

“Flee, Follow, and Fight”

1 Tim. 6:6-11

Introduction

- I. Paul took time to help Timothy develop into a mature child of God.
- II. In his letters, you can see how Paul behaved almost like a father to a son (1 Tim. 1:2; 2 Tim. 1:2).
- III. Today, we can learn from Paul's instructions so that we likewise grow and mature properly.

Discussion

- I. At times, Christians will need to flee (1 Tim. 6:9-11).
 - A. “Flee”-run away from; be a fugitive
 - B. Contextually, Paul wanted Timothy to flee:
 1. False doctrines (1 Tim. 6:3-5).
 2. The love of money (1 Tim. 6:6-11).
 - C. In other texts, that describe things that Christians should flee:
 1. Youthful lusts (2 Tim. 2:2).
 2. Fornication (1 Cor. 6:18; cf. Matt. 5:27-28).
 3. Idolatry (1 Cor. 10:14; cf. Amos 8:14; Isa. 45:15-17).
 - D. Joseph is a great example of fleeing from sin (Gen. 39:7-12).
- II. Christians also have things that they need to follow (1 Tim. 6:11).
 - A. “Follow”-pursue with diligence; earnest endeavor to acquire
 - B. Contextually, Paul wanted Timothy to follow:
 1. Righteousness (Psm. 119:172; 1 John 3:7).
 2. Godliness (1 Tim. 2:1-3, 9-10; 4:7-8; 6:6).
 3. Faith (Heb. 11:1, 6; Rom. 10:17; 1 Cor. 2:5).
 4. Love (1 Cor. 13:1-8; 16:14; 1 John 4:8; Col. 3:14).
 5. Patience (1 Cor. 15:58; Heb. 12:1-2).
 6. Meekness (Matt. 5:5; Titus 3:2).
 - C. Other texts that describe what Christians should follow:
 1. Following faithful brethren (1 Cor. 11:1).
 2. Following the Lord (1 Pet. 2:21; John 8:12).
- III. Christians have things that they need to fight (1 Tim. 6:12).
 - A. “Fight”-athletic contest; strive
 - B. Contextually, Paul wanted Timothy to fight “the good fight of faith” (1 Tim. 6:12; 2 Tim. 4:7).
 - C. Other texts that describe what Christians are to fight:
 1. Darkness and spiritual wickedness (Eph. 6:12-13).
 2. The devil (1 Pet. 5:8-9; James 4:7).

Conclusion

- I. Like Timothy, there are things that we need to flee, follow, and fight.
- II. Learning these things will help us to mature as children of God.