

Christ Church Anglican, Mt. Pleasant, SC
The Rectors' Forum - October 18, 2020
The Pastoral Epistles

Session 4 - 1 Timothy 5 - 6.

Opening Prayer - "For the Local Congregation" 2019 ACNA BCP p. 649

Almighty and everlasting God, you govern all things in heaven and on earth: Mercifully hear our prayers, and that in this congregation the pure Word of God may be preached and the Sacraments duly administered. Strengthen and confirm the faithful; protect and guide the children; visit and relieve the sick; turn and soften the wicked; arouse the careless; recover the fallen; restore the penitent; remove all hindrances to the advancement of your truth; and bring us all to be of one heart and mind within your holy Church, to the honor and glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Chapter 5

Vs. 1-2 The Relationships of Life, in Christian Community

- To older people, affection and respect: like a parent
- To contemporaries and/or younger people, brother(sister)liness: tolerance & sharing
- To the opposite sex, purity

Vs. 3-8 The Care of Family/Parents/Widows

- A high duty recognized in the ancient secular world, in Judaism, in the Church

Vs. 9-16 Practical and Spiritual Pastoral Advice

- An honorable and useful old age
- The privileges of service; the perils of idleness
- The concern of witness in/to the world

Vs. 17-22 More Practical Advice, for the Administration of the Church

- Elders are to be properly honored and properly paid; esp. teachers of the Word
- Fair, non-slandering disciplinary procedures
- Public rebuke for persistent sin
- No favoritism
- Prudence in ordaining leaders and in restoring the penitent

Vs. 23 A Personal Note of Care for Timothy; a reminder of the truth of the connection between physical and spiritual health

Vs. 24-25 “There’s a great day a-comin”: be patient, be content, the Lord will sort it all out - all evil and all good will be revealed and receive its just reward.

Chapter 6

Vs. 1-2 About the comportment of slaves

- Two biblical traditions as regards sin and righteousness: a just society, re esp. the OT prophets; and the transcendent truth regarding the human heart, see Philemon.

Vs. 3-5 Regarding False Teachers

- The prominence of sophists in the ancient world
- Characteristics of false teachers

Vs. 6-10 Reflections on Contentment and Money

Vs. 11-16 Challenge and Guidance to Timothy

- A title of honor: man of God
- A list of virtues
- Memories which inspire

Vs. 17-19 Advice to the Rich

- Don’t be proud on account of riches
- Don’t set one’s hopes on wealth
- Use wealth to do good; always be ready to share
- Wealth is not a sin but a very great responsibility

Vs. 20-21 Trustees of the Faith; a final admonition against gnosticism and contentious, un-lived faith