

## INTRODUCTION.

- A. Scripture text: **1Timothy 3:1-7.**
- B. Today, I continue my sermon series designed to help the men of our congregation grow spiritually. To help in this spiritual growth last week I talked about being:
  - 1. Above reproach, husband of one wife, temperate.
  - 2. Prudent, respectful, hospitable.
  - 3. Able to teach, not addicted to wine, not self-willed.
  - 4. Not quick-tempered, not pugnacious, not contentious.
- C. This leaves the following topics:
  - 1. 7-26 AM Gentle, free from the love of money, manages household well.
  - 2. PM Not under reproach, loving what is good, just.
  - 3. 8-2 AM Devout, not a new convert, (seven good resolutions).
- D. This morning; 1) gentle, 2) free from the love of money, and 3) manages household well.

## I. THE MAN OF GOD IS GENTLE.

- A. **The man of God is meek and mild-mannered** (1Tim. 3:2-3).  
*An overseer, then, must be above reproach, the husband of one wife, temperate, prudent, respectable, hospitable, able to teach, not addicted to wine or pugnacious, but gentle, uncontentious, free from the love of money.*
- B. The characteristics of being meek, forbearing, and kind mark the man of God.
- C. Xian men must be gentle with:
  - 1. Non-Christians:
    - a. Paul wants Titus to be kind because God has been kind to all men (Ti. 3:2-5).  
*to malign no one, to be uncontentious, gentle, showing every consideration for all men. For we also once were foolish ourselves, disobedient, deceived, enslaved to various lusts and pleasures, spending our life in malice and envy, hateful, hating one another. But when the kindness of God our Savior and His love for mankind appeared, He saved us, not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness, but according to His mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit,*
    - b. An attitude of kindness or gentleness gets a proper response (2Tim. 2:24,25).  
*And the Lord's bond-servant must not be quarrelsome, but be kind to all, able to teach, patient when wronged, with gentleness correcting those who are in opposition, if perhaps God may grant them repentance leading to the knowledge of the truth,*
    - c. Paul was gentle and kind to the Thessalonians (1Th. 2:7).  
*But we proved to be gentle among you, as a nursing mother tenderly cares for her own children.*
    - d. Even Jesus described Himself as being a humble and gentle person (Mt. 11:29).  
*"Take My yoke upon you, and learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart; and YOU SHALL FIND REST FOR YOUR SOULS.*
  - 2. Carnal Christians:
    - a. Some brethren haven't spiritually matured and need special treatment (Gal. 6:1-3).  
*Brethren, even if a man is caught in any trespass, you who are spiritual, restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness; each one looking to yourself, lest you too be tempted. Bear one another's burdens, and thus fulfill the law of Christ. For if anyone thinks he is something when he is nothing, he deceives himself.*
    - b. Our begging and working w/these Xians is to be done out of meekness and gentleness (2Cor. 10:1).  
*Now I, Paul, myself urge you by the meekness and gentleness of Christ-- I who am meek when face to face with you, but bold toward you when absent!*
  - 3. All Christians:
    - a. Brethren are to relate to other brethren in humility and gentleness (Eph. 4:2).

- with all humility and gentleness, with patience, showing forbearance to one another in love,
- b. Notice how the Xian is to be dressed (Col. 3:12-13).  
And so, as those who have been chosen of God, holy and beloved, put on a heart of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience; bearing with one another, and forgiving each other, whoever has a complaint against anyone; just as the Lord forgave you, so also should you.
- c. Develop this wonderful fruit of the spirit (Gal. 5:22,23).  
But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.

