

1 Timothy 4:1-6

LESSON 17

Doctrines of Devils

1. 1 Timothy 4:1 – The Spirit Speaketh

- a. The Spirit is God, the Spirit speaks expressly – John 15:26, 16:12-15
- b. This reminds us of the Spirit's activity in the early church - Acts 20:27-31
- c. "*latter times*" here is different than the "last days" of prophecy
 - i. Last days = Pouring out Spirit & judgment - Acts 2:14-20 (cf. Joel 2:28-32)
 - ii. There will be glory and burning - Micah 3:8, 4:1; Mal 4:1-2; Isa 28:5-6
 - iii. There are signs of these times - Matt 24:3, 24:15, 27, 30
 - iv. No signs of the end of this dispensation of grace b/c it is a mystery
- d. "*some depart*" - Until then evil remains, waxes worse – 2 Tim 3:1, 3:12-13
- e. In contrast to the mystery of godliness is the mystery of iniquity – 2 Thess 2:7

2. 1 Timothy 4:1 – Doctrines of Devils

- a. The cause is spirits and devils, the fight is not with people → Eph 6:11-12
- b. Christ works in you through his word, and Satan works through his
- c. Paul knows his wiles which are doctrinal and seductive = attractive to draw away
- d. Beware of ministers of Jesus/gospel/righteousness? - 2 Cor 11:3-5, 11:6-16
- e. Satan uses professed Christians, religious people, peace seekers to do his work
- f. 'If someone seduces you, they are base enough to betray you.'
- g. Some will depart, falling captive to the devil, Timothy needs to be ready.

3. 1 Timothy 4:2-3 – Marriage and Meats

- a. Hypocrisy – like "not under law, but we tithe", "saved by grace, w/o works is dead"
- b. "*Conscience seared*" – instead of a pure conscience of the faith – 1 Tim 1:19, 3:9
- c. God forbid marriage – Deu 7:1-3; and to not eat certain meats – Lev 11
- d. Dispensational understanding is necessary here; God also created marriage as good and necessary – Gen 2:23-24; Heb 13:4; and every creature to be received.
- e. 1 Cor 7:1 does not forbid marriage, and "let them marry" is throughout – 1Ti 5:14
- f. An obvious modern application is Roman Catholics, but also spiritual Bible deniers

4. 1 Timothy 4:4-6 – Word of God and Prayer

- a. The dispensational teaching about food (and people)
- b. There is no difference: clean or unclean – Rom 1:16, Col 3:11, Ro 3:22, Eph 2:15
- c. The condition is "received with thanksgiving" – God's will - 1 Thess 5:17-18
- d. Sanctified (set apart for use) by 1) word of God (doctrine); 2) prayer (belief)
- e. "good minister" – reminds the brethren to beware bad/corrupt doctrine