

## New Testament Letters Biblical Commands

### Commands from 1 Timothy

1. **1 Timothy 2:11 Women are to be taught. With respect to the God ordained chain of command women are not to take the lead in an assembly of believers, but to learn under the authority of the pastor.**

*1 Tim 2:11 Let a woman learn in silence with all submission. (NKJ)*

The Lord has established a chain of command that is to be upheld under the teaching of His Word. Both men and women are under the authority of the teaching of the Word. However, in discussion, to maintain order the women are under further authority of the men. The practical implication is to encourage male leadership by the women standing down.

2. **1 Timothy 3:10 In the selection of deacons they are to be first tested or proved in their gift and responsibilities.**

*1 Tim 3:10 But let these also first be tested; then let them serve as deacons, being found blameless. (NKJ)*

Spiritual gifts for those in positions of leadership need to be tested and proven. Pastors go through the rigors of ordination whereas deacon testing is in the area of gifts and abilities.

3. **1 Timothy 3:10 Deacon candidates who are proven in gifts and abilities are to be installed to serve as deacons.**

*1 Tim 3:10 But let these also first be tested; then let them serve as deacons, being found blameless. (NKJ)*

A proven deacon candidate is to be placed into service and allowed to serve. His gifts are exercised in more physical areas of service.

4. **1 Timothy 3:12 Deacon candidates have a set of qualifications like pastors that need to be met including being a one woman man and ruling their own homes well.**

*1 Tim 3:12 Let deacons be the husbands of one wife, ruling their children and their own houses well. (NKJ)*

All spiritual leadership candidates and office holders have much higher qualifications set forth by the Lord. These qualifications must be met and maintained or a spiritual leader may disqualify for office even while the gift(s) remain(s).

5. **1 Timothy 4:7 Spiritual leaders and all believers are to reject silly non-Biblical stories and theories that waste time and confuse.**

*1 Tim 4:7 But reject profane and old wives' fables, and exercise yourself toward godliness. (NKJ)*

There are many theories that men and women surmise and propose concerning things of the faith. Some are diversions interjected by Satan the deceiver. If they are not Biblical they should be totally avoided as silly and false.

- 6. 1 Timothy 4:7 Spiritual leaders and all believers are to discipline themselves in knowledge and understanding of God's Word which leads to Godliness**  
*1 Tim 4:7 But reject profane and old wives' fables, and exercise yourself toward godliness. (NKJ)*

The goal of all spiritual growth is to ultimately to be conformed to the Person of Christ (Rom 8:29). Knowledge and application of the principles of God's Word promotes the goal of Godliness.

- 7. 1 Timothy 4:11 Timothy as well as all Pastor-Teachers and Teachers are commanded to command believers with the Lord's commands**  
*1 Tim 4:11 These things command and teach*

The ministry of spiritual leadership is teaching about the Lord, His Person, His actions, His provisions and to command His Principles and His Commands.

- 8. 1 Timothy 4:11 Timothy, all Pastor-Teachers, and Teachers are commanded to teach all things that pertain to the Lord from His Word.**  
*1 Tim 4:11 These things command and teach*

God's Word is His authoritative word on all things. The ministry calls on spiritual leadership to teach these things to believers.

- 9. 1 Timothy 4:12 Uphold your authority and let nobody dispose your position.**  
*1 Tim 4:12 Let no one despise your youth, but be an example to the believers in word, in conduct, in love, in spirit, in faith, in purity. (NKJ)*

The Pastor-Teacher has been given under God's Word itself the supreme authority in the post-apostolic age. That authority is not to be belittled or disposed in any way. The authority resides in and is exercised in proclaiming God's Word in His stead.

- 10. 1 Timothy 4:12 The pastor is to be an example in all aspects of the faith including obedience, lifestyle, faith, and walking in the Spirit. Application is also to all maturing believers.**  
*1 Tim 4:12 Let no one despise your youth, but be an example to the believers in word, in conduct, in love, in spirit, in faith, in purity. (NKJ)*

The command is directly to Timothy as pastor and spiritual leader. However, every maturing believer is also an example to others and therefore the application of the command applies to all believers to live up to their level of maturity.

- 11. 1 Timothy 4:13 The major ministry of the pastor is commanded to be reading scripture, exhortation to believe and comply with scripture, and accurate doctrine derived from scripture.**  
*1 Tim 4:13 Till I come, give attention to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine. (NKJ)*

The ministry is clearly outlined for every pastor; it centers on the Word of God: Reading to give the understanding, exhortation to believe it and obey it, and doctrine/teaching in full compliance with scripture. Both the teaching side of the ministry and the pastoring side of "feeding the sheep" center in this command.

