

Devotional Questions – 1 Timothy 4:1-16, Study Leader's Questions

1. *What did the Spirit reveal would happen in later* times (1 Timothy 4:1)?* *The correct term is **“latter.”**
When are the later days?* *The correct term is **“latter.”**
2. *What is the value* of godliness (1 Timothy 4:8)?* *The correct term is **“profitable.”**
3. *What should Timothy remember when faced with opposition and discouragements (1 Timothy 4:10)?*
4. *How is God the Saviour of all people but ‘especially to those who believe’* (1 Timothy 4:10)?* *The question appears to have been framed from the 2011 NIV “God... is the Savior of all peo-ple, and especially of those who believe.” Note that the correct reading is **“the Saviour of all men, specially of those that believe”** 1 Timothy 4:10.
5. *In what areas was Timothy to be an example to the believers (1 Timothy 4:12)?*
6. *To what three things was Timothy to give attention* (1 Timothy 4:13)?* The correct term is **“at-tendance.”**
7. *What was Timothy not to neglect? Why (1 Timothy 4:14)?*
8. *How could Timothy ensure that his progress* would be evident to all (1 Timothy 4:15)?* *The correct term is **“profiting.”**
9. *How could Timothy save both himself and those who heard him (1 Timothy 4:16)?*

Devotional Questions – 1 Timothy 4:1-16, Answers to Questions

For detailed comments see Dr Ruckman's commentary *Pastoral Epistles* pp 79-98 and the *Ruckman Reference Bible* p 1584.

1. *What did the Spirit reveal would happen in later* times (1 Timothy 4:1)?* *The correct term is "latter."

Question 1 is intended to be devotional but the best answer to *Question 1* is *doctrinal* because 1 Timothy 4:1-3 is a *direct assault doctrinally on Catholic priests*:

- "depart from the faith" 1 Timothy 4:1.

For example, they separate clergy and laity and therefore violate the priesthood of all believers, 1 Peter 2:5,9.

See:

www.chick.com/reading/tracts/0071/0071_01.asp

Are Roman Catholics Christians?



- Give "heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils" 1 Timothy 4:1.

These include the so-called seven sacraments or channels of grace by which a Catholic hopes to be saved, in violation of the Biblical doctrine of eternal security.

"And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life" 1 John 5:11-12.

"Anyone who is acquainted with **the state of affairs in the Vatican**...is well aware that the prince of darkness has had **and still has** his surrogates in the court of St. Peter in Rome" – Professor Malachi Martin SJ, 1921-1999, cited in *Codeword Barbêlôn* by P. D. Stuart p 494, author's emphases. Stuart notes that Martin was not excommunicated for his statements on the Devil and the Vatican, *Codeword Barbêlôn* p 493.

See:

en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Malachi_Martin Malachi Martin

www.tldm.org/news/martin.htm Fr. Malachi Martin affirmed: Satanism has been practised in the Vatican.

"And he cried mightily with a strong voice, saying, Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and is become the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird" Revelation 18:2.

- Speak "lies in hypocrisy" 1 Timothy 4:2.

"The popes claim to be comforters of the Church of Christ, his visible replacement on earth. But anyone who is aware of even a modicum of Church history will know that the popes have proved miserable comforters indeed! The corruption in Rome went all the way to the top...For anyone with a schoolboy's knowledge of history knows that the popes have never been on the level: the records show that the popes do the very thing against which they write" - P. D. Stuart *Codeword Barbêlôn* pp 495, 498. Extensive documentation of the popes' ungodly lives follows pp 495-498.

Yet the pope calls himself *The Holy Father* www.vatican.va/holy_father/, usurping the title that the Lord Jesus Christ bestowed only upon God the Father, "...I come to thee. **Holy Father...**" John 17:11. See the *Ruckman Reference Bible* p 1417.

The priesthood of all believers, 1 Peter 2:5, 9 should not speak **“lies in hypocrisy”** 1 Timothy 4:2 e.g. by calling the NIV, NKJV the word of God when they also insist that only ‘the original,’ so-called, which they don’t have, is *really* the word of God, *when they have enough light to know that they are lying on both counts.*

See:

www.av1611.org/niv.html *New International Perversion*
www.av1611.org/nkjv.html *New King James Version Counterfeit*

Both tracts are by Terry Watkins, writer’s emphasis. Note that a counterfeit is a hypocrite.

“Ye shall not steal, neither deal falsely, neither lie one to another” Leviticus 19:11.

“That was the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world” John 1:9.

“Lie not one to another, seeing that ye have put off the old man with his deeds” Colossians 3:9.



