

Christ Church Anglican, Mt. Pleasant, SC
The Rectors' Forum - November 1, 2020
The Pastoral Epistles

Session 6 - 2 Timothy 3-4

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 grant 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 3

Vs. 1 - An Eschatological Context for Christian Life and Ministry

- The present age: the contention of evil with good
- The Day of the Lord
- The age to come

Vs. 2-5 - The terrible qualities of a Godlessness

A big theme: self-centeredness, from which flows all manner and depth of wrong and evil toward others; (and religious hypocrisy thrown in at the end, too).

Vs. 8-9 - The sure and finally the only convincing antidote to falsehood

"The truth will out."

Cf. Matthew 7:16, 20 "you will know them by their fruits."

Cf. 1 Corinthians 12:31b -- 13. "I will show you a still more excellent way."

Vs. 10-13 - The Duties, Qualities and Experiences of an Apostle (one who is sent)

- Duties: teaching (Christ, who we must know in order to teach); conduct/training (more than knowing something, we must be something - helping others to live it).
- Qualities: an aim in life (a clear sense of purpose - what binds all this activity together...go and make disciples, e.g.!); faith (living believing that God's promises are true); patience (laboring on graciously amidst others' folly or perversity); love (the greatest of all).
- Experiences: steadfastness/endurance (cf. Matthew 10:22b & Hebrews 10:35ff; persecution (a surety; but better than the alternative).

Vs. 14-17 - The Value of Scripture

- Salvation, Teaching, Reproof, Correction, Training in righteousness

Chapter 4

Vs. 1-5 - Concluding Encouragement and Challenge

...concerning Jesus: the judge of all/all things; readiness for His appearing; a kingdom goal

...concerning teaching the Faith: w/urgency, persistence; for conviction, rebuke (love leaves no one in sin), exhortation (encourage people to good living); w/patience (belief that God can change people).

...concerning Timothy's way: self-discipline, accepting the cost, bringing good news, being of service to God and others.

Vs. 6-8 - How Paul thinks about death

Vs. 9-16 - A List of Honor and Dishonor

Vs. 22 - The Last Word is Grace