**12. 1 Timothy 4:14 Spiritual gifts like the communication gift of Pastor-Teacher are not to be neglected.**

*1 Tim 4:14 Do not neglect the gift that is in you, which was given to you by prophecy with the laying on of the hands of the eldership. (NKJ)*

Spiritual gifts are part of the graces given us at salvation. They are not to be neglected, but discovered, developed, and put to use in the Plan of God.

**13. 1 Timothy 4:15 The believer is to meditate on the things of the Lord as a part of their spiritual growth**

*1 Tim 4:15 Meditate on these things; give yourself entirely to them, that your progress may be evident to all. (NKJ)*

This command for the pastor also applies to all believers. The former commands and principles specifically and all the things of the Lord generally are to be a source of ongoing meditation.

**14. 1 Timothy 4:15 The believer is to give themselves actively over to the things of the Lord as a part of their spiritual growth.**

*1 Tim 4:15 Meditate on these things; give yourself entirely to them, that your progress may be evident to all. (NKJ)*

While meditation is the thinking component that is commanded, action is also commanded to use, apply, and live by the commands, principles and things of the Lord.

**15. 1 Timothy 4:16 Pastors are further reminded to take heed or take time to study God's Word to carefully understand it and carefully teach it.**

*1 Tim 4:16 Take heed to yourself and to the doctrine. Continue in them, for in doing this you will save both yourself and those who hear you. (NKJ)*

"Take head" to yourself in context is speaking to personal preparation for the teaching and preaching of God's Word ("Doctrine" is the word for teaching). The position of pastor-teacher demands a large amount of personal study that stands behind what is ultimately taught.

**16. 1 Timothy 4:16 Pastors are further reminded to persist is the main parts of the Lord's job description: Study and Teach.**

*1 Tim 4:16 Take heed to yourself and to the doctrine. Continue in them, for in doing this you will save both yourself and those who hear you. (NKJ)*

The "them" in context is the personal preparation of study and the delivery of that study in teaching. Individual believers who reject the Lord's commands to the pastor and seek those whose ministry minimizes the study and teaching of God's Word our guilty of ignoring this command.

**17. 1 Timothy 5:1 Pastors and younger believers are to treat older believers with the respect of age by appealing to them rather than reproving them.**

*1 Timothy 5:1 Do not rebuke an older man, but exhort him as a father, younger men as brothers, (NKJ)*

The principle of respect of age is to be observed when younger persons with authority deal

with those who are older in age. The first approach is that of appeal. Authority may be needed, but appeal is the first approach.

**18. 1 Timothy 5:3 Widows are to be honored in the sense of respect, listening to their wisdom, and care when needed.**

*1 Tim 5:3 Honor widows who are really widows. (NKJ)*

The widow has usually lived a long and prosperous, cared for her husband and reared up children for the next generation. Her accomplishment may not be noticed, however, pastors and along with all believers are to give the true widow honor.

**19. 1 Timothy 5:4 In regard to widows in the family, it is the family first that is to learn and make Godly choices to honor their widows.**

*1 Tim 5:4 But if any widow has children or grandchildren, let them first learn to show piety at home and to repay their parents; for this is good and acceptable before God. (NKJ)*

The first line of responsibility for the care of widows is their family. This is part of the teaching Timothy was to present to his congregation and by scripture, to all believers. It is the known will of God for believers to be taught and learn of these practical responsibilities.

**20. 1 Timothy 5:7 Congregations are to be taught and charged with the family responsibilities taught in the Scriptures.**

*1 Tim 5:7 And these things command, that they may be blameless. (NKJ)*

Because of mobility and job availability throughout the country, families get split up. When family members are out of sight, the Biblical responsibilities are sometimes neglected. Part of practical Christian Living is the care of one's own family and extended family when warranted.

**21. 1 Timothy 5:9 Young widows generally are not to be taken on by the church as they are likely to desire remarriage and reject their vow.**

*1 Tim 5:9 Do not let a widow under sixty years old be taken into the number, and not unless she has been the wife of one man, (NKJ)*

Care is first the responsibility of a husband. Young widows will usually desire remarriage.

However, in a few cases younger widows married to their "soul-mate" will remain true to their love all of life and not face a desire to remarry.

