2Thess #178

God gave you time, make the most of it!

We can open up today in 1Timothy chapter five RF.

The current study we are in comes from our anchor study of 2Thessalonians chapter 3, where the Apostle Paul has to warn and reprimand certain Bels who are living a lifestyle of laziness.

They had been following false doctrines in relation to the end time events. And what happened was they displayed what was truly in their hearts, a lack of faith and no true understanding of the plan of GOD.

They were concerned that they were entering into…or already living in the Tribulation period. Now doubt, anxiety and apathy had set into their life and they decided to stop all work and all efforts so as to just wait on the return of Christ – the 2nd advent.

NOWHERE in the plan of GOD at any point, are able-body Bels called to sit on the sidelines and sit on their hands waiting.

 REPEAT

/There is never a time when Bels are called to sit idle and not press forward into the plan of GOD – no matter what dispensation, the call is for growth and forward progress. The Christian can not look to others for spiritual growth. Nor should they sit idle waiting on a rescue or depending upon others for all their answers and resources. We must become strong and rely upon GOD’s power and HIS word for guidance.\

There are times we all need help – we all need assistance. Yet the Bel can not become stagnant and apathetic every time challenges or confusion enter their life.

Royal family members should reach out and help in time of need. But what I am teaching on and what you are seeing in 2Thessalonians 3, are those who take advantage of people and circumstances.

Stronger and more mature Bels are always available to guide or help out a weaker Christian, or even one who has advanced and just fallen backward. The problem arises in Christianity as it does in the natural world, is that certain people simply refuse to pick up their own cross and press forward.

 REPEAT

This once again speaks to having a balanced and organized life.

/Eph 4:14 As a result, **we are no longer to be children,** tossed here and there by waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of people, by craftiness in deceitful scheming; 15 but **speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in all aspects into Him** who is the head, *that is,* Christ,\

God has given all of us 24 hours in a day, we all received 40 grace gifts at salvation there has to come a time when the Believer begins to grow toward maturity…not sinless perfection.

But a deeper understanding of the plan of God as we grow closer in our relationship with TLJC.

/Eph 5:15 So then, be careful how you walk, not as unwise people but as wise, 16 **making the most of your time**, because the days are evil.

Luk 16:10 “**The one who is faithful in a very little thing is also faithful in much**; and the one who is unrighteous in a very little thing is also unrighteous in much. 11 “Therefore if you have not been faithful in the *use of* unrighteouswealth, who will entrust the true *wealth* to you?\

The time and resources GOD gives us must be handled with respect and caution.

If you are not a good steward with even the little things that come your way, GOD will usually not allow the greater things to come your way.

Remember, the apathetic attitude and lazy habits become an illness within the Christian way of life.

The bible is very clear about staying away from a lazy lifestyle.

The book of Proverbs has many warnings about the lazy lifestyle and the end result of that lifestyle.

/Prov 10:4 Poor is one who works with a lazy hand, But the hand of the diligent makes rich. 5 He who gathers in summer is a son who acts wisely, *But* he who sleeps in harvest is a son who acts shamefully.

Prov 13:4 The soul of the lazy one craves and *gets* nothing, But the soul of the diligent is made prosperous.\

The Bible has so many warnings about apathy woven from Genesis into Revelations, but Proverbs puts it very clear with serious warnings.

/Prov 19:15 Laziness casts *one* into a deep sleep, And a lazy person will suffer hunger.

Prov 20:4 The lazy one does not plow after the autumn, So he begs during the harvest and has nothing.

 (Prov 12) \

Our study in 2Thessalonica is very clear about the lazy Christian.

/The problem at Thessalonica was not one of a few Christians who fell upon hard times. It was a willful neglect of remaining steadfast in the plan of GOD. They bought into false doctrine and proceeded to allow emotions and cosmic viewpoint to rule their life. This became a burden and also a spreading poison among the other Bels. No good leader allows negativity and the burden of a few lazy members to infect the majority under their authority.\

Now in 1Timothy chapter 5 we see the continued instructions from the Apostle Paul unto Timothy as to how to approach leadership.

Also, the Apostle Paul is laying down foundational standards in the Christian life, that points us to having a balanced and organized life.

There is a right way to handle situations and a wrong way and it begins in your soul – having your own life organized, balanced with priorities in order.

In fact, within the Doctrine of the Royal Family Honor Code this chapter carries great significance.

1Tim 5:1 Do not sharply rebuke an older man, but *rather* appeal to *him* as a father, *and to* the younger men as brothers,

[1Ti 5:2](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/1ti/5/2/s_1124002) to the older women as mothers, *and* to the younger women as sisters, in all purity.

Keeping in mind, Timothy would be a young pastor in a position of authority over many folks who were older than him.

/There is a common courtesy always displayed in the plan of GOD that respects everyone. Especially those who are elderly, by that I mean anyone with life experience greater than yourself as well as chronological age. The true measure of a person is how they treat others – even those they disagree with, or those they find unappealing, or those under their own social status. Elders should always be approached with respect.\

Especially in the Royal Family Honor Code - we had better be very cautious and courteous as to how we treat our brothers and sisters in Christ.

You do not have to be best friends with every Christian, yet you had better give them the common courtesy of respect.

 REPEAT

Mutual respect within the Christian community should come from divine integrity, which is achieved by spiritual growth and application of the WORD.

