

A GOOD MINISTER IS ALWAYS TEACHING (I Timothy 4:6-16)

A trustworthy minister of Jesus Christ will always teaching and reminding his flock of *the words of faith and of good doctrine* which he or she has followed (I Timothy 4:6).

1. (a) What does Paul say Timothy should refuse in I Timothy 4:7? _____

(b) What does Paul say he should rather exercise himself (put yourself out) unto? (I Timothy 4:7) _____

Paul goes on to say that *bodily exercise* profits *little* (or a little while), or we could say, exercise only effects the body, *but godliness is profitable unto all things, having promise of the life that now is* (our present life and it's enjoyment in peace and happiness in Christ), *and that which is to come* (eternal life with Christ). *This is a true saying and worthy of entire acceptance. For therefore we both labor and suffer reproach, because we trust in the living God, who is the Savior of all men, specially of those that believe.* (I Timothy 4:8-10; see Ephesians 5:23).

2. Give a list of the commands Paul gives Timothy in I Timothy 4:12-16.

(1) _____

(2) _____

(3) _____

FOURTH STUDY

THE MINISTER'S OPOSITION LATTER DAY APOSTASIES AND DEMON DOCTRINES (I Timothy 4:1-5)

4:1-3 Paul clearly states that there will be those in the last days that will openly deny the fundamental doctrines of the divinity of Jesus and the reality of his resurrection. Paul's prophecy foreshadowed the cultic practices of our generation that include the acceptance of immorality and the widespread requirement to abstain from certain types of foods. In addition, liberal theologians have openly denied the fundamental doctrines of the Bible and continue to propagate these heresies both in the pulpit and in seminary classrooms. ¹

The Holy Spirit is speaking openly and directly, in the churches the first New Testament prophesy in I Timothy which was fulfilled at the time of this writing and is still being fulfilled in our day and time. The latter times the Spirit is speaking of are the last years ending this age before the Millennium and the whole period of the church age.

1. List the some of the things the Spirit was speaking in I Timothy 4:1-3 that would take place in the latter times.

(1) _____

1. Prophecy Study Bible, Grant R. Jeffrey, p. 1384.

- (2) _____

 (3) _____

 (4) _____

 (5) _____

 (6) _____

The first work of demons is to persuade a believer to *depart from the faith* (I Timothy 4:1) ... *Giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils* (teachings suggested by devils, [Luke 7:33 and John 7:20; 8:48,52; 10:19] that Jesus and John the Baptist had devils). This results in a departure from holy living and the acceptance of doctrines that will damn the soul (II Thessalonians 2:3; Hebrews 3:12).

Forbidding or hindering *to marry* (I Timothy 4:3) is to hinder and operate against wedlock by enticing them to meet demands of the sex drive apart from the sanctity of marriage. Our government even hinders to marry by offering support to the unwed mother and those who live-together, with children, as long as they are not married. When they marry, all that support is gone. Many young couples who were planning to marry, but when they find out the girl is pregnant, change their minds because the government will buy the mother

diapers, formula; and also provide health care for the mother and the child. So they decide to wait in sin, and not marry until it is convenient for them. Our government is giving their consent to, and joining them, in their sin against God.

2. What does Paul say in opposition to abstaining from meats in I Timothy 4:3-5? _____

Commanding to abstain from meats. I Timothy 4:3. Among the heathen and others; even of the so-called Christians, concerning meats and food are forbidden, is unscriptural under the New Covenant . It is prompted by demons; against the Gospel; and against our liberty (Romans 14:1-6).

To take what Paul says in I Timothy 4:4: that *“nothing is to be refused* (rejected)” out of context, is to say anything we do is ok with God after we are saved. This also would be apostasy. No, What Paul; is saying is referring to the first part of this verse, where he says, *For every creature of God is good, and nothing* (no creature) *to be refused, if it be received with thanksgiving* (see Romans 14:14,20; I Corinthians 10:25).