**22. 1 Timothy 5:11 The young widow is to be refused being cared for by the church as the preferred option is remarriage.**

*1 Tim 5:11 But refuse the younger widows; for when they have begun to grow wanton against Christ, they desire to marry, (NKJ)*

The preferred solution to the loss of a husband of a young wife is remarriage. Both the young widow and the husband should understand the Lord's will for the wife if she becomes a young widow,

**23. 1 Timothy 5:16 Family of believers who have widows are charged to take care of them. The family is the first line of care.**

*1 Tim 5:16 If any believing man or woman has widows, let them relieve them, and do not let the church be burdened, that it may relieve those who are really widows.*

Family is set forth as the first care givers of other needy members of the family. This is part of God's Will for believers. It is only when there is no family or unbelievers refuse that the body of believers (the church) is to step in.

**24. 1 Timothy 5:16 The Assembly of believers (the Church) is not to be burdened with the care of widows who have families who could care for them.**

*1 Tim 5:16 If any believing man or woman has widows, let them relieve them, and do not let the church be burdened, that it may relieve those who are really widows.*

When there are believing family members in the family of a widow who could care for the widow, the church is not to be burdened. It is the family's responsibility before the Lord.

**25. 1 Timothy 5:17 Pastors who fulfill their pastoral gift responsibilities of pastoring, studying, and teaching are to be considered and paid according to the standard of double honor.**

*1 Tim 5:17 Let the elders who rule well be counted worthy of double honor, especially those who labor in the word and doctrine. (NKJ)*

Faithful pastors are worthy of double honor. Unfortunately, pastors sometimes are viewed as those who must sacrifice and work for a meager salary. On the other hand some violate their callings to amass huge salaries to themselves by the promotion of popular false teaching. Reasonable pay is the Biblical standard.

**26. 1 Timothy 5:19 Reputation in leadership is extremely important. Accusations against spiritual leaders require two or three witnesses to be heard for the protection of a leader's reputation.**

*1 Tim 5:19 Do not receive an accusation against an elder except from two or three witnesses. (NKJ)*

Because of the delicate nature of a "testimony" or a "reputation" of those in leadership positions, two or three witnesses are required even before an accusation can be / should be heard.

**27. 1 Timothy 5:20 Spiritual leaders ministering to congregations who are guilty of serious offenses are to be publicly rebuked before their congregations.**

*1 Tim 5:20 Those who are sinning rebuke in the presence of all, that the rest also may fear. (NKJ)*

Because a leader is known to many, the offense of a leader involves many. Therefore a rebuke for proven guilt is to be public before those associated with him by having been under his leadership.

**28. 1 Timothy 5:22a Ordination to ministry requires training and a certain amount of observation. Therefore, the laying on of hand in ordination is not to be done in haste.**

*1 Tim 5:22 Do not lay hands on anyone hastily, nor share in other people's sins; keep yourself pure. (NKJ)*

By the examples of the "Company of the Prophets" (1 Sam 10:5), instruction to Timothy and Titus, and those traveling with Paul in a kind of traveling seminary, preparation for ministry is necessary. Hast in ordaining to ministry is to be avoided as preparation and observation are needed.

**29. 1 Timothy 5:22b Within the fulfillment of ministry, avoid entanglement in the sins of others.**

*1 Tim 5:22 Do not lay hands on anyone hastily, nor share in other people's sins; keep yourself pure. (NKJ)*

In carrying out the ministry, sin is going to be encountered. The believer is to beware and on guard so as not to be involved with the sins of others. It is easy to become entangled in the lives and sins of others. This is to be avoided by the believer.

**30. 1 Timothy 5:22c The believer is to beware of all the pulls and temptations they may face and keep themselves pure and above reproach.**

*1 Tim 5:22 Do not lay hands on anyone hastily, nor share in other people's sins; keep yourself pure. (NKJ)*

Because Satan would love to defeat and destroy believers, constant vigilance must be maintained to keep oneself pure and above reproach as a believer.

**31. 1 Timothy 5:23a Although water is most important in life, the believer is commanded not to drink water alone as a beverage for life.**

*1 Tim 5:23 No longer drink only water, but use a little wine for your stomach's sake and your frequent infirmities. (NKJ)*

Water is needed for all of life. One can survive for days without food, but much less time without water. Therefore water is an important, but not the only recommended beverage.