- **Forbid “to marry”** 1 Timothy 4:3.

Catholic priests don’t marry.

See en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Clerical_celibacy_%28Catholic_Church%29.

It is not surprising to find the following statement by Professor Malachi Martin, cited by Stuart p 486, emphases in citation.

*“...the incidence of Satanic paedophilia – rites and practices – was **already documented** among certain bishops and priests as **widely dispersed** as Turin, in Italy, and South Carolina, in the United States...”*

Stuart adds, p 487, his emphases *“...according to Martin, the high incidence of paedophilia among Catholic priests, bishops and cardinals is largely, if not entirely, due to ritual child molestation - part of the **organized satanic initiation process** - the ne plus ultra [highest point of excellence or achievement] of the Catholic priesthood.”*

The scripture therefore says, to singles and *to saved married couples*:

“...to avoid fornication, let every man have his own wife, and let every woman have her own husband” 1 Corinthians 7:2.

“Defraud ye not one the other, except it be with consent for a time, that ye may give yourselves to fasting and prayer; and come together again, that Satan tempt you not for your incontinency” 1 Corinthians 7:5.

Young singles especially should therefore be prayed for and encouraged, as Paul exhorts.

“And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. Faithful is he that calleth you, who also will do it” 1 Thessalonians 5:23-24.

- **Command “to abstain from meats”** 1 Timothy 4:3.

The Catholic Church teaches abstinence from food as part of penance for sins, so-called.

See en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fasting_and_abstinence_in_the_Roman_Catholic_Church:

*The Catholic Church observes the discipline of **fasting** or **abstinence** at various times each year, especially during **Lent**. For Catholics, fasting is the reduction of one’s intake of food,*

which may or may not include abstinence from meat (or another type of food). The Catholic Church teaches that all people are obliged by God to perform some [penance](#) for their sins, and that these acts of penance are both personal and corporate. The purpose of fasting is spiritual focus, self discipline, imitation of Christ, and performing penance.

The Catholic Church's teaching on abstinence from food is wholly unscriptural.

The scripture enjoins abstinence from food for three reasons only:

1. Attendance upon prayer

“Defraud ye not one the other, except it be with consent for a time, that ye may give yourselves to fasting and prayer; and come together again, that Satan tempt you not for your incontinency” 1 Corinthians 7:5 again.

2. Another man's conscience

“But if any man say unto you, This is offered in sacrifice unto idols, eat not for his sake that shewed it, and for conscience sake: for the earth is the Lord's, and the fulness thereof” 1 Corinthians 10:28.

3. Another believer's comfort

“Wherefore, if meat make my brother to offend, I will eat no flesh while the world standeth, lest I make my brother to offend” 1 Corinthians 8:13.

Anything else on abstinence from food, apart from health and/or medical reasons, is “*doctrines of devils*” 1 Timothy 4:1. Note what Paul says in answer to Rome on *abstinence from meat* (i.e. type of food).

“But meat commendeth us not to God: for neither, if we eat, are we the better; neither, if we eat not, are we the worse” 1 Corinthians 8:8.

When are the later* days? *The correct term is “*latter.*”

They are now.

“The night is far spent, the day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armour of light” Romans 13:12.

Paul's exhortation to the Ephesians applies even more urgently to today's believer.

“Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil” Ephesians 6:10-11.

2. What is the value* of godliness (1 Timothy 4:8)? *The correct term is “*profitable.*”

“...godliness is profitable unto all things, having promise of the life that now is, and of that which is to come” 1 Timothy 4:8.

• “*...godliness is profitable unto all things*”

“*All things*” includes “*Your whole spirit and soul and body*” that God can and does sanctify, that is “*set apart,*” and make godly by rendering them blameless, conditional on obedience. See also *Question 1*.

“But know that the LORD hath set apart him that is godly for himself: the LORD will hear when I call unto him” Psalm 4:3.

“Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty” 2 Corinthians 6:17-18.

“And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. Faithful is he that calleth you, who also will do it” 1 Thessalonians 5:23-24.

- **“...godliness is profitable unto...the life that now is”**

“**Godly sorrow**” can and does bring about repentance for wrongdoing in this life and in turn can bring about salvation that is vital for having **“the life...which is to come.”**

“Now I rejoice, not that ye were made sorry, but that ye sorrowed to repentance: for ye were made sorry after a godly manner, that ye might receive damage by us in nothing. For godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation not to be repented of: but the sorrow of the world worketh death” 2 Corinthians 7:9-10.

