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# Letters to Timothy

Series Introduction



# New Testament Timeline

5 B.C.\*

Jesus is born in Bethlehem.

4 B.C.

Jesus' family flees to Egypt to escape from Herod's plan to kill Jesus ( [Matt. 2:13-18](#)); Herod dies; Judas (of Sepphoris) and others rebel, requiring the Syrian Governor Varus to intervene throughout Palestine; Sepphoris, a city four miles from Nazareth, is destroyed by Roman soldiers; Judea, Samaria, and Idumea are given to Herod's son, Archelaus; Galilee and Perea are given to his son Antipas; Jesus' family, after returning from Egypt, resides in Nazareth ( [Matt. 2:19-23](#)), a small village in southern Galilee.

A.D. 6

Archelaus is exiled for incompetence; Judea becomes a Roman province; Judas the Galilean (of Gamla) leads a revolt against the tax census; the governor of Syria, Quirinius (A.D. 6-7), appoints Annas high priest (6-15).

8\*

Jesus (age 12) interacts with the teachers in the temple ( [Luke 2:41-50](#)).

8\*-28/30

Jesus works as a carpenter in Nazareth ( [Matt. 13:55](#); [Mark 6:3](#)) and probably in neighboring villages and Sepphoris, which was being rebuilt.

28-29\*

John the Baptist begins his ministry around the Jordan River ( [John 1:19](#)).

28-30\*

Jesus begins his ministry in Judea, but soon focuses his efforts in Galilee. In Jerusalem, Pharisees (like Gamaliel) train disciples (like Paul) in their tradition. They send a delegation to Galilee, but the delegation rejects Jesus' teaching. In Alexandria, Philo (20 B.C.-A.D. 50) attempts to unify Greek philosophy with Hebrew Scripture.

33 (or 30)

Jesus returns to Judea, is crucified, and resurrected. James the brother of Jesus becomes a believer after witnessing the resurrected Jesus ( [1 Cor. 15:7](#); [Acts 12:17](#)). Jesus ascends to the Father's right hand ( [Acts 1](#)). Jesus' first followers receive the Holy Spirit at Pentecost and begin to proclaim the gospel ( [Acts 2](#)).

33/34\*

Paul witnesses the resurrected Lord on the way to Damascus and is commissioned as an apostle to the nations ( [Acts 9](#); [Gal. 1:15-16](#)).

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37-45	Paul ministers in Syria, Tarsus, and Cilicia ( <a href="#">Acts 9:30</a> ; <a href="#">Gal. 1:21</a> ).
38*	Peter witnesses to Cornelius ( <a href="#">Acts 10</a> ).
39	Antipas is exiled.
40-45*	James writes his letter to believers outside Palestine (see <a href="#">James 1:1</a> ).
41-44	Agrippa, Herod the Great's grandson, rules Palestine; he kills James the brother of John ( <a href="#">Acts 12:2</a> ) and imprisons Peter ( <a href="#">Acts 12:3</a> ).
42-44	Paul receives his "thorn in the flesh" ( <a href="#">2 Cor. 12:7</a> ).
44	Peter leaves Jerusalem; Agrippa is killed by an "angel of the Lord" ( <a href="#">Acts 12:23</a> ).
44-46	Theudas persuades many Jews to sell their possessions and follow him into the wilderness where he claimed he would miraculously divide the Jordan River; Roman procurator Fadus dispatches his cavalry and beheads the would-be messiah.
44-47*	Paul's Second Visit to Jerusalem; time of famine ( <a href="#">Acts 11:27-30</a> ; <a href="#">Gal. 2:1-10</a> ).
46-47	Paul's First Missionary Journey (with Barnabas) from Antioch to Cyprus, Antioch in Pisidia, Iconium, and Lystra ( <a href="#">Acts 13:4-14:26</a> ).
46-48	Roman procurator Tiberius Alexander crucifies two sons (Jacob and Simon) of Judas the Galilean.
48*	Paul writes <a href="#">Galatians</a> , perhaps from Antioch (see <a href="#">Acts 14:26-28</a> ).
48-49*	Paul and Peter return to Jerusalem for the Apostolic Council, which, with the assistance of James, frees Gentile believers from the requirement of circumcision in opposition to Pharisaic believers ( <a href="#">Acts 15:1-29</a> ); Paul and Barnabas return to Antioch ( <a href="#">Acts 15:30</a> ) but split over a dispute about John Mark ( <a href="#">Acts 15:36-40</a> ).
48/49-51*	Paul's Second Missionary Journey (with Silas) from Antioch to Syria, Cilicia, southern Galatia, Macedonia, notably Philippi, Thessalonica, and Berea; and then on to Achaia, notably Athens and Corinth ( <a href="#">Acts 15:36-18:22</a> ).
49	Claudius expels Jews from Rome because of conflicts about Jesus ( <a href="#">Acts 18:2</a> ); Paul befriends two refugees, Priscilla and Aquila, in Corinth ( <a href="#">Acts 18:2-3</a> ).
49-51*	Paul writes <a href="#">1-2 Thessalonians</a> from Corinth ( <a href="#">Acts 18:1, 11</a> ; also compare <a href="#">Acts 18:5</a> with <a href="#">1 Thess. 1:8</a> ).

