

Introduction and Overview

I. The Historical Context of the Book of 1 Timothy

- A. Author: [Paul](#) the Apostle
- B. Audience: Written to Timothy, to be [read](#) in the churches.
1. Timothy was the son of an unbelieving Greek father and a Jewish mother. (Acts 16:1) His mother Eunice and his grandmother Lois had become Christians, and were known for their sincere faith. (2 Tim. 1:5)
 2. Timothy was living in Lystra when Paul visited on his first missionary journey. (Acts 14:6) Timothy already knew the OT well at the time of this visit (2 Tim 3:15) and probably accepted Christ in response to Paul's preaching. (1 Tim. 1:2; 2 Tim. 1:2 and Phil. 2:22)
 3. Paul recognized Timothy's value for the [ministry](#) (Acts 16:1-4; 1 Tim. 1:18; 4:14; 2 Tim. 4:5), so Paul took him on as a traveling companion and ministry partner. (2 Cor.1:1; Phil. 1:1; Col. 1:1; 1 Thes. 1:1; 2 Thes. 1:1; Philemon 1)
 4. Timothy became one of Paul's most trusted fellow [workers](#). (Romans 16:21; 1 Cor. 16:10; Phil. 2:19-22; 1 Thes. 3:2)
 5. Timothy became Paul's faithful representative and [messenger](#). (Acts 19:22; 1 Cor. 4:17; 2 Cor. 1:19; Phil. 2:19; 1 Thes. 3:2 and 6)
 6. Paul requested Timothy's company in the final days of his imprisonment (2 Tim. 1:4; 4:9 and 4:21)
 7. Timothy may have been [timid](#) by nature (2 Tim. 1:7-8), early on maybe intimidated because of his youth (1 Tim 4:12) prone to fear (1 Cor. 16:10-11) maybe tending to neglect using his spiritual gifts due to a lack of confidence (1 Tim. 4:14) and may have had stomach problems related to this (1 Tim. 5:23).
- C. Date: [after](#) Paul's first Roman imprisonment.
1. The Book of Acts ends in AD 61-62 with Paul under house arrest in Rome
 2. After his release Paul traveled with Timothy, preaching from AD 62 to perhaps as late as 64-67.
 3. At some point, Paul was arrested again, and wrote 2 Timothy.
 4. Paul was executed by Nero during the Neronian persecution sometime between AD 64-68.

II. The Purpose of the Book of 1 Timothy

- A. Paul wrote the letter of 1 Timothy to instruct Timothy and the Christians in Ephesus how a person and a church should conduct themselves so as to [function](#) as the pillar and support of the truth. (1 Timothy 3:15)
- B. Paul wrote the letter of 1 Timothy to spur on(encourage) Timothy in ministry.
1. To fight the good fight of faith like a good soldier and a godly man (1 Tim. 1:18 and 6:11-12)
 2. To [discipline](#) himself for the purpose of godliness (1 Tim. 4:7)

III. The Structure of the Book of 1 Timothy

Greetings (1:1-2)

Instructions to protect (teach + fight for) sound doctrine in the Church (1:3-20)

Instructions to pray for government so the Church can advance the gospel in peace. (2:1-8)

Instructions concerning the conduct of women in the Church (2:9-15)

Instructions concerning the qualifications for leaders in the Church (3:1-13)

Instructions for guarding the truth in the Church (3:14-4:16)

Instructions concerning care for widows in the Church (5:1-16)

Instructions concerning spiritual leaders in the Church (5:17-25)

Instructions concerning godliness and contentment in the Church (6:1-19)

Closing Instructions (6:20-21)

Message

Christian, are you being who you are?

So What? Now What? Action Points:

- Like Timothy, you're probably just an [ordinary](#) person who responded with faith to the gospel of Jesus.
- Like Timothy, you are part of Christ's Church, and as such [you are](#) the pillar and support of God's truth in this world.
- Like Timothy, you have been [shaped](#) by God for ministry.
- Like Timothy, you need this letter of exhortation from the Apostle Paul.