

1 Timothy 5

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Review

- Themes in 1 Timothy
 - The perils of false doctrine
 - Getting entangled in worldly affairs
 - Ecclesial dynamics
 - The problem of hypocrisy
 - Striving to live a life of godliness

Structure of 1 Timothy 5

- **vs 1-2** Family Relationships as a Model for Ecclesial Interactions
- **vs 3-16** Instructions for the Proper Treatment of Widows
- **vs 17-25** Instructions for the Treatment, Rebuke and Selection of Elders

“Do not rebuke an older man but encourage him as you would a father, younger men as brothers, older women as mothers, younger women as sisters, in all purity.”

1 Timothy 5:1-2 ESV

vs. 1-2

Family Relationships as a Model for Ecclesial Interactions

- **Links to OT**

Leviticus 19:32 “You shall stand up before the gray head and honor the face of an old man, and you shall fear your God: I am the LORD.”

Deuteronomy 5:16 “Honor your father and your mother, as the LORD your God commanded you...”

Vs. 1-2

Family Relationships as a Model for Ecclesial Interactions

- **Links to Teachings of Jesus**

Matthew 12:48-50 “But he replied to the man who told him, “Who is my mother, and who are my brothers?” And stretching out his hand toward his disciples, he said, “Here are my mother and my brothers! For whoever does the will of my Father in heaven is my brother and sister and mother.””

Matthew 15:4-7 “For God commanded, ‘Honor your father and your mother,’ and, ‘Whoever reviles father or mother must surely die.’ But you say, ‘If anyone tells his father or his mother, “What you would have gained from me is given to God,” he need not honor his father.’ So for the sake of your tradition you have made void the word of God. You hypocrites! ...”

vs. 1-2

Family Relationships as a Model for Ecclesial Interactions

- **Links to the Apostles Teachings**

Ephesians 6:1-4 “Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right... Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.”

Galatians 6:1 “Brothers, if anyone is caught in any transgression, you who are spiritual should restore him in a spirit of gentleness...”

1 Peter 5:5 “Likewise, you who are younger, be subject to the elders. Clothe yourselves, all of you, with humility toward one another...”

1 Peter 1:22 “...love one another earnestly from a pure heart...”

2 Timothy 2:24 “And the Lord’s servant must not be quarrelsome but kind to everyone, able to teach, patiently enduring evil, correcting his opponents with gentleness.”

Widows

How did God treat widows?

Deut. 10:18 "He executes justice for the fatherless and the widow, and loves the sojourner, giving him food and clothing."

Prov. 15:25 "The LORD tears down the house of the proud but maintains the widow's boundaries."

Psa. 68:5 "Father of the fatherless and protector of widows is God in his holy habitation."

Psa. 146:9 "The LORD watches over the sojourners; he upholds the widow and the fatherless, but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin."

What did God command concerning widows?

Ex. 22:22 "You shall not mistreat any widow or fatherless child."

Deut. 24:17, 19-21 "You shall not pervert the justice due to the sojourner or to the fatherless, or take a widow's garment in pledge... When you reap your harvest in your field and forget a sheaf in the field, you shall not go back to get it. It shall be for the sojourner, the fatherless, and the widow, that the LORD your God may bless you in all the work of your hands. When you beat your olive trees, you shall not go over them again. It shall be for the sojourner, the fatherless, and the widow. When you gather the grapes of your vineyard, you shall not strip it afterward. It shall be for the sojourner, the fatherless, and the widow."

Deut. 27:19 "'Cursed be anyone who perverts the justice due to the sojourner, the fatherless, and the widow.' And all the people shall say, 'Amen.'"

Widows in Scripture

- **Scriptural examples of widows**

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- **Scriptural examples of widows**
 - Tamar (**Gen 38**) - was not being provided for by husband's family
 - Ruth & Naomi (**Ruth**) - no relatives to care for them
 - Widow of Zarephath (**1 Kings 17**) - had little food, death of a son
 - Widow with two sons (**2 Kings 4**) - a creditor was going to take sons as slaves
 - Anna (**Luke 2**) - spent her time at the temple worshipping God
 - Widow of Nain (**Luke 7**) - her son had died
 - Persistent Widow (**Luke 18**) - was not granted justice
 - Widow with a few coins (**Luke 21**) - was poor

Widows in Scripture

- **Scriptural examples of widows**
 - Tamar (**Gen 38**) - is in the line of Christ
 - Ruth & Naomi (**Ruth**) - redeemed and provided for by a relative
 - Widow of Zarephath (**1 Kings 17**) - miraculous extra food
 - Widow with two sons (**2 Kings 4**) - miraculous oil to sell in order to pay off debt
 - Anna (**Luke 2**) - got to see Jesus
 - Widow of Nain (**Luke 7**) - her son was raised by Jesus
 - Persistent Widow (**Luke 18**) - was granted justice
 - Widow with a few coins (**Luke 21**) - was commended by Jesus

vs. 3-16

Instructions for the Proper Treatment of Widows

- **vs. 3** True widows were to be treated with honour
- **vs. 4, 8, 16** Families had obligations to care for relatives, especially widows
- **vs. 9-10** Criteria were in place for widows who would be supported by the ecclesia
- **vs. 5-7, 11-15** Widows were required, along with all believers, to behave in a godly way

“But if a widow has children or grandchildren, let them first learn to show godliness to their own household and to make some return to their parents, for this is pleasing in the sight of God...