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- 51 Paul appears before Gallio, proconsul of Achaia ([Acts 18:12-17](#)).
- 50-54\* Peter comes to Rome.
- 52-57\* Paul's Third Missionary Journey from Antioch to Galatia, Phrygia, Ephesus, Macedonia, Greece ([Acts 18:23-21:17](#)).
- 52-55 Paul ministers in Ephesus ([Acts 19:1-20](#)).
- 53-55\* Mark writes his Gospel, containing Peter's memories of Jesus; perhaps within a decade, Matthew publishes his Gospel, which relies on Mark and other sources. Paul writes [1 Corinthians](#) from Ephesus ([Acts 19:10](#)).
- 54-68 Nero reigns.
- 55-56\* Paul writes [2 Corinthians](#) from Macedonia ([Acts 20:1, 3](#); [2 Cor. 1:16](#); [2:13](#); [7:5](#); [8:1](#); [9:2, 4](#); see [1 Cor. 16:5](#)).
- 57\* Paul winters in Corinth and writes [Romans](#) ([Acts 20:3](#); see [Rom. 16:1-2](#); also see [Rom. 16:23](#) with [1 Cor. 1:14](#)); travels to Jerusalem ([Acts 21:1-16](#)), visits with James the brother of Jesus ([Acts 21:17-26](#)), and is arrested ([Acts 21:27-36](#); [22:22-29](#)).
- 57-59 Paul is imprisoned and transferred to Caesarea ([Acts 23:23-24, 33-34](#)).
- 60 Paul begins voyage to Rome ([Acts 27:1-2](#)); he is shipwrecked for three months on the island of Malta ([Acts 27:39-28:10](#)).
- 60-70\* Letter to the [Hebrews](#) is written.
- 62 James the brother of the Lord is executed by the Sadducean high priest Ananus.
- 62-63\* Peter writes his first letter ([1 Peter](#)) from Rome ([1 Pet. 5:13](#)).
- 62\* Paul arrives in Rome and remains under house arrest ([Acts 28:16-31](#)); he writes [Ephesians](#) (see verses for [Colossians](#)), [Philippians](#) ([Phil. 1:7, 13, 17](#); [4:22](#)), [Colossians](#) ([Col. 4:3, 10, 18](#); see [Acts 27:2](#) with [Col. 4:10](#)), [Philemon](#) (see [Philem. 23](#) with [Col. 1:7](#); [Philem. 2](#) with [Col. 4:17](#); [Philem. 24](#) with [Col. 4:10](#); also see [Col. 4:9](#)). Luke, Paul's physician and companion (see [Col. 4:14](#)), writes [Luke](#) and [Acts](#).

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62-64 Paul is released, extends his mission (probably reaching Spain), writes [1 Timothy](#) from Macedonia (see [1 Tim. 1:3](#)) and [Titus](#) from Nicopolis ([Titus 3:12](#)); he is rearrested in Rome ([2 Tim. 1:16-17](#)).

63-64 Work on the temple complex is completed.

64 (July 19) Fire in Rome; Nero blames and kills many Christians.

64-67\* Peter writes his second letter ([2 Peter](#)). Jude writes his letter. Paul writes [2 Timothy](#) (see [2 Tim. 4:6-8](#)). Paul and Peter are martyred in Rome.

66 First Jewish-Roman War begins with a riot between Greeks and Jews at Caesarea; Roman procurator Gessius Florus (A.D. 64-66) is murdered and a Roman garrison wiped out; Menahem, son or grandson of Judas the Galilean, murders the high priest Ananias and seizes control of the temple; Nero dispatches Vespasian with three legions.

