

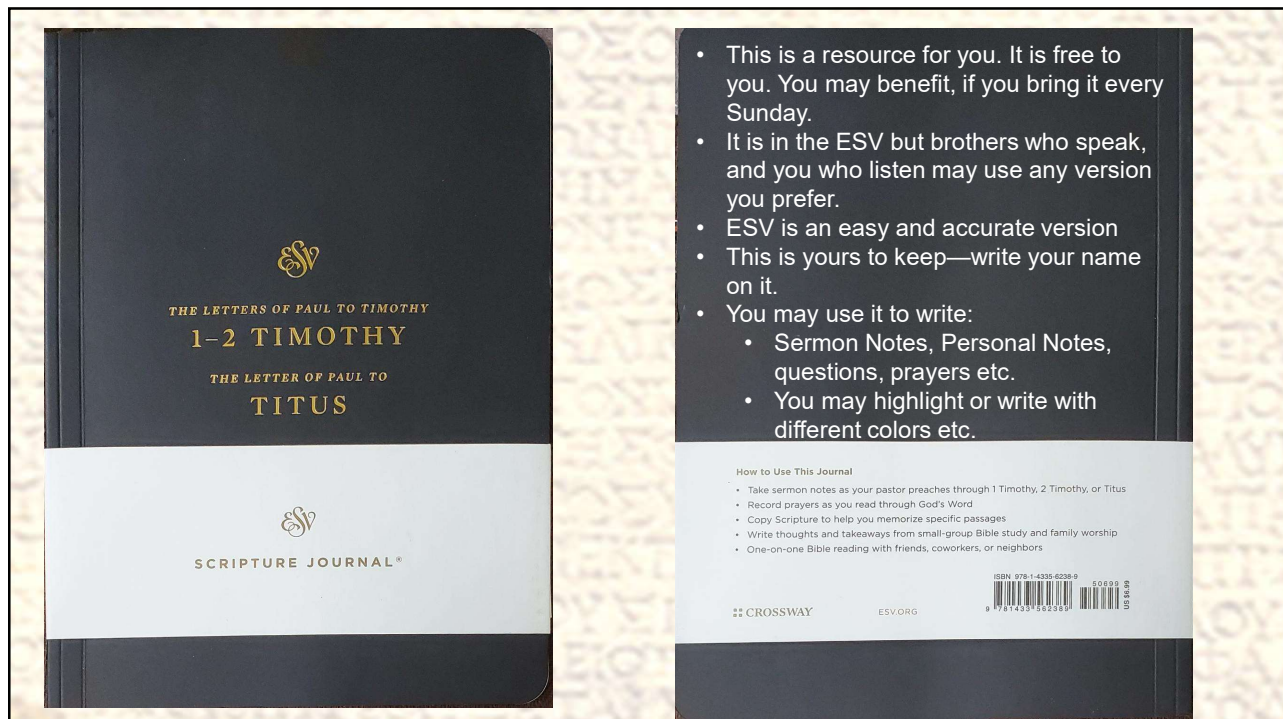
# 1 Timothy Overview

Grace Gospel Chapel

Erie, PA 16510

September 24, 2023

Sam Kurien



## Paul

- Arrested in Jerusalem about year AD 57 and confined to prison in Caesarea for 2 years (Acts 21:19-26:32)
- Paul's voyage to Rome to be tried before Caesar—about September 59
- Had a shipwreck, and a 3 month wait in Malta, then arrived in Rome about February of AD 60 (Acts 27-28)
- In Rome he lived in his own rented house and had liberty to minister.
- We believe that Paul was acquitted of his charges and released.
- During the 2 years that followed, he ministered in various places and wrote 1 Timothy and Titus
- About the year AD 65, he was arrested again and put into a dungeon (Mamertime Dungeon)
- He wrote 2<sup>nd</sup> Timothy from the dungeon
- By command of Nero he was executed in AD 68.