But if anyone does not provide for his relatives, and especially for members of his household, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever...

If any believing woman has relatives who are widows, let her care for them. Let the church not be burdened, so that it may care for those who are truly widows.”

1 Timothy 5:4, 8, 16 ESV

vs. 4, 8, 16

Families had obligations to care for relatives, especially widows

- **Scriptural examples of those who cared for relatives**

Vs. 4, 8, 16

Families had obligations to care for relatives, especially widows

- **Scriptural examples of those who cared for relatives**
 - Ruth for her mother-in-law **Ruth 2:2, 11-12**
 - Naomi for her daughter-in-law **Ruth 3:1**
 - Joseph for his immediate and extended family **Gen 47:12**
 - David for parents **1 Sam 22:3-4**
 - David for Mephibosheth **2 Sam 9:1-13**
 - Jesus for his mother **John 19:26-27**

“Let a widow be enrolled if she is not less than sixty years of age, having been the wife of one husband, and having a reputation for good works: if she has brought up children, has shown hospitality, has washed the feet of the saints, has cared for the afflicted, and has devoted herself to every good work.”

1 Timothy 5:9-10 ESV

vs. 9-10

Criteria were in place for widows who would be supported by the ecclesia

- **Qualifications for widows to receive ecclesial support**

- 1) 60 years or older
- 2) no other family
- 3) marital faithfulness
- 4) godliness and good works

“She who is truly a widow, left all alone, has set her hope on God and continues in supplications and prayers night and day, but she who is self-indulgent is dead even while she lives. Command these things as well, so that they may be without reproach.”

1 Timothy 5:5-7 ESV

“But refuse to enroll younger widows, for when their passions draw them away from Christ, they desire to marry and so incur condemnation for having abandoned their former faith. Besides that, they learn to be idlers, going about from house to house, and not only idlers, but also gossips and busybodies, saying what they should not. So I would have younger widows marry, bear children, manage their households, and give the adversary no occasion for slander. For some have already strayed after Satan.”

1 Timothy 5:11-15 ESV

Vs. 5-7, 11-15

Widows were required, along with all believers, to behave in a godly way

- **2 Main problems**

- 1) Young widows without work to do would learn to idle and become gossips and busybodies

Lev 19:16 “You shall not go around as a slanderer among your people, and you shall not stand up against the life of your neighbor: I am the LORD.”

Prov 20:19 “Whoever goes about slandering reveals secrets; therefore do not associate with a simple babbler.”

2 Thess 3:11-12 “For we hear that some among you walk in idleness, not busy at work, but busybodies. Now such persons we command and encourage in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work quietly and to earn their own living.”

vs. 5-7, 11-15

Widows were required, along with all believers, to behave in a godly way

- **2 Main problems**

- 1) Young widows without work to do would learn to idle and become gossips and busybodies

- 2) Ungodliness gives unbelievers occasion for slander

- This is a theme in 1 Timothy and is directed towards multiple groups, not just widows

- **2:2** All believers

- **3:7** Overseers

- **6:1** Bondservants

“Let the elders who rule well be considered worthy of double honor, especially those who labor in preaching and teaching. For the Scripture says, ‘You shall not muzzle an ox when it treads out the grain,’ and, ‘The laborer deserves his wages.’”

1 Timothy 5:17-18 ESV

Vs. 17-18

Instructions for the Treatment, Rebuke and Selection of Elders

- **Links to the Apostles Teachings**

1 Thess 5:12-13 "We ask you, brothers, to respect those who labor among you and are over you in the Lord and admonish you, and to esteem them very highly in love because of their work. Be at peace among yourselves."

Heb. 13:7, 17 "Remember your leaders, those who spoke to you the word of God. Consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith... Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls, as those who will have to give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with groaning, for that would be of no advantage to you."

“Do not admit a charge against an elder except on the evidence of two or three witnesses. As for those who persist in sin, rebuke them in the presence of all, so that the rest may stand in fear. In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus and of the elect angels I charge you to keep these rules without prejudging, doing nothing from partiality.”

1 Timothy 5:19-21 ESV

vs. 19-21

Instructions for the Treatment, Rebuke and Selection of Elders

- **Links to OT**

Deut 19:15, 21 “A single witness shall not suffice against a person for any crime or for any wrong in connection with any offense that he has committed. Only on the evidence of two witnesses or of three witnesses shall a charge be established.... And the rest shall hear and fear, and shall never again commit any such evil among you.” (SEE ALSO **Deut 13:1-11; 17:6-13**)

Lev 19:15 “You shall do no injustice in court. You shall not be partial to the poor or defer to the great, but in righteousness shall you judge your neighbor.”

- **Links to Teachings of Jesus**

Matt 18:16 “But if he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, that every charge may be established by the evidence of two or three witnesses.”

“Do not be hasty in the laying on of hands, nor take part in the sins of others; keep yourself pure. (No longer drink only water, but use a little wine for the sake of your stomach and your frequent ailments.) The sins of some people are conspicuous, going before them to judgment, but the sins of others appear later. So also good works are conspicuous, and even those that are not cannot remain hidden.”

1 Timothy 5:22-25 ESV