67\* Romans destroy the Qumran community, who beforehand hid the so-called Dead Sea Scrolls in nearby caves; the church in Jerusalem flees to Pella ([Matt. 24:15-16](#); [Mark 13:14](#); [Luke 21:20-22](#)); John migrates to Ephesus with Mary, Jesus' mother.

68 Nero commits suicide; year of the three emperors.

69 Rebellion quelled in Galilee and Samaria; Vespasian summoned back to Rome to become emperor.

70 (Aug. 30) Titus, Vespasian's son, after a five-month siege of Jerusalem, destroys the temple after desecrating it; the temple's menorah, Torah, and veil are removed and later put on display in a victory parade in Rome; the influence of the Sadducees ends; the Pharisee Johanan ben Zakkai escapes and convinces the Romans to allow him and others to settle in Jamnia, where they found a school.

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- 73 (May 2)\* Before Roman general Silva breaches the fortress atop Masada following a two-year siege, 936 Jewish rebels commit suicide.
- 75 Titus has an affair with the Jewish princess Berenice, sister of Agrippa II ([Acts 25:13, 23](#)), whom he later abandons because of the scandal.
- 77 Pliny the Elder writes *Natural History*.
- 77-78 Josephus publishes *Jewish War* in Rome.
- 79 Pompeii and Herculaneum are destroyed by eruption of Vesuvius; Pliny the Elder dies attempting to investigate.
- 81 The Arch of Titus, celebrating his destruction of the temple, is erected in Rome.
- 81-96 Domitian, Titus's brother, persecutes Christians among the Roman nobility, including his own relatives Clemens and Domitilla.
- 85-95\* John writes his letters ([1-3 John](#)), probably in Ephesus.
- 89-95\* John writes his Gospel, probably in Ephesus.
- 93-94 Josephus publishes *Jewish Antiquities* in Rome.
- 94 Domitian exiles philosophers from Rome.
- 95\* Amidst persecution, Clement, a leader in the Roman church, writes his *Letter to the Corinthians* (*1 Clement*) appealing for peace between the young men and elders.
- 95-96\* Exiled by Domitian to Patmos, John writes [Revelation](#) ([Rev. 1:9](#)).
- 96-98 Nerva, the first of five "good" emperors, ends official persecution.

# Timothy – the messenger of Paul

Act 16:1-3 Then came he to Derbe and Lystra: and, behold, a certain disciple was there, named Timotheus, the son of a certain woman, which was a Jewess, and believed; but his father was a Greek: 2 Which was well reported of by the brethren that were at Lystra and Iconium. 3 Him would Paul have to go forth with him; and took and circumcised him because of the Jews which were in those quarters: for they knew all that his father was a Greek.

# Notable Verses

1Tim 1:5 Now the end of the commandment is charity out of a pure heart, and of a good conscience, and of faith unfeigned:

1Tim 1:15 This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief.