## Timothy

- Born of mixed parentage (Greek father, Jewish mother) (Acts 16:1)
- Brought up in a religious home (2 Tim 1:5)
- Possibly converted through Paul's ministry, which may be why Paul called him, "**my true child (son) in the faith**" (1 Timothy 1:2)
- Paul first met Timothy when he had come to Derbe and Lystra (Acts 16:1)—probably around AD 49-50
- Timothy was well spoken of by the brethren at Lystra and Iconium (Acts 16:2)
- Paul recruited Timothy to accompany him on his second missionary journey (Acts 16:3)

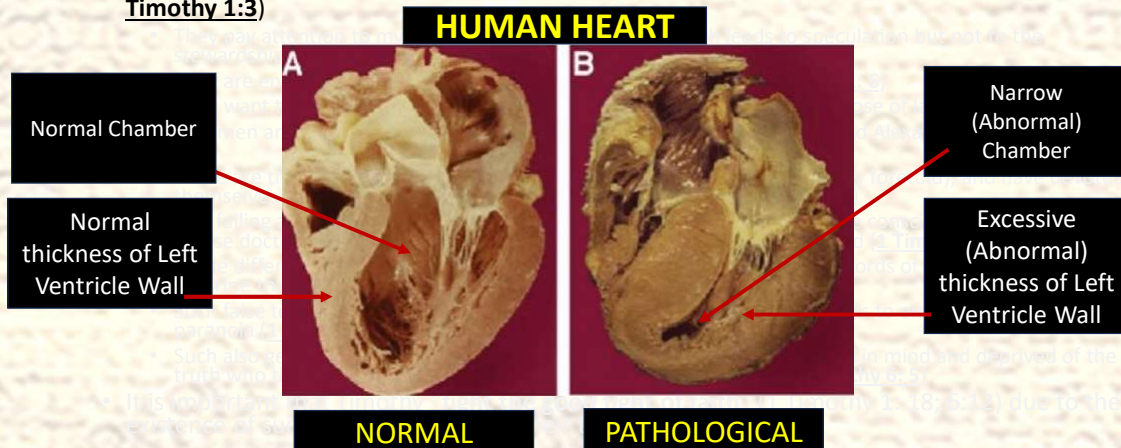
## How old was Timothy when he received 1 Timothy?

- Reasonable estimate is higher than 30 and younger than 40.
  - **IRENEAUS:** “30 years is prime...and may go up to 40.”
  - About **15 years elapsed** from the time that Paul first met Timothy to the writing of he 1<sup>st</sup> Letter.
- Timothy was at least 16 when he joined Paul in Paul’s second missionary journey (Acts 16)
  - Roman men could marry around age 16.
  - Young men **in their teens** were apprentices
  - Timothy knew the sacred Scriptures, from his childhood (2 Timothy 3:15)
  - Timothy’s commendations from Lystra and Iconium.

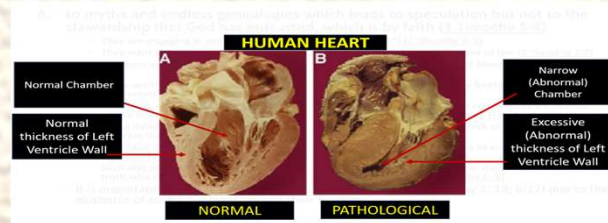
- In Lightfoot’s commentary, he mentions that Irenaeus preserves a fragment from a work called *The Relics of the Elders* that states, “**But that the age of thirty years is the prime of a young man’s ability and that it reaches even to the fortieth year, everyone will allow.**”
- Since Paul wrote 1 Timothy around AD 64-65, that is at least 15 years from the time he had first met Timothy. Therefore, the age would be at least 30, if not more.

## Figuring out a Summarized Theme for 1 Timothy: THE PROBLEM OF FALSE TEACHING

- A. There are False Teachers in Ephesus (also read Acts 20: 28-31)
- Certain men are teaching a different (strange) doctrine—instruct them not to do so (1 Timothy 1:3)



## Figuring out a Summarized Theme for 1 Timothy: THE PROBLEM OF FALSE TEACHING



- In medicine, most first year medical students will study Gross Anatomy or MACROSCOPIC ANATOMY
- After medical students have mastered normal gross anatomy, they may be taught Pathology. Pathology deals with that which is diseased and unhealthy.
- In the picture, the left side is the picture of a normal left heart and the right is a pathological left heart. The normal heart has an adequate chamber size and normal thickness walls. The pathological heart has a condition called hypertrophy which leads to congestive heart failure of a certain variety.
- You need to know what the normal heart looks like, in order to discern what the diseased and unhealthy heart looks like.
- In the church at Ephesus, there were some who were teaching as truth, that which was untruth. They were not discerning. They needed to be corrected.