**32. 1 Timothy 5:23b The believer is to use a little wine as a medicinal beverage for daily benefit of the stomach and other infirmities.**

*1 Tim 5:23 No longer drink only water, but use a little wine for your stomach's sake and your frequent infirmities. (NKJ)*

Drinking wine is controversial among believers. However, it is a command. Medical science has found benefits to small amounts of wine taken on a daily basis. The Greek Word is OINOS which is fermented wine. It is not "new wine" or GLEUKOS which is grape juice - although some have said similar yet lesser benefits can be had from the unfermented juice of the grape.

Certainly if one has the alcoholic prone gene, one should opt for grape juice and stay completely away from the fermented OINOS wine.

**33. 1 Timothy 6:1 Servants or employees are to consider their masters or employers as being worthy of all honor in the sense of submission, service, and attitude.**

*1 Tim 6:1 Let as many bondservants as are under the yoke count their own masters worthy of all honor, so that the name of God and His doctrine may not be blasphemed. (NKJ)*

Part of the ongoing testimony of the believer involves their relationship to the authorities under which they serve. The believer should be the best child for parents; best student for instructors; best player for the coach; best employee for the employer; and best citizen for their country and its authorities.

**34. 1 Timothy 6:2a In regards to servants having believing masters, believing servants are commanded not to despise them. They are duly established authorities as are employers with a business to run and profit.**

*1 Tim 6:2 And those who have believing masters, let them not despise them because they are brethren, but rather serve them because those who are benefited are believers and beloved. Teach and exhort these things. (NKJ)*

The slave was to maintain a proper attitude as expressed in 1 Timothy 6:1 and not despising a believing master still having him serve as a slave. Future growth could change for both.

**35. 1 Timothy 6:2b Believing slaves or employees are commanded to render full service to their masters or employees.**

*1 Tim 6:2 And those who have believing masters, let them not despise them because they are brethren, but rather serve them because those who are benefited are believers and beloved. Teach and exhort these things. (NKJ)*

The believing slave or employee is to be ultimately judged by the Lord regardless of the master or employer. Therefore the standard is serve "as unto the Lord Himself."

**36. 1 Timothy 6:2c The ministry of spiritual leadership involves the command to teach both the popular and the unpopular principles of the Lord.**

*1 Tim 6:2 And those who have believing masters, let them not despise them because they are brethren, but rather serve them because those who are benefited are believers and beloved. Teach and exhort these things. (NKJ)*

Part of the teaching ministry is to inform of the Lord's commands, principles, and the teaching found in the Biblical examples.

**37. 1 Timothy 6:2d The ministry of spiritual leadership involves the command to exhort in constantly reminding believers and encouraging them in knowing and a carrying out the commands and principles of the Lord.**

*1 Tim 6:2 And those who have believing masters, let them not despise them because they are brethren, but rather serve them because those who are benefited are believers and beloved. Teach and exhort these things. (NKJ)*

Part of the ministry of preaching God's Word is the persuasive aspect of exhortation

**38. 1 Timothy 6:5 The believer is commanded to withdraw and depart from those perverting God's truth and disputing it for the purpose of gaining a hearing or material goods by "religion."**

*1 Tim 6:5 [Those teaching contrary (6:3) are those engaged in] useless wranglings of men of corrupt minds and destitute of the truth, who suppose that godliness is a means of gain. From such withdraw yourself. (NKJ)*

Religion is often used as a vehicle to accomplish a personal or collective agenda. Those using it corrupt and twist God's truths. Believers with a less than clear understanding of God's Truths are easily seduced and caught up in the deception. Knowledge of God's Word is the best defense.

**39. 1 Timothy 6:10-11a Because the love of money and greed has caused many a believer to stray from the faith, we are especially commanded to flee from these things.**

*1 Tim 6:10-11a For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, for which some have strayed from the faith in their greediness, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows. 11 But you, O man of God, flee these things and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, gentleness. (NKJ)*

One of Satan's chief tools connected with the blessings of the Lord is the perversion of that blessing into Greed and Loving Money and Material Blessings. The temptations and tests associated with acquiring blessings of wealth are many times the greatest of testings.

**40. 1 Timothy 6:11b The believer is commanded to pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, and gentleness over and above all other attributes. In seeking first attributes of God's Kingdom, He will add His blessings in His time (Matt 6:33).**

*1 Tim 6:11 But you, O man of God, flee these things and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, gentleness. (NKJ)*

The Lord commands believers to seek six specific things: Righteousness is God's right way of looking at things and ways of accomplishing them. Godliness is seeking Him, His thinking, His service, and His will above all else. Faith is the detailed teachings of the Lord in His creation and His Word and belief in them. Love is most basically the keeping of His Commands. Patience is a disciplined waiting on the Lord in every circumstance to trust, learn, and finally receive. Gentleness is a humble courteousness and consideration of others. These are important aspects of God's Kingdom.