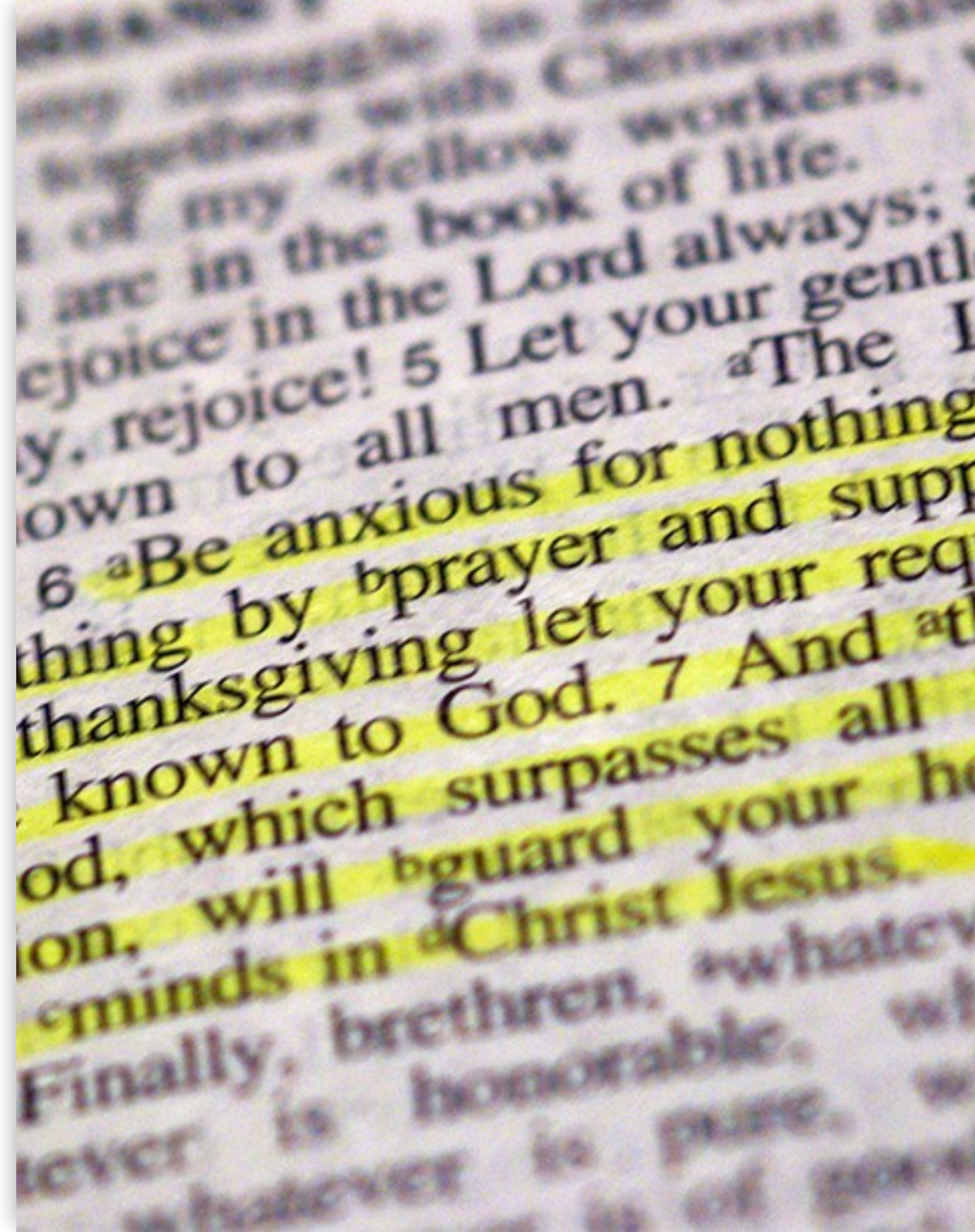




# Notable Verses

1Tim 3:5 (For if a man know not how to rule his own house, how shall he take care of the church of God?)