- **“godliness is profitable unto...the life...which is to come”**

“**Godliness**” is an essential step in receiving **“a full reward”** 2 John 8 in **“the life...which is to come”** for good work that will **“abide the fire”** Numbers 31:23 with 1 Corinthians 3:13. That is an **“entrance...into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ...ministered unto you abundantly”** i.e. as **“a full reward”** 2 John 8.

“If any man’s work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward” 1 Corinthians 3:14.

“And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge; And to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness; And to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity...Wherefore...brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall: For so an entrance shall be ministered unto you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ” 2 Peter 1:5-7, 10-11.

“Look to yourselves, that we lose not those things which we have wrought, but that we receive a full reward” 2 John 8.

Note that God will do away with *all* that which is *ungodly* at the Second Advent. It will *not* **“abide the fire”** Numbers 31:23.

“And Enoch also, the seventh from Adam, prophesied of these, saying, Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousands of his saints, To execute judgment upon all, and to convince all that are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have ungodly committed, and of all their hard speeches which ungodly sinners have spoken against him” Jude 14-15.

3. What should Timothy remember when faced with opposition and discouragements (1 Timothy 4:10)?

Timothy and today’s believer should remember the promise of God that no-one envies and that no-one wants to claim and therefore wholly **“trust in the living God”** 1 Timothy 4:10.

“Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution” 2 Timothy 3:12.

4. How is God the Saviour of all people but ‘especially to those who believe’* (1 Timothy 4:10)?
*The question appears to have been framed from the 2011 NIV “God... is the Savior of all people, and especially of those who believe.” Note that the correct reading is **“the Saviour of all men, specially of those that believe”** 1 Timothy 4:10.

The Lord Jesus Christ Himself explains why, through John.

“For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved. He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is

condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God” John 3:17-18.

5. In what areas was Timothy to be an example to the believers (1 Timothy 4:12)?

1 Timothy 4:12 states **“Let no man despise thy youth; but be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity.”**

1 Timothy 4:12 lists 6 such areas. Peter summarises these areas as **“all things that pertain to life and godliness”** and explains how they are imparted i.e. by **“his divine power”** and how they are to be exemplified i.e. by being **“partakers of the divine nature”** and thereby escaping **“the corruption that is in the world through lust.”** Peter’s statement applies as much to today’s believer as to Timothy. See also *Question 2* on **“godliness.”**

“According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue: Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust” 2 Peter 1:3-4.

See again *Question 2* with respect to one of the essential **“exceeding great and precious promises”** on becoming one of **“my sons and daughters”** by which **“an example to the believers”** is rightly set for **“all things that pertain to life and godliness”** and therefore always remember **Whose son or daughter you are! That is how to be an example to other believers.**

“Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty” 2 Corinthians 6:17-18.

6. To what three things was Timothy to give attention* (1 Timothy 4:13)? The correct term is **“attendance.”**

- **“reading”**

This is a command to today’s believer *expecting kingship and seeking to glorify the Lord Jesus Christ* as John states with respect to **“Jesus Christ...him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood, And hath made us kings and priests unto God and his Father; to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen”** Revelation 1:5-6.

Thankfully **“the book of the law of the LORD their God”** Nehemiah 9:3 is already written for today’s believer, who, as indicated, *should* **“give attendance to reading”** in order to fit himself for **“the throne of his kingdom.”**

“And it shall be, when he sitteth upon the throne of his kingdom, that he shall write him a copy of this law in a book out of that which is before the priests the Levites: And it shall be with him, and he shall read therein all the days of his life: that he may learn to fear the LORD his God, to keep all the words of this law and these statutes, to do them: That his heart be not lifted up above his brethren, and that he turn not aside from the commandment, to the right hand, or to the left: to the end that he may prolong his days in his kingdom, he, and his children, in the midst of Israel” Deuteronomy 17:18-20.

Note that to **“give attendance to reading”** is so that the reader **“may learn to fear the LORD his God,”** be among those who obey James 1:22 to **“be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves”** and steadfast in **“Serving the Lord with all humility of mind”** Acts 20:19.

Queen Victoria understood Deuteronomy 17:18-20.

“I wish that [Jesus] returns while I am still alive, because nothing would give me more joy than to pass on the crown of Great Britain and India to Him with my own hands” – Queen Victoria. See:

www.cai.org/bible-studies/queen-victoria
en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Queen_Victoria.



- **“exhortation”**

This is a command for today’s believer *encouraging other believers on a regular basis in faithfully following the Lord Jesus Christ and separating from sin.*

“But exhort one another daily, while it is called To day; lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin” Hebrews 3:13.

