

Recap of 5/20/18 (1 Timothy 4:4-6)

1. Paul's answer to the false teachers and the legalistic ascetism they were promoting was to refer to Biblical/Theological truth. They wrongly taught that matter is evil and that spirit is good, making bodily appetites, fulfilled in the manner God intended (i.e. sex-within marriage; food, not gluttony) evil. Paul sandwiches their error with the truth. 1 Timothy 3:16 teaches the truth of the incarnation; God (pure spirit) took upon Himself human flesh. In 4: 4,5 he teaches the truth of Genesis 1, what God created (material) was "good" and even "very good." In the words of C.S. Lewis: "There is no good trying to be more spiritual than God...He invented eating. He likes matter. He invented it."

2. Summary of the truth about false teachers:

- they sound reasonable, logical, and spiritual but they are deceptive, teaching instead the doctrine of hell
- they misuse Scripture, often appealing to the Law
- they appeal to human pride
- they slander and forbid the things which God has called good and that He has sanctified
- they lead people away from God and a deeper relationship with Him (Colossians 2:20-23)
- they promote the tyranny of legalistic righteousness.

3. Timothy's job, as a servant of God in the Church, was to teach the truth and warn about false doctrine and false teachers. He had through his life been nourished by the Word of God through his mother, Eunice, his grandmother, Lois, and through Paul.

4. "Eunice was one of those behind-the-scenes saints who will eventually be recognized in heaven as one of the true heroes of the faith" (**365 Life Lessons from Bible People**).

5. "Lois was a woman with a vital faith which was rooted in a deep knowledge and love of the Scriptures....In any case her name has come down to posterity as an eminently successful grandmother. This may not sound a very heroic role, but it can be of immeasurable importance" (Harry Foster, **Daily Thoughts on Bible Characters**)