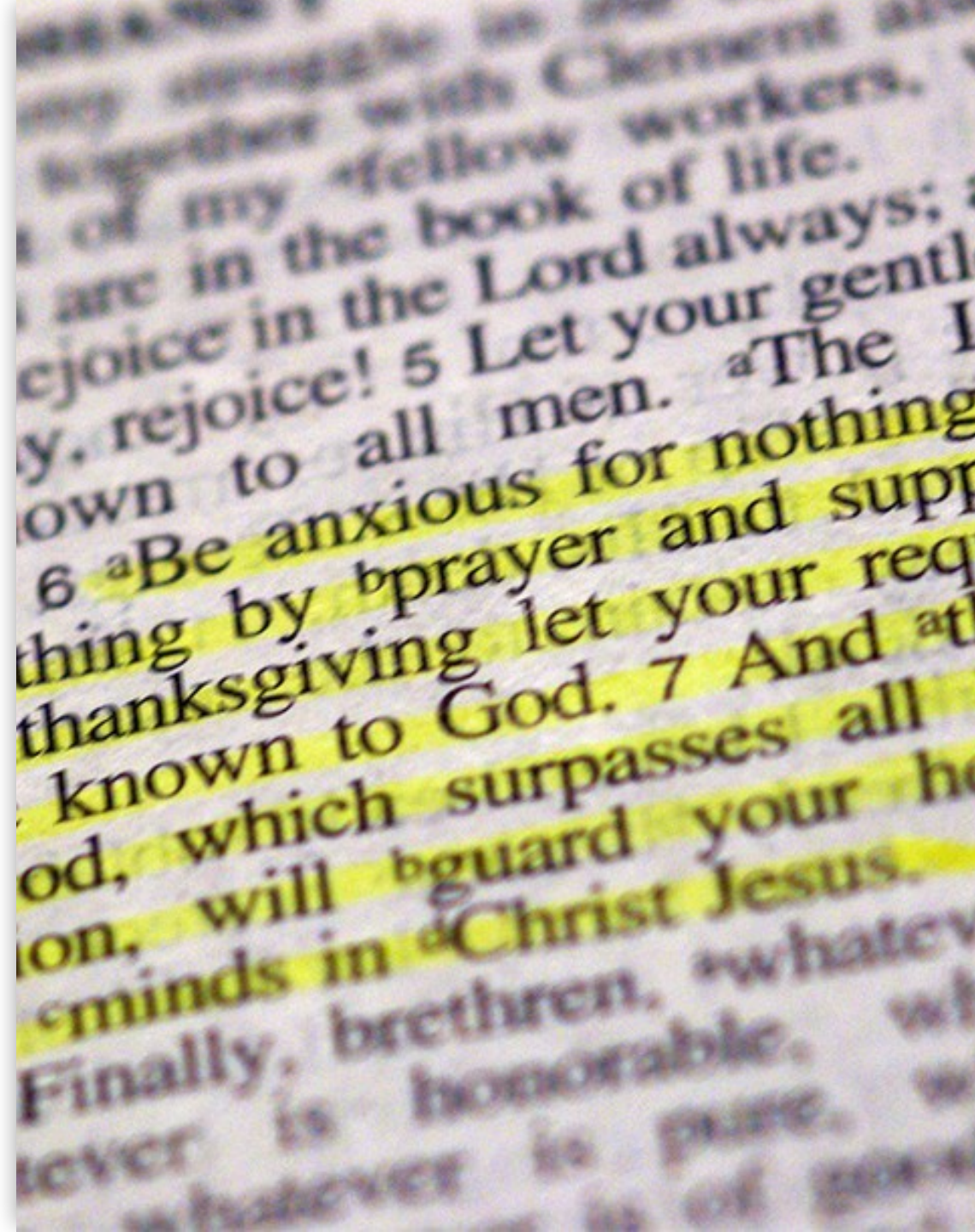
1Tim 3:16 And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory.



# Notable Verses

1Tim 4:16 Take heed unto thyself, and unto the doctrine; continue in them: for in doing this thou shalt both save thyself, and them that hear thee.