## II. THE MAN OF GOD IS... FREE FROM THE LOVE OF MONEY.

- A. **The man of God knows how to properly make, save, and spend money** (1Tim. 3:2-3; Ti. 1:7; 1Tim. 6:9-10).  
(**1Tim 3:2-3**) An overseer, then, must be above reproach, the husband of one wife, temperate, prudent, respectable, hospitable, able to teach, not addicted to wine or pugnacious, but gentle, uncontentious, free from the love of money.  
(**Ti. 1:7**) For the overseer must be above reproach as God's steward, not self-willed, not quick-tempered, not addicted to wine, not pugnacious, not fond of sordid gain,  
(**1Tim 6:9-10**) But those who want to get rich fall into temptation and a snare and many foolish and harmful desires which plunge men into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all sorts of evil, and some by longing for it have wandered away from the faith, and pierced themselves with many a pang.
- C. The man of God knows that *money is not evil*, but that the *love of money is*. It becomes a matter of priorities, and of the heart (Mt. 6:33; 6:19-21).  
(**Mt 6:33**) "But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added to you.  
(**Mt. 6:19-21**) "Do not lay up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. "But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys, and where thieves do not break in or steal; for where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.
- D. The human tendency is that when one prospers financially and materially, that they forget God. If this happens, God's material blessings actually become a curse to us because they have caused us to forget the One who gave it to us in the first place (Deut. 6:10-12; 8:11-14,17).  
(**Deut 6:10-12**) "Then it shall come about when the LORD your God brings you into the land which He swore to your fathers, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, to give you, great and splendid cities which you did not build, and houses full of all good things which you did not fill, and hewn cisterns which you did not dig, vineyards and olive trees which you did not plant, and you shall eat and be satisfied, then watch yourself, lest you forget the LORD who brought you from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.  
(**Deut 8:11-14**) "Beware lest you forget the LORD your God by not keeping His commandments and His ordinances and His statutes which I am commanding you today; lest, when you have eaten and are satisfied, and have built good houses and lived in them, and when your herds and your flocks multiply, and your silver and gold multiply, and all that you have multiplies, then your heart becomes proud, and you forget the LORD your God who brought you out from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.  
(**Deut 8:17**) "Otherwise, you may say in your heart, 'My power and the strength of my hand made me this wealth.'
- E. There are many reasons as to why people love money and the material things it will purchase. But may we always remember that God wants us to be content in what we have and "eat our own bread" (Phil. 4:11-12; 1Tim. 6:6-8; 2Th. 3:10-12).  
(**Phil 4:11-12**) Not that I speak from want; for I have learned to be content in whatever circumstances I am. I know how to get along with humble means, and I also know how to live in prosperity; in any and every circumstance I have learned the secret of being filled and going hungry, both of having abundance and suffering need.  
(**1Tim 6:6-8**) But godliness actually is a means of great gain, when accompanied by contentment. For we have brought nothing into the world, so we cannot take anything out of it either. And if we have food and covering, with these we shall be content.  
(**2Th 3:10-12**) For even when we were with you, we used to give you this order: if anyone will not work, neither let him eat. For we hear that some among you are leading an undisciplined life, doing no work at all, but acting like busybodies. Now such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to work in quiet fashion and eat their own bread.

### III. THE MAN OF GOD IS... ONE WHO MANAGES HIS HOUSEHOLD WELL.

- A. **The man of God knows how to serve and to lead** (1Tim. 3:2-4).  
An overseer, then, must be above reproach, the husband of one wife, temperate, prudent, respectable, hospitable, able to teach, not addicted to wine or pugnacious, but gentle, uncontentious, free from the love of money. He must be one who manages his own household well, keeping his children under control with all dignity
- B. Gene Getz says the following about this characteristic.  
The quality of being 'one who manages his own household well' is probably the most significant mark of Christian maturity listed by Paul. It, above all others, reflects whether or not a man is above reproach, moral, temperate, prudent, respectable, etc. And it, more than any other single characteristic, demonstrates whether a man is mature enough to lead other Christians.
- C. An OT example of a man who disqualified himself from leadership because of his family was Eli. Both of his sons grew up as young men who did "not know the Lord" (1Sam. 2:12). God judged both Eli and his worthless sons. The sons were condemned because of their sins and Eli was judged because he did not rebuke them.
- D. Paul is **not** speaking here about... how successful a man is in his business.  
Paul is **not** speaking here about... how well a man can do church work.  
Paul is **not** speaking here about... a man who has a perfect family.
- E. Paul is speaking about a man who has maturity and ability to lead others as is evidenced by his entire household. When the whole household is committed to JC and where you have a wife who is dedicated to her husband, and grown children who respect and love their father, you have strong evidence that this man is spiritual and psychologically mature.
- F. Managing the household well means:
1. Having God, the Bible, and spiritual values as the primary concern.
  2. Having and teaching a good work ethic--being busy, not lazy.
  3. Keeping the finances and material possessions in order.
- G. Being a good husband and father should be the goal of every Xian man. They are:
1. To love their wives (Eph. 5:25).
  2. To live with them in an understanding way (1Pet. 3:7).
  3. Not to provoke their children to anger (Col. 3:21).
  4. To instruct their children in the way of the Lord (Eph. 6:4).
  5. To exhort, encourage and implore their families (1Th. 2:11).

### IV. SOME PRACTICAL SUGGESTIONS.

- A. To become a man who is *gentle*:
1. Memorize 1Tim. 6:11.  
But flee from these things, you man of God; and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, perseverance and gentleness.
  2. List some things in Jesus' life that you think made Him a gentle person.
- B. To become a man who is *free from the love of money*:
1. Keep spiritual and material goals in their proper perspective.
  2. Be sure to give regularly to the church and other benevolent causes.
- C. To become a man who *manages his household well*:
1. Read good books and attend seminars on parenting.
  2. Set up a 'well-ordered' household that keeps the bills paid and spiritual values in the forefront.

### CONCLUSION AND INVITATION.

- A. Three very important things for the man of God to be:
1. Gentle.
  2. Free from the love of money.
  3. One who manages his household well.

- B. Next lesson: not under reproach, loving what is good, just.
- C. To become a man of God, one must obey X.
- D. Plan of salvation for non-Xians; erring Xians.