

# FAITHFUL SAYINGS

## Introduction

- 1) Paul identifies five statements as *“faithful sayings”* in 1 & 2 Timothy and Titus
- 2) “Faithful” = sure, true; two times he adds “and worthy of all acceptance” (cf. Rev. 21:5; 22:6)
- 3) All of God’s word is sure and worthy of acceptance, but Paul highlights central truths for special attention and remembrance – our core beliefs and mission
  - a) Communicate spiritual truths (2 Tim. 1:13; Titus 1:9)
  - b) Become regular part of preaching and teaching – affirm them constantly (Titus 3:8)
  - c) Overcome unfaithful sayings (1 Tim. 1:4, 6; 4:7; 5:13; 6:4, 20; 2 Tim. 2:23; Titus 3:9)

## I) 1 Timothy 1:15 – GRACIOUS SALVATION

*“This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners”*

- A) In the context of Paul’s thankfulness for his own salvation (“foremost of sinners”)
- B) We are sinners and Christ Jesus came to bring salvation (Matt. 1:21; Lk. 19:10; Titus 2:11)
- C) He is the Savior of the body, the church (Eph. 5:23); cannot be saved outside the church

## II) 1 Timothy 3:1 – DEDICATED LEADERSHIP

*“This is a faithful saying: If a man desires the position of a bishop, he desires a good work”*

- A) Christian men should desire the work of orderly leadership and influence (cf. Isa. 6:8)
- B) There is a need for good elders, and Christian men dedicated to God should aspire to it

## III) 1 Timothy 4:8-9 – GODLY DISCIPLINE

*“For bodily exercise profits a little, but godliness is profitable for all things, having promise of the life that now is and of that which is to come. This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance”*

- A) Godly living is done in the hope that God gives now and eternally (v. 10; 1 Cor. 15:58)
- B) The daily discipline of godliness is profitable in everything (1 Tim. 6:6); worldliness is not!
- C) Godly living is guided by the teaching of Christ (Matt. 4:4; Titus 2:11-12; 2 Pet. 1:3)

## IV) 2 Timothy 2:11-13 – HOPEFUL PERSEVERANCE

*“This is a faithful saying: For if we died with Him, we shall also live with Him. If we endure, we shall also reign with Him. If we deny Him, He also will deny us. If we are faithless, He remains faithful; He cannot deny Himself”*

- A) There is both hope and warning in how we maintain our Christian life (Gal. 2:20; Col. 3:1-3)
- B) Our union with Christ must endure in hope; if we falter, He will not (Matt. 10:32-33)

## V) Titus 3:8 – CONSTANT SERVICE

*“This is a faithful saying, and these things I want you to affirm constantly, that those who have believed in God should be careful to maintain good works. These things are good and profitable to men”*

- A) Context includes what God has accomplished for our spiritual salvation (vv. 1-8)
- B) We must take special care to be devoted to good works (Eph. 2:10) reputation
- C) Godly service is good and profitable to all – without it people are forgotten, depressed, etc.

## Conclusion

These sayings are faithful and worthy of all acceptance because they teach the core truths of God’s grace and our faithfulness to Him: *God’s gracious salvation from sin, faithful dedicated leadership, disciplined godly living, hopeful perseverance of faith, and constant service in doing good.* May these truths motivate us to being more faithful and effective children of God!