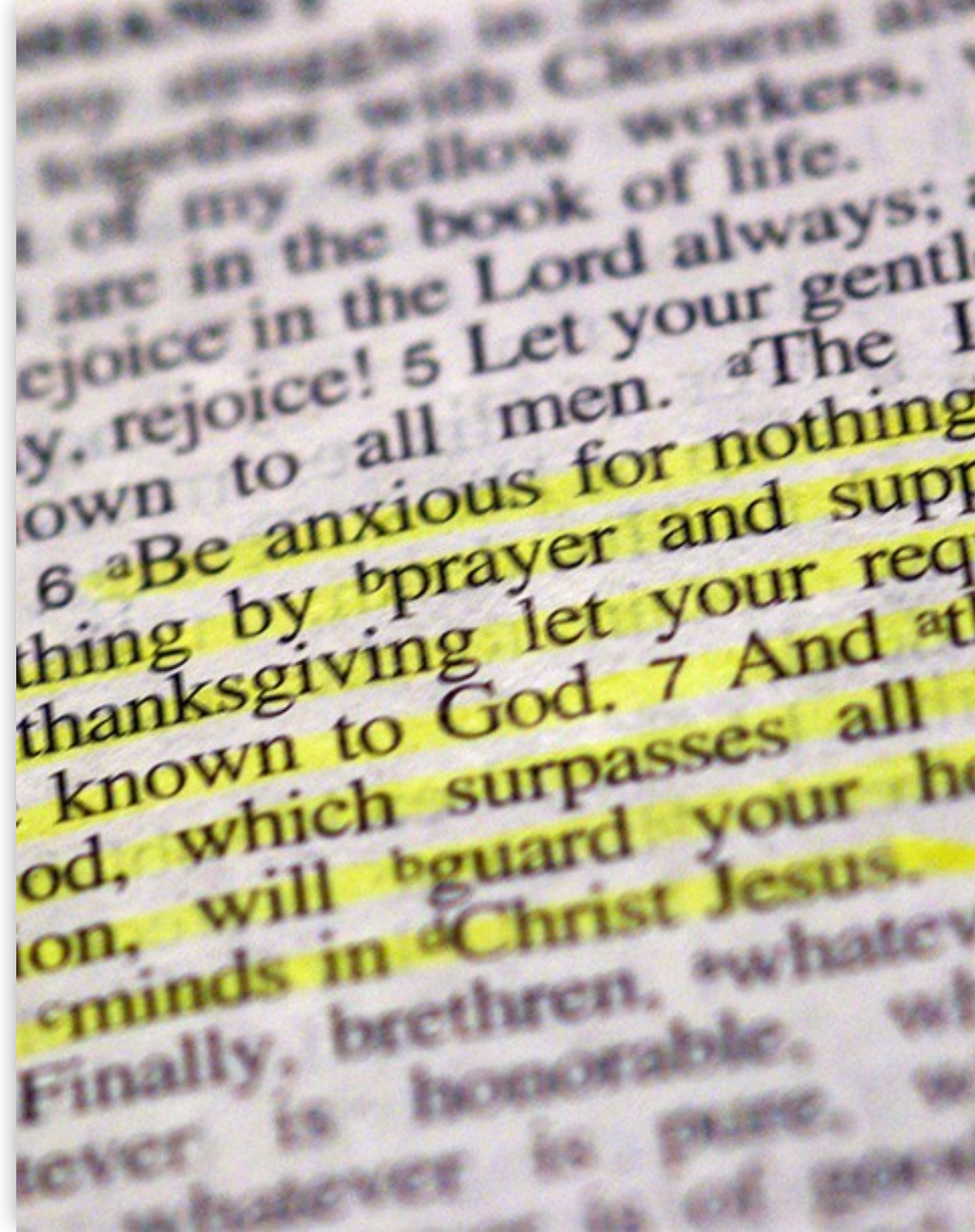
1Tim 5:24-25 Some men's sins are open beforehand, going before to judgment; and some men they follow after. Likewise also the good works of some are manifest beforehand; and they that are otherwise cannot be hid.