**41. 1 Timothy 6:12a The believer is pictured as a soldier in the Lord's army and is commanded to fight the good fight in the multiply spiritual battles to be faced.**

*1 Tim 6:12 Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, to which you were also called and have confessed the good confession in the presence of many witnesses. (NKJ)*

With the fall into sin and rise to power of Satan, the believer is the Lord's soldier on earth. As Jesus sits at the Father's right hand, the believer is the soldier He has left on earth. We are

the current targets of Satan and His demon followers. We have the ability and confidence of winning when we fight.

**42. 1 Timothy 6:12b The believer lay hold or grasp the asset of eternal life. Realization of this present life being, but a vapor compared to eternal life can drastically change the life perspective.**

*1 Tim 6:12 Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, to which you were also called and have confessed the good confession in the presence of many witnesses. (NKJ)*

The thought of the world is to "eat, drink, and be merry for tomorrow we die." This places an exaggerated emphasis on earthly life over and above all that the Lord has promised. When the believer grasps that this is the life like a vapor or grass that withers while eternal life is forever the perspective on what is important changes making eternity the most important.

**43. 1 Timothy 6:17 Part of the ministry involves charging believers who have been blessed by the Lord to greater testing concerning trust in riches and greater responsibility in becoming the Lord's servants and helpers to those in need.**

*1 Tim 6:17 Command those who are rich in this present age not to be haughty, nor to trust in uncertain riches but in the living God, who gives us richly all things to enjoy. (NKJ)*

The scriptures say, "For unto whomsoever much is given, of him shall be much required: and to whom men have committed much, of him they will ask the more." (Luke 12:48) Blessing has both its rewards as well as its responsibilities.

**44. 1 Timothy 6:20 The believer is commanded to guard, defend, and watch over the truths of the Lord committed to them in a world full with those perverting, twisting, and misusing God's Truths.**

*1 Tim 6:20 O Timothy! Guard what was committed to your trust, avoiding the profane and idle babble and contradictions of what is falsely called knowledge-- (NKJ)*

One of the most important aspects of understanding and believing truths given by the Lord is the responsibility to guard them, defend them, and pass them on truthfully to others and the next generation.

## **Summary of Commands in 1 Timothy**

1. Women are to be taught the Word of God #1
2. Deacons are to be tested, approved in qualifications and allowed to serve. #2, 3
3. Deacons are to be "one women" men loving their own wives. #4
4. Silly and profane stories, theories, and teachings are to be rejected. #5, 38
5. Believers are to exercise themselves towards godliness. #6, 40
6. Spiritual Leaders are commanded to teach the Lord's Commands #7, 8, 20, 36, 43
7. Spiritual Leadership has authority that is not to be despised or trampled #9
8. Spiritual Leadership is to be an example of scriptural principles and living #10
9. The ministry involves study, teaching, and exhorting in God's Word and it's doctrines. #11, 13, 14, 15, 16, 37

10. Believers are not to ignore their spiritual gifts, but develop them. #12
11. Older believers are to be treated as fathers and mothers, brothers and sisters. #17
12. Widows are to be honored and cared for by believers. #18
13. The family has the first responsibility for the care of widows. #19, 23, 24
14. Widows under 60 years are to be encouraged to remarry and not be supported with the exception of a widow have lost a true "soul-mate." #21, 22.
15. Pastors fulfilling their gift who teach are worthy of double honor. #25
16. Accusations against those with authority should not be received except with 2 or three witnesses. #26
17. Authorities proven guilty of serious offenses are to be rebuked before all involved. #27
18. Ordination requires qualifications and is not to be done in haste. #28
19. Spiritual leaders are to be careful not to get caught up in the sins of others, but to remain pure. #29, 30
20. Believers are allowed not only water but some wine in moderation for ailments. #31, 32
21. Employees are to honor their employers and not despise them. #33, 34
22. Employees are to serve their employers as unto the Lord. #35
23. Believers are to flee the love of money and the problems it brings. #39
24. Believers are to fight the good fight for the faith. #41
25. Believers are to realize the nature of the eternal life given by the Lord and live with eternity in view. #42
26. Believers are to guard, defend and pass on the faith to others and the next generation. #44