- **“doctrine”**

This is a command for today’s believer *“edifying the body of Christ”* Ephesians 4:12 according to *“good doctrine”* 1 Timothy 4:6 and *“sound doctrine”* Titus 1:9, 2:1 especially any believer in a leadership role *“Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ: That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive”* Ephesians 4:13-14.

“If thou put the brethren in remembrance of these things, thou shalt be a good minister of Jesus Christ, nourished up in the words of faith and of good doctrine, whereunto thou hast attained” 1 Timothy 4:6.

“Holding fast the faithful word as he hath been taught, that he may be able by sound doctrine both to exhort and to convince the gainsayers” Titus 1:9. Note Ephesians 4:13 above.

“But speak thou the things which become sound doctrine” Titus 2:1 as Paul exhorts the Colossians and in turn today’s believer, especially when dealing with *“gainsayers,”* who, for example, deny that the 1611 Holy Bible is *“all scripture”* that *“is given by inspiration of God”* 2 Timothy 3:16. See article under www.timefortruth.co.uk/why-av-only/ and links against a whole raft of *“gainsayers,”* for whom Titus 1:13 **“rebuke them sharply, that they may be sound in the faith”** also applies.

“Let your speech be always with grace, seasoned with salt, that ye may know how ye ought to answer every man” Colossians 4:6.

7. What was Timothy not to neglect? Why (1 Timothy 4:14)?

“...the gift that is in thee” 1 Timothy 4:14. Peter explains why. Again, it has to do with today’s believer *“edifying the body of Christ”* Ephesians 4:12 this time *“as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.”*

“As every man hath received the gift, even so minister the same one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God” 1 Peter 4:10.

8. *How could Timothy ensure that his progress* would be evident to all (1 Timothy 4:15)?* *The correct term is ***“profiting.”***

Timothy and today’s believer would do so by meditation upon and full application of ***“these things”*** 1 Timothy 4:15, with 1 Timothy 3:14, 4:6, 11, 5:7, 21, 6:2, 11, 8 occurrences of the expression ***“these things”*** in 1 Timothy. ***“These things”*** in 1 Timothy 4:15 are set out explicitly in 1 Timothy 4:7, 12, 13. See *Questions 5, 6*. They are:

- ***“to refuse the evil, and choose the good”*** Isaiah 7:15 with 1 Timothy 4:7
- To ***“Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven”*** Matthew 5:16 with 1 Timothy 4:12
- To ***“Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine”*** 2 Timothy 4:2 with 1 Timothy 4:13.

King David explains how ***“these things”*** are meditated upon and put into practice. It has to do with *memorising* what God says and *earnestly asking Him* for the wisdom and resolve to *do* what He says *and not disobey Him*.

“Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed thereto according to thy word. With my whole heart have I sought thee: O let me not wander from thy commandments. Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee” Psalm 119:9-11 with 1 Timothy 4:15.

9. *How could Timothy save both himself and those who heard him (1 Timothy 4:16)?*

1 Timothy 4:16 states ***“Take heed unto thyself, and unto the doctrine; continue in them: for in doing this thou shalt both save thyself, and them that hear thee.”***

Timothy’s saving ministry does not have to do with salvation from hell, Romans 10:9-11. It has to do with saving a *saved* individual from deception and transgression, 1 Timothy 2:14, from ***“doctrines of devils”*** 1 Timothy 4:1 and from ***“falling away”*** 2 Thessalonians 2:3. The steps for Timothy’s saving ministry are as follows. They apply equally to today’s believer.

- ***“Take heed unto thyself”***

This is an exhortation to personal holiness. King David shows how, through earnest prayer.

“Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me” Psalm 51:10.

- ***“Take heed...unto the doctrine”***

This is an exhortation to abide by ***“the doctrine which is according to godliness”*** as Paul in effect exhorts and as the Lord Jesus Himself has urged.

“...consent...to wholesome words, even the words of our Lord Jesus Christ, and to the doctrine which is according to godliness” 1 Timothy 6:3.

That doctrine is *God’s doctrine and it is understood by willingness to do what God says*.

“If any man will do his will, he shall know of the doctrine, whether it be of God, or whether I speak of myself” John 7:17.

- ***“continue in them”***

This is an exhortation to be steadfast and *against “falling away”* 2 Thessalonians 2:3.

“But continue thou in the things which thou hast learned and hast been assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned them” 2 Timothy 3:14.

“Ye therefore, beloved, seeing ye know these things before, beware lest ye also, being led away with the error of the wicked, fall from your own steadfastness” 2 Peter 3:17. Amen.