# Notable Verses

1Tim 6:6 But godliness with contentment is great gain.

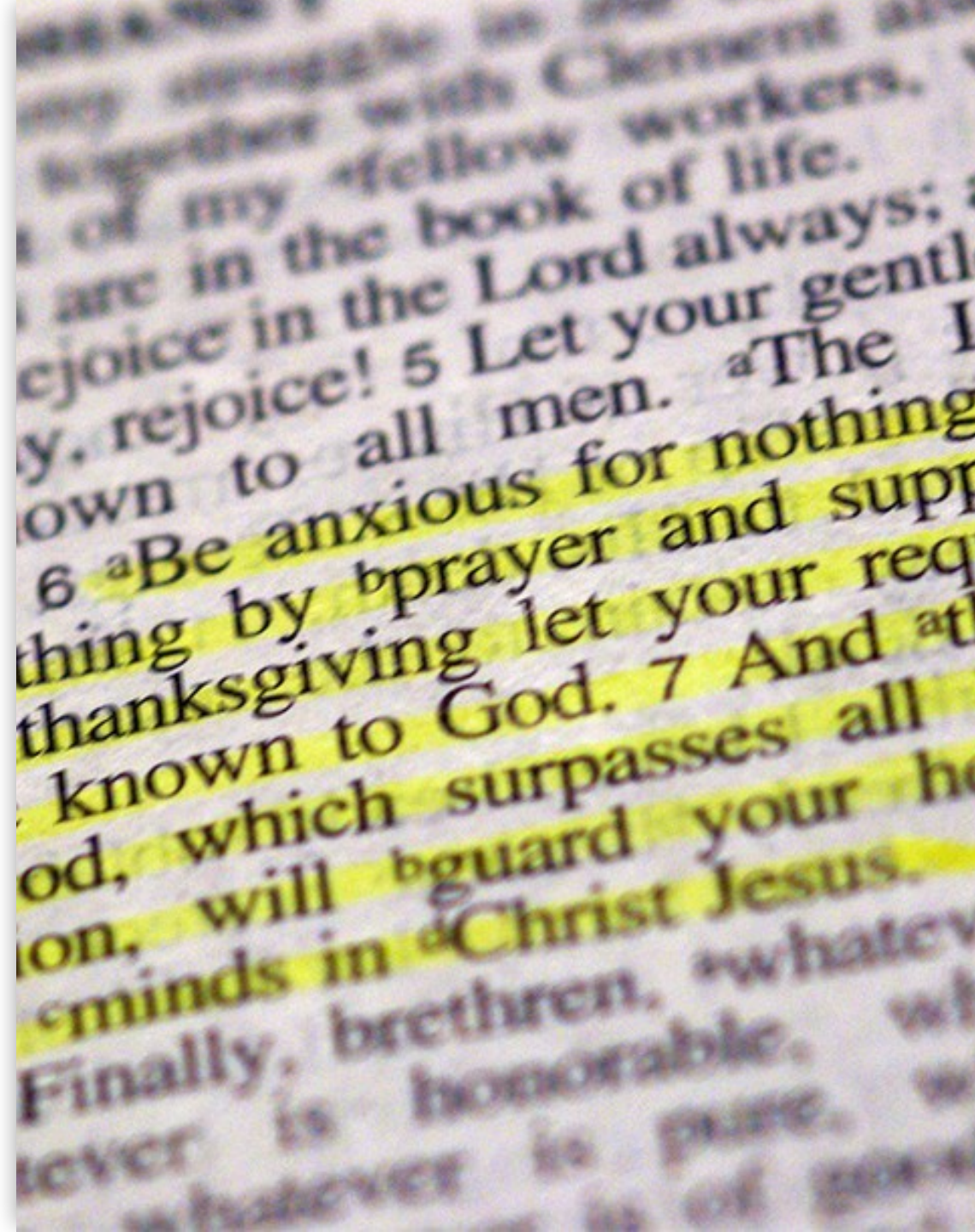
1Tim 6:10 For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.



