

But you, man of God, flee from all this, and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance and gentleness. Fight the good fight of the faith. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called when you made your good confession in the presence of many witnesses.

1 Timothy 6:11-12

Background

- **Apostle Paul wrote 3 letters to 2 young pastors, Timothy and Titus (between AD64 & AD67)**
- **In the Bible as 1 Timothy, 2 Timothy & Titus**
- **Two broad concerns: (1) false teachers, (2) conduct and church life**
- **1 Timothy, 2 Timothy & Titus known collectively as “Pastoral Epistles”**

Pastoral Epistles for the Church

Grace be with **you**.

1 Timothy 6:21, 2 Timothy 4:12

As I urged you when I went into Macedonia, **stay there in Ephesus** so that you may command certain men not to teach false doctrines any longer. 1 Timothy 1:3

Grace be with **you all**.

Titus 3:15

The reason **I left you in Crete** was that you might straighten out what was left unfinished and appoint elders in every town, as I directed you. Titus 1:5

1 Timothy

Greeting (1:1–2)

I. The Task (1:3–20)

A. Silence False Teachers (1:3–11)

B. Praise for Salvation (1:12–17)

C. Hold to a Good Conscience (1:18–20)

II. Instructions (2:1–4:16)

A. Concerning Worship (2:1–15)

B. Concerning Leaders (3:1–16)

C. Personal Guidance (4:1–16)

III. Advice to Timothy (5:1–6:16)

A. Show Respect (5:1–2)

B. Organize Widows (5:3–16)

C. Honor Elders (5:17–25)

D. Instruct Slaves (6:1–2)

E. Manage Money (6:3–10)

F. Pursue Holiness (6:11–16)

G. Advice the Rich (6:17–19)

Conclusion (6:20–21)

PURSUIT OF HOLINESS

But you, man of God, **FLEE** from all this, and **FOLLOW**(pursue) righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance and gentleness. **FIGHT** the good fight of the faith. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called when you made your good confession in the presence of many witnesses.

1 Timothy 6:11-12

PURSUIT OF HOLINESS

FLEE from what?

- Worldliness

- ❖ Covetousness

But godliness with contentment is great gain. For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it. But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that. Those who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many grieves. 1 Timothy 6:6-10

I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances. I know what it is to be in need and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. **I can do everything through Christ who gives me strength.** The Apostle Paul, Philippians 4:11-12

True Contentment is ...

- To focus on Christ Jesus, trusting in Him to give us strength to face every challenge in life.
- To know that God has already provided everything we need for our present happiness.
- Found not in having everything that you want, but in not wanting to have everything.
- An inner sufficiency that keeps us at peace in spite of outward circumstances.

A contented person is one who experiences the sufficiency of God's provision for his needs and the sufficiency of God's grace for his circumstances.

He believes God will indeed meet all his material needs and that God will work in all his circumstances for his good. That is why Paul said, "godliness with contentment is great gain."

The godly person has found what the covetous or discontented person always searches for but never find. He has found satisfaction and rest in his soul.

Jerry Bridges, The Practice of Godliness

PURSUIT OF HOLINESS

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“My life is a shambles and hopefully now the money has all gone I can find some happiness. It’s brought me nothing but unhappiness. It ruined my life.” (August 2009)

“I’m so excited about having my boys. It’s the best gift anyone could ever have given me and far better than ever winning the jackpot.” (Apr 2012)

PURSUIT OF HOLINESS

- FLEE from WORLDLINESS
- FOLLOW after HOLINESS

But you, man of God, FLEE from all this, and FOLLOW(pursue)[*after HOLINESS*] - righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance and gentleness. [1 Timothy 6:11](#)

Follow/pursue : to seek eagerly and earnestly; the idea pursuing and never giving up until the goal is reached.

To Follow after Holiness is ...

- to be set apart for God:
 - ❖ **Righteousness**: treating others justly
 - ❖ **Godliness**: devotion to God
 - ❖ **Faith (faithfulness)**: is being dependable
 - ❖ **Love**: the sacrificial love for others
 - ❖ **Endurance (patience)**: courage that continues to wait for God's deliverance
 - ❖ **Gentleness (meekness)**: power under control

[*God's grace*] teaches us to say "No" to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age, while we wait for the blessed hope the glorious appearing of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. Titus 2:11-13

Train yourself to be godly ... godliness has value for all things, holding promise for both the present life and the life to come. 1 Timothy 4:7b-8

What then is godliness? What are the marks of a godly person?

When Enoch had lived 65 years, he became the father of Methuselah. After he became the father of Methuselah, **Enoch walked faithfully with God** 300 years and had other sons and daughters. Altogether, Enoch lived a total of 365 years. **Enoch walked faithfully with God;** then he was no more, because God took him away. Genesis 5:21-24

By faith Enoch was taken from this life, so that he did not experience death: He could not be found, because God had taken him away. For before he was taken, **he was commended as one who pleased God.** Hebrew 11:5

PURSUIT OF HOLINESS

- FLEE from WORLDLINESS
- FOLLOW after HOLINESS
- FIGHT the DAILY BATTLES

Fight the good fight of the faith. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called when you made your good confession in the presence of many witnesses. [1 Timothy 6:12](#)

PURSUIT OF HOLINESS

- **FLEE** from **WORLDLINESS**
- **FOLLOW** after **HOLINESS**
- **FIGHT** the **DAILY BATTLES**

Frances Jane Crosby (Fanny Crosby)

Poet, lyricist, and composer

24 Mar, 1820 – 12 Feb, 1915

Rescue the Perishing (UHM 591)

Rescue the perishing, care for the dying,
snatch them in pity from sin and the grave;
weep o'er the erring one, lift up the fallen,
tell them of Jesus, the mighty to save.

Refrain:

Rescue the perishing, care for the dying;
Jesus is merciful, Jesus will save.