[/1Ti 5:3](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/1ti/5/3/s_1124003) Honor **widows who are actually widows;**

Honor widows - is in the Greek present tense, it should be ongoing among all of the congregation. Yet be cautious of those who are not whom they claim they are. Some Christians take advantage of the generosity of others.\

Notice… GOD has set standards.

HE does not tolerate Bels who seek to manipulate or take advantage of others.

[/1Ti 5:4](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/1ti/5/4/s_1124004) but if any widow has children or grandchildren, **they must first learn to show proper respect for their own family**and to give back compensation to their parents; for **this is acceptable in the sight of God**.

Never assume the church, or the wealthier congregation members, are responsible to handle all the needs of every Christian.\

This is written in the imperative mood – the Apostle Paul is telling Timothy this is the marching orders for this particular situation.

For the Christian family, they are called to assist and support family members.

Now if someone in your family is taking advantage or manipulating the situation you may have to separate from them.

Yet you cannot do that without first stepping up and attempting to support or assist them to the best your ability.

[1Ti 5:5](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/1ti/5/5/s_1124005) Now she who is actually a widow and has been left alone has set her hope on God, and she continues in requests and prayers night and day.

/1[Ti 5:6](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/1ti/5/6/s_1124006) But **she who indulges herself in luxury**(*spatalaō*) is dead, *even* while she lives.

This speaks to a lifestyle opposed to the plan of GOD. Fully indulged in the cosmic system, selfish, lazy, immoral or hard-hearted.\

SPOT-TA-LOT-OH, this verb is used for that term; *who indulges herself in luxury* – it was often used for the party lifestyle, immoral degeneracy. Yet it is also was used for those with a corrupt nature.

Maybe they have been a bitter person or someone who was greedy or lazy.

This is a carnal death of a Bel.

The Believer who has no spiritual momentum and they have given the majority of their time, talent and treasure to the devil’s world.

Notice- The Apostle Paul is making very distinct differences for certain types of women who may be widows.

This application applies in many aspects of dealing with all Christians in need.

Some do not qualify!

/Just because someone claims to be, or may well be a Christian, does not qualify them for special treatment above others and at the expense of others. Within the Christian family we have to go above and beyond no matter what. Yet there are limits and situations, where we must refrain from further assistance. This is part of a balanced life – knowing how and when, and how far to step outward for someone or even into certain circumstances.\

This comes down to your personal relationship with GOD – it is not about getting advice from every other Bel as well as the pastor.

It comes down to your personal growth and what your relationship with GOD tells you to do at the end of the day.

 REPEAT

[1Ti 5:7](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/1ti/5/7/s_1124007) Give these instructions as well, so that they may be above reproach.

Written in the present, active, imperative.

Keep on following these commands – the active voice speaks to the authority of Timothy, he has to teach these things, he has to lay the law down.

Imperative mood – a serious command.

[/1Ti 5:8](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/1ti/5/8/s_1124008) But **if anyone does not provide for his own,** and **especially for those of his household**, he has denied the faith and is **worse than an unbeliever**.

Married men and women pay attention – especially the men, this is the WORD of God and it is set in stone in scripture.\

All of these last few scriptures are written in a command form, a serious set of instructions – do not break protocol on these things Timothy and do not allow your congregation to break protocol.

We have to close today with some tough principles in relation to personal responsibility. Which by the way – having a strong sense of personal responsibility helps the Bel to avoid an apathic attitude which leads to a lazy lifestyle.

/People who become a leech bringing burdens, financially, emotionally or physically upon others must be addressed at some point. To truly be able to assist another person or even a ministry or charity – you must first be in a position of strength, financially, emotionally and physically. This means the desire for spiritual growth and a strong sense of personal responsibility must be ingrained into the soul structure. There are no short cuts.\

Any form of a welfare state, or easy access to monetary gain with no responsibility almost always ends badly.

/Prov 21:20 There is precious treasure and oil in the home of the wise, But a foolish person swallows it up. 21 One who pursues righteousness and loyalty Finds life, righteousness, and honor.

Ecc 10:18 Through extreme laziness the rafters sag, and through idleness the house leaks.\

Actually, I am getting a strong sense to close this study out by doing a final message on Ecclesiastes chapter 10.

We will see where the SPIRIT leads me tomorrow?

/No one is entitled to other people’s personal gain whether it is inheritance, money or property. The need for assistance among a few; elderly, disable and those struck down by adversity outside of their own abilities, is addressed in the plan of GOD. It is handled by family or charity, not the forceful hand of Government. The nation that upholds GOD, upholds the 4 Divine Institutions which enables abundance.\

/The reason the Client nation unto GOD (America), is lacking real abundance and surplus, is because a satanic agenda has been used as the slow erosion against God’s divine institutions. Government overreach and corruption, destroy true freedom, squashing the free will of the people, which limits the economy. Christian marriage deteriorates and children are born outside of marriage. This disrupts Christian values, which also places burdens on society in the area of financial assistance and young adults growing into degeneration. This in turn brings forth criminality, addictions and social disorder.\

Every action has a reaction…every decision has a consequence.

/When Christian marriage and the Christian family begin to collapse that touches into every avenue of society; education, law and order, financial burdens, integrity and work ethics. This then touches into Nationalism which points to masculine pride for men and feminine pride for the ladies. They no longer have commitment to God, country and family.\

There are deeper principles within all of this but I believe I have made my point.