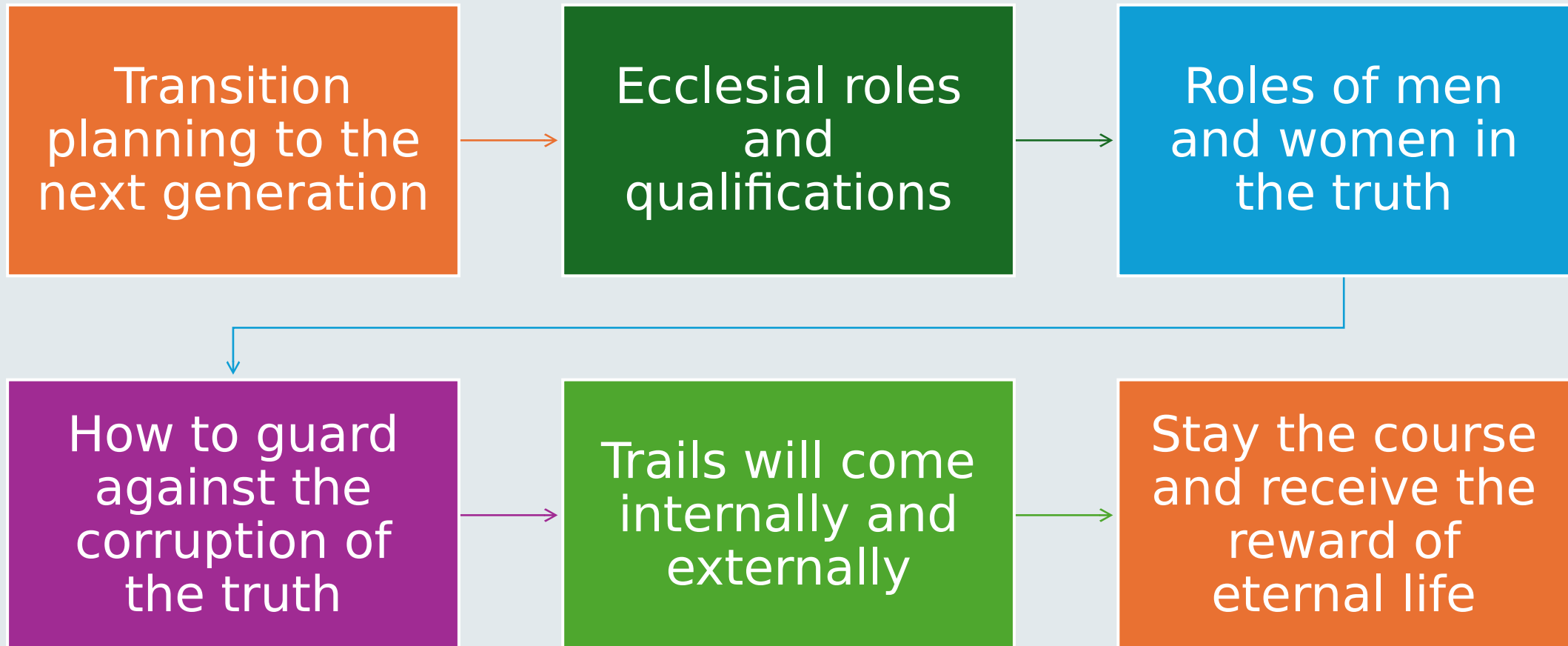
# Notable Verses

2Tim 1:10 But is now made manifest by the appearing of our Saviour Jesus Christ, who hath abolished death, and hath brought life and immortality to light through the gospel:

2Tim 3:16-17 All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works.



# Maintaining an ecclesial lampstand





# 1 Timothy 1

Falling  
Away

Passing  
the  
Torch

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# 1 Timothy 2

Political  
Unrest

Women's  
Roles

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# 1 Timothy 3

Oversee  
rs

Minister  
s

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# 1 Timothy 4

**Falling  
Away**

**Remain  
Faithful**

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# 1 Timothy 5

Widows

Ecclesial  
Disciplin  
e



# 1 Timothy 6

Falling  
Away

Slaves

Wealth

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# 2Timothy 1

Falling  
Away

Don't  
Give Up

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## 2 Timothy 2

Falling  
Away

Defend  
the  
Truth

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# 2 Timothy 3

Falling  
Away

All  
Scripture  
is Inspired

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## 2 Timothy 4

Falling  
Away

Keep  
Working

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# Ecclesial Problems

Paul's warning to the Thessalonians  
10+ years prior



# Falling Away

1Thes 2:3 Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come **a falling away first**, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition;

Arguments over genealogies (1Tim 1:3-7)	Arguments about keeping the Law (1Tim 1:8-10)	Members who are blaspheming (1Tim 1:18-20)	Political unrest (1Tim 2:1-2)	Doubtful and angry prayers (1Tim 2:8)	Women wearing inappropriate apparel (1Tim 2:9-10)	Women taking on roles they should not (1Tim 2:11-15)
Unqualified leaders in the ecclesia (1Tim 3:1-7)	Unqualified ministers in the ecclesia (1Tim 3:8-)	Members corrupting the faith (1Tim 4:1-3)	Irreverent and silly myths and bodily exercise (1Tim 4:7-8)	Despising youth (1Tim 4:12)	Correcting others (1tim 5:1-2, 19-20)	Valid widows (1Tim 5:3-6, 9-10, 16)
Members not providing for their own families (1Tim 5:8)	Younger women and busy bodies (1Tim 5:11-15)	Providing for those that minister (1Tim 5:17-18)	Invalid appointment of others without due process (1Tim 5:21-22)	Slave attitude and behaviour (1Tim 6:1-2)	Using the ecclesia as a source of financial gain (1Tim 6:3-5)	Issues associated with wealth (1Tim 6:6-10, 17-19)
False ideas and human wisdom (1Tim 6:20-21)	Fear of persecution (2Tim 1:7)	Ashamed of the gospel (2Tim 1:8)	Deserting Paul (2Tim 1:15)	Transition planning (2Tim 2:1-2)	Persecution (2Tim 2:3)	Getting tangled in the affairs of this life (2Tim 1:4-5)
Arguments over words with no profit (2Tim 1:14-16)	False doctrine about the resurrection (2Tim 1:17-18)	Flee youthful lusts (2Tim 1:22)	Unwise arguments (2Tim 1:23-24)	Absolute corruption of the ecclesia (2Tim 3:1-9, 13)	Persecution (2Tim 3:11-12)	Rejection of some scripture (2Tim 3:16-17)

Rejection of God's word, and false teachers (2Tim 4:3-4)

Persecution (2Tim 4:5, 14-16)

Paul will soon die (2Tim 4:6-8)

Those forsaking Paul (2Tim 4:10)

# Solutions to Problems

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|------------------------------|--|
| 1. False doctrine            | 1. Study, defend, and teach with love          |
| 2. Contention, argumentative | 2. Humility, impartiality, respect, discipline |
| 3. Wealth, influence         | 3. Contentment, Divine appointment             |
| 4. Appointments, hypocrisy   | 4. Qualified, consistent                       |
| 5. Persecution               | 5. Endure because of hope                      |