## Figuring out a Summarized Theme for 1 Timothy: THE PROBLEM OF FALSE TEACHING

- A. There are False Teachers in Ephesus (also read **Acts 20: 28-31**)
- Certain men are teaching a different (strange) doctrine—instruct them not to do so (**1 Timothy 1:3**)
    - myths and endless genealogies which leads to (**1 Timothy 1:4**)
    - vain conversations (“meaningless talk”) (**1 Timothy 1: 6**)
    - want to be teachers of the Law without understanding the true purpose of law (**1 Timothy 1:7**)
    - Hymenaeus and Alexander (**1 Timothy 1: 19-20**)
    - “fallen away from the faith”, devoted to deceitful spirits and the doctrine of demons (**1 Timothy 4:1**)
    - insincere and liars, whose consciences are seared → doctrines of asceticism and abstinence do not align with God’s word (**1 Timothy 4:2-4**)
    - different doctrines are in opposition to the healthful/sound words of Jesus Christ and the doctrine that accords with godliness (**1 Timothy 6:3**)
    - crave controversy and quarrels about words which leads to envy, dissension, slander, paranoia (**1 Timothy 6:4**)
    - constant friction among those people who are depraved in mind and deprived of the truth who think that godliness or religiousness is a means of gain (**1 Timothy 6: 5**)
  - It is important that Timothy “**fight the good fight of faith**” (1 Timothy 1: 18; 6:12) due to the existence of such false teachers and their teaching.

## Figuring out a Summarized Theme for 1 Timothy: THE NEED FOR PROPER CONDUCT

### • B. PAUL'S PURPOSE STATEMENT: 1 Timothy 3: 14-16:

"<sup>14</sup> I hope to come to you soon, but I am writing these things to you so that, <sup>15</sup> if I delay, you may know how one ought to behave in the household of God, which is the church of the living God, a pillar and buttress of the truth. <sup>16</sup> Great indeed, we confess, is the mystery of godliness:

He was manifested in the flesh,  
vindicated by the Spirit,  
seen by angels,  
proclaimed among the nations,  
believed on in the world,  
taken up in glory."

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- Paul's desire to come to Ephesus to be with Timothy (also see 1 Timothy 4:13)
- The Providence of God in Paul's delay—the letter of 1 Timothy.
- More than Verbal Instructions—"I am writing these things to you..."
- **WE NEED TO TREASURE THE WRITTEN WORD**
- A BLUEPRINT for the Church's Conduct

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- **PURPOSE OF LETTER**: Instructions on *How to behave* or conduct oneself in the household of God (**3: 15**)
- The **Household of God** (see also household references **3:4, 5, 12, 15; 5:4, 8, 14**) = **FAMILY => RELATIONSHIP**
- The Church of the Living God => **GATHERING => WORSHIP**
- A Pillar and Buttress of Truth => **GUARD & PROCLAIM => WITNESS**

## Figuring out a Summarized Theme for 1 Timothy: THE NEED FOR PROPER CONDUCT



RUINS OF TEMPLE OF ARTEMIS

### JOHN STOTT

"The purpose of pillars is not only to hold the roof firm, but to thrust it high so that it can be clearly seen even from a distance. The inhabitants of Ephesus had a vivid illustration of this in their temple of Diana or Artemis. Regarded as one of the Seven Wonders of the World, it boasted 100 Ionic columns, each over 18 meters high, which together lifted its massive shiny marble roof."

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- The Church is the FOUNDATION of Truth (1 Timothy 3:15)—This refers to the Church's MISSION
- Truth is the FOUNDATION of the Church (Ephesians 2: 19-20)—This refers to the Church's LIFE AND HEALTH

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## A Christological Song

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**He was manifested in the flesh, vindicated by the Spirit, seen by angels, proclaimed among the nations, believed on in the world, taken up in glory."**
- The Greek word for Mystery is found **27 times** in the New Testament. **20 of those times are penned by the apostle Paul.** There are 4 mentions of Mystery in the book of Revelation, and one time in each of the synoptic gospels (meaning Matthew, Mark and Luke).
- In **Romans 16: 25-26**, Paul speaks of the **MYSTERY that was kept secret for long ages** but **has now been disclosed** through the prophetic writings, to bring about the obedience of faith.

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**GODLINESS = THE WHOLE LIFE OF FAITH = RELATION WITH GOD (NOT RITUALISTIC RELIGION) AND DERIVES FROM THE MYSTERY.**  
**MYSTERY = GOD'S REDEMPTIVE PLAN ACCOMPLISHED IN THE PERSON AND WORK OF JESUS CHRIST.**



*1 Timothy Theme Statement:*

A scroll with text on a parchment background. The scroll is unrolled and held by two wooden rollers. The text is written in a cursive font.

*The Faithfulness of  
Christ's Church to the  
Truth (Gospel) in Belief  
and Behavior that  
accords with Godliness.*