full title:

- The only *sovereign*, the King of kings and Lord of lords, who alone has *immortality* who dwells in *unapproachable light* whom *no one* has ever *seen* or can see.

A title that only belongs to the one true Almighty God, "Who gives life to all things" (v13) (meaning God the Father is the source of all life). The New King James Bible says:

- The blessed and only *potentate*, the King of kings, and Lord of lords.

This title: "The blessed and only potentate the King of kings and Lord of lords" cannot be referring to Jesus because the verse goes onto to say, who only hath immortality dwelling in the light which no man can approach unto whom no man has seen, nor can see. Clearly people have approached and seen Christ even after his resurrection he appeared to many and they testify that they saw and handled him, yet (v16) says no man has ever seen Him or can even approach Him, evidencing that this title belongs to Almighty God and Father of all who belong to Christ. Certainly Jesus is returning as, "The King of kings and Lord of lords" (Rev 19:16) and certainly he is the King of kings and Lord of lords over the Kingdom of God, the church and all principalities, powers rulers in heaven and on earth, but that does not mean that God his heavenly Father who is the source of all life (1 Tim 6:13) stops being the King of kings and Lord of lords over all creation.

The principle: could be likened to a man who establishes a very successful global company and is therefore given the title C.E.O. (meaning chief executive Officer) who has total control over all aspects of that company. Over time the man's son proves he is fully capable and trustworthy to run the company so his father passes the title C.E.O. over to his son. Now the Son has all the power and authority his father had, but that does not mean that the son has actually become the father nor does it mean that the father became the son.

Words of comfort and encouragement: since the teaching that Jesus is God has such a strong hold on much of traditional Christianity the following will encourage and comfort faithful brothers and sisters in Christ who maybe in some doubt and unsure of what to believe concerning the Father and the Son. The Bible very clearly shows that even if Jesus was God no one has to know this to be saved to eternal life since there is not one verse in the entire Bible that states:

- We must believe that Jesus is God to be saved.

Nor is there one verse from Genesis to Revelations that says:

- Whoever believes that Jesus is God the Son will be saved.

In total contrast to this silence there are literally multitudes of Scriptures throughout the pages of the New Testament that very clearly proclaim:

- We must believe that Jesus is the Son of God to be saved.

And that say:

- Whoever believes that Jesus is the Son of God will be saved.

Surely if it was important to believe that Jesus was actually God to be saved to eternal life Jesus, the apostles and Paul would have told us at least once in all their teaching concerning salvation, but all we hear from Paul, the apostles and Jesus himself is them saying that we must believe that Jesus is the Son of God to be saved to eternal life. Jesus himself said, "This is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God 'and' Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent" (John 17:3).

For further information see the title: "Trinity (The Doctrine of the Trinity)." In Various Topics (ON WEBSITE MENU).

1 TIMOTHY 6:17-19

The Rich are not to set their Hopes on Riches.

- **1 Timothy 6:17-19:** As for the rich in this present age, charge them not to be haughty, nor to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who richly provides us with everything to enjoy. ¹⁸They are to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share, ¹⁹thus storing up treasure for themselves as a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of that which is truly life.

These verses clearly show that it is not a sin to enjoy what God provides us with and that those who are rich should enjoy the wealth they have and the non-sinful joys of the world that being wealthy makes available. There is not only enormous beauty in creation that God has made for us to enjoy, but also people (saved and unsaved) that He has abundantly blessed with musical gifts, voices and other talents that can truly lift the heart and mind into places of pure joy. These are gifts that God has created for all to enjoy, sadly because the god of this world is mammon (money) only the rich can afford to do so, but it will not be this way in the Kingdom of God when the Lord returns and the god of this world is flicked off the throne of this corrupted world and replaced with justice and fairness for all. Riches only become wrong when people trust in them or become proud and arrogant because of their wealth, but if the rich enjoy their riches, do-good with the money and are generous then there is nothing wrong with riches. Added to this Paul says, if the rich do-good with their riches, are generous with their money and share their wealth they are storing up treasures in heaven.

1 TIMOTHY 6:20-21

Irreverent Contradictions Falsely called Knowledge.

- **1 Timothy 6:20-21:** O Timothy, guard the deposit entrusted to you. Avoid the irreverent (profane and vain in KJV) babble and contradictions (oppositions in KJV) of what is falsely called "knowledge (science in KJV)" ²¹for by professing it some have swerved from the faith. Grace be with you.

Paul's warning to Timothy "Guard the deposit entrusted to you" means guard the treasure and pearls he has in the knowledge, the grace and the love of Christ, don't even give time to those who exalt themselves through articulating their own reasoning and speculations and imposing them onto others and thereby cause strife and contentions or to those who spend time in endless fruitless discussion (called babble) over trivial matters that are not important to salvation and eternal life or encourage godly behaviour.

NOTE: Paul is not saying brothers and sisters in Christ cannot have friendly discussion over various aspects of Scripture the context is people who in such discussions forcefully attempt to impose their speculations or reasoning onto others and to those who put far too much importance on trivial matters that the discussion enters into strife and tension these are the types of religious people Paul is telling Timothy not to waste time on and to guard his faith from. Remember Paul was like a protective father to Timothy, nothing was going to shake Paul's faith since he was so spiritually strong, he could face the wildest beast, but not all brothers and sisters in Christ have the knowledge or the spiritual strength as Paul had. Paul having a fathers heart toward those he ministered to was fully aware that not all are as strong as he was in the faith and therefore he was driven by a strong desire to protect the weaker in faith from those who were arrogantly prideful and those who though they may have had great knowledge, had absolutely no idea as to what was important to the heart of God and the Lord Jesus Christ and therefore caused strife, contentions and divisions.

As the founder of Bible House of Grace, I would like to thank the many Christian scholars, commentators and theologians who have gone before me, and the many today, who have freely made available their works to enhance the knowledge of the Bible to all people worldwide. It is only with the help of these faithful writers that much of Bible House of Grace exists as it does today.
