

I. INSTRUCTIONS ABOUT TIMOTHY'S EXAMPLE (5:1-2).

- A. Timothy is to treat the older men like fathers, the young men like brothers (v1).
- B. Timothy is to treat the older women like mothers, the young women like sisters (v2).
- C. Both men and women, both old and young, are to be treated in purity.

II. INSTRUCTIONS ABOUT OLDER WIDOWS (5:3-10).

- A. There are two kinds of widows in this group:
 - 1. A widow in indeed (who needs financial assistance) who is to be honored.
 - 2. A widow with children (who is to be supported by her family).
- B. A widow with children (v5,8,16):
 - 1. Each family has a responsibility to take care of any widows in that family (v4).
 - 2. To not provide both spiritually and materially for one's family is a sin (v8).
 - 3. Each family is to care for their own widows so the church will not be financially burdened (v16).
- C. A widow indeed (v5-7):
 - 1. ...is one who is truly alone without offspring or relatives (v5).
 - 2. ...one who has fixed her hope on God, serving to her potential.
 - 3. ...one who continues in prayer (see 2Th. 5:17).
 - 4. ...not one whom does the things of the world (v6).
 - 5. ...one whom subscribes to sound teaching to be beyond reproach as in 1Tim. 3:2 (v7).
- D. A widow indeed needs and deserves church support (5:9-10):
 - 1. Must be sixty or over in age (Lev. 27:3-7; Psa. 90:10).
 - 2. Wife of one man (1Tim. 3:2).
 - 3. Of good reputation (Ti. 2:3).
 - 4. Raised children (Ti. 2.4-5).
 - 5. Shows hospitality to strangers (Gen. 18:1-15; Heb. 13:1-2).
 - 6. Washed the saints feet (Jn. 13:2-15).
 - 7. Assisted those in distress (Lk. 10:25-37).
 - 8. Devoted to every good work (1Cor. 16:15).

III. INSTRUCTIONS TO YOUNGER WIDOWS (5:11-16).

- A. Reasons not to make young widows, widows indeed (v11-13):
 - 1. They will want to remarry (v11-12).
 - 2. They will become idle, or lazy (v13).
 - 3. They will gossip, or talk foolishly (v13).
 - 4. They will become a busybody, meddling in others' affairs (v13).
- B. Special instructions to young women (v14-16):
 - 1. They are to get married (v14).
 - 2. They are to bear children.
 - 3. They are to keep house.
 - 4. They are to remain free from sin (14-15).
 - 5. They are to take care of an widows they have (v16).
- C. Notice the parallels between v11-13 and v14-16 with the latter set of instructions as cures for the former set of evils.

IV. INSTRUCTIONS ABOUT ELDERS (5:17-20).

- A. They are worthy of double honor (v17).

1. Respect and submissiveness (1Tim. 6:1).
2. Financial support (1Tim. 5:3; Ac. 28:10).
- B. They are worthy of wages when working (v18).
 1. First as they rule well, shepherding the flock.
 2. Preaching and teaching (Eph. 4:11).
- C. Timothy is only to accept worthy accusations against an elder by two or three witnesses (Deut. 19:15; Mt. 18:15-17).
- D. Timothy is to rebuke those who continue in sin, but in a way not to contradict (5:1).

V. **SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS TO TIMOTHY (5:21-25).**

- A. Do all things without prejudice or bias, show no partiality (v21).
- B. Remember the responsibility engaged in the laying on of hands, and is similar but also opposite of 1Tim. 5:19 (v22).
- C. Take physical care of himself. Timothy was a total abstainer from alcohol (v23).
- D. Time will reveal true character traits (v24-25).