

Gods' Healthy Treatment of Overseers

November 2012

1 Timothy Chapter 5:17-25

Introduction

- HONOUR...VERSE 17-18

In VERSE 17 the APOSTLE PAUL turns his attention to the right treatment of those who oversee and rule the church well. He instructs that they must be appreciated and respected for all they do and where possible honoured with financial remuneration. The APOSTLE then backs up his position with VERSE 18 using both an Old Testament reference and a New Testament statement of Jesus....***"for the scripture says you shall not muzzle an ox while it treads out the grain," and, "The laborer is worthy of his wages."***

Discussion & Application 1:

The word honour (or '**time**' pronounced (Teemay" in Greek) refers to money - a financial contribution or financial support. Paul also goes on to mention respect and esteem....

Consider verse 18... Referencing both an Old Testament statement by Moses and a New Testament statement of Jesus:

"for the scripture says you shall not muzzle an ox while it treads out the grain," (Moses)
and, "The laborer is worthy of his wages." (Jesus)

How do we honour, respect and esteem our leaders?

See Proverbs 3:9

Read 1Cor 9:1-18 - what is Paul saying here?

What are your views on tithes and offerings? Has these views changed or remained the same since attending CCSL

Discussion & Application 2:

- PROTECTION... VERSE 19

As well as honouring leaders, it speaks of protecting leaders against false accusations that may be issued their way. How do we honour and protect those in spiritual authority over us...

How do we maintain the protection of our leaders?

- REBUKE & CHARGE before GOD...VERSE 20-21

PAUL addresses those leaders who have been EXPOSED in sin...and the directive is to rebuke them in the presence of all... WHY? so that the rest may fear...

This is Gods mandate - not man's. Paul describes God's process for dealing with those, leaders in particular, who are sinning. This process, of course, is relevant for all the congregation.

Deuteronomy 19:15

Remember the process in **Matthew 18**... First go to a brother/sister, if they won't listen & repent then bring along another, if they still don't repent then they are to be brought before the church....

Verse 21 Paul charges the congregation before **The Lord Jesus Christ**...

Consider **1 Samuel 15:22**... *Timothy needed to heed the words of Paul "to obey is better than sacrifice"*

Discussion & Application 3:

- SELECTION of Leaders...VERSE 22-23

The process of selecting someone to function in a leadership capacity should not be taken lightly therefore PAUL warns TIMOTHY to be careful in the process or he could be found guilty by association.

Do not lay hands hastily - in some cases "let a man be proved" and "know those who labour amongst you."

Paul tells Timothy to "keep himself pure" Timothy had taken a vow of abstinence refraining from wine. Paul urges Timothy to take a little wine for his infirmity.

Note that this isn't an opportunity for the flesh - alcohol is permitted drunkenness isn't!

- VERSE 24-25

Four categories of people described:

1. Some men's sins are clearly evident
2. Some men's sins follow later (let a man be proved, don't lay hands hastily)
3. Some men's good works are clearly evident
4. Some men's good works develop as they work on their walk with God in faithful service.

Conclusion:

Gifts, talents, looks, don't qualify us for service but keeping the faith with all purity, a willing heart to serve God, good works, not sharing in other people's sins...

Do you have any aspirations to be used of the LORD?

If 'no' then why not...?

If yes what are you doing about it...?