

## **LAY HOLD OF ETERNAL LIFE!**

### **1 Timothy 6:11-19**

#### **INTRODUCTION**

- A. Yours for the taking! Larry's pot roast (for the taking, but he has to take it!).
- B. To "lay hold of eternal life" is to get "a firm grip" on eternal life.
- C. Why get hold of eternal life?
  - 1. Life here is both brief and uncertain, Jas. 4:13-17.
  - 2. Temptations are real, 1 Tim. 6:9.
  - 3. We have eternal life in promise.
    - a. *"This is the promise which He Himself made to us: eternal life"* (1 Jn. 2:25).
    - b. Jesus made the same promise in John 3:14-15 for those who believe.
    - c. "Believe" is to "take hold."
- D. Paul forcefully tells us how to lay hold of eternal life.
  - 1. God instructs us how.

#### **I. THROUGH A RECOGNITION YOU ARE "GOD'S MAN."**

- A. This title used in the O.T. to describe God's prophets.
  - 1. Moses called a "man of God," Deut. 33:1.
  - 2. Samuel called the "man of God," 1 Sam. 9:6.
  - 3. David, Neh. 12:24.
  - 4. Elijah, 1 Kings 17:18.
  - 5. Elisha, 2 Kings 4:7.
- B. Great love has caused God to call us His sons.
  - 1. 1 Jn. 3:1, *"See how great a love the Father has bestowed on us, that we would be called children of God; and such we are."*
- C. We are people for the Lord's possession, Titus 2:14.
  - 1. We do not belong to ourselves, 1 Cor. 6:19-20.
  - 2. We do not belong to Satan, so should not serve Him.
  - 3. 2 Tim. 3:17, *"...so that the **man of God** may be thoroughly equipped for every good work."*
    - a. **Knowing** God's Word.
    - b. **Applying** to our lives.

#### **II. THE PROPER RESPONSE: FLEE! 1 Tim.6:11**

- A. Flee from false teaching, 1 Tim. 6:3-5.
- B. Flee materialism, 1 Tim. 6:9-10.
- C. Flee from lusts [*strong desires*], 2 Tim. 2:22.
- D. "Flee from idolatry", 1 Cor. 10:14.

#### **III. POSITIVE ROUTINE: FOLLOW! 1 Tim. 6:11 (KJV)**

*[To "pursue", "follow in haste" or to "run after."]*

- A. Righteousness: made "right" by God's grace, but then striving to do what is right, say what is right and think what is right. Phil. 4:8
- B. Godliness: The reverence of man realizing his life is being lived in God's presence.
- C. Faith: trust and confidence, reliance on God.

- D. Love: love for God and for others.
- E. Patience: to bear up in the face of difficulty.
- F. Meekness: patience with people.

**IV. A POWERFUL RESISTANCE: FIGHT! 1 Tim. 6:12**

- A. One might fight/struggle to maintain faith, 1 Tim. 1:18-19.
- B. God's people are expected to conduct themselves like soldiers.
  - 1. 2 Tim. 2:4
  - 2. Eph. 6:10-17, especially verse 12.
- C. Paul's closing words to Timothy, 2 Tim. 4:7.  
*"I have fought the good fight, I have finished the course, I have kept the faith;..."*

**CLOSING**

- A. Take hold of eternal life.
- B. Have you?