

Cover to Cover: From Genesis to Maps
Sermon # 54 – “I Timothy”
June 7, 2009

I Timothy: Some Background Information

The Audience: Paul wrote this letter to Timothy, his “son” in the faith, his frequent traveling companion, and one of his most trusted associates.

The Date of the Letter: Paul wrote this letter from Macedonia sometime between his first and second imprisonments (A.D 63-66). Timothy, at the time, was providing pastoral leadership to the church at Ephesus.

The Purposes of the Letter: This letter is the first of the Pastoral Epistles, a collection of letters (I Timothy, II Timothy & Titus) written not to a church, but to a young pastor, dealing with matters of church order. These three epistles of Paul are highly personal, practical and unsystematic in nature.

Paul wrote this particular letter to encourage Timothy to oppose false teachers, to exhort him to be faithful in his ministry, and to instruct him in regard to matters of church conduct.

The Theme of the Letter: Faithfulness in Christ (1:14).

I Timothy: An Outline

1. Instructions concerning False Teachers. 1:3-20

- Paul’s warnings against false teachers. 1:3-11
- Paul’s experience of grace. 1:12-17
- Paul’s charge to Timothy. 1:18-20

2. Instructions concerning Conduct in the Church. 2:1-3:13

- Concerning prayer. 2:1-7
- Concerning men and women. 2:8-15
- Concerning overseers (pastors) and deacons. 3:1-13

3. Instructions concerning God's Truth. 3:14-4:16

- The church is built on God's Truth. 3:14-16
- Some will depart from God's Truth. 4:1-5
- A minister must embody God's Truth. 4:6-16

4. Instructions concerning Various Groups in the Church. 5:1-6:10

- Concerning different age groups. 5:1-2
- Concerning widows. 5:3-16
- Concerning elders (pastors). 5:17-25
- Concerning slaves and masters. 6:1-2
- Concerning the heretical and the greedy. 6:3-10

5. Paul's Final Charge to Timothy. 6:11-21

- Pursue godliness. 6:11-16
- Instruct the rich. 6:17-19
- Remain faithful. 6:20-21