

Devotional Questions – 1 Timothy 6:1-21, Study Leader’s Questions

1. *What instructions are given regarding servants and masters and why was this necessary (1 Timothy 6:1-2)?*
2. *What do you think Paul means by an unhealthy interest* (1 Timothy 6:4)? *Note that the correct term is “**doting.**”*
3. *Why is godliness great gain (1 Timothy 6:6)?*
4. *According to [1 Timothy 6:6-8], how are we to find contentment?*
5. *What have some done in their greediness (1 Timothy 6:10)?*
6. *What is the man of God to pursue* (1 Timothy 6:11)? *The correct term is to “**follow.**” Faith is a guide, not a quarry “**(For we walk by faith, not by sight:)**” 2 Corinthians 5:7.*
7. *What should we flee and what should we pursue* (1 Timothy 6:11)? *The correct term is to “**follow.**” Faith is a guide, not a quarry “**(For we walk by faith, not by sight:)**” 2 Corinthians 5:7.*
8. *What kind of fight should we be fighting (1 Timothy 6:12)?*
9. *How does Paul describe our Lord Jesus Christ (1 Timothy 6:15-16)?*
10. *What was Timothy to avoid? Why (1 Timothy 6:20-21)?*
11. *How does eagerness for money cause a person to wander from the faith (1 Timothy 6:21)?*

Devotional Questions – 1 Timothy 6:1-21, Answers to Questions

For detailed comments see Dr Ruckman's commentary *Pastoral Epistles* pp 119-168, 224-228 and the *Ruckman Reference Bible* pp 161, 1581, 1585-1587, 1627.

1. *What instructions are given regarding servants and masters and why was this necessary (1 Timothy 6:1-2)?*

Servants are commanded to:

- **“count their own masters worthy of all honour, that the name of God and his doctrine be not blasphemed”** 1 Timothy 6:1.

Paul explains why in his Epistles to the Ephesians and the Colossians. The saved servant should perceive himself as being a servant to the Lord Jesus Christ **“in singleness of heart”** Colossians 3:2. This is **“his doctrine.”**

“Servants, be obedient to them that are your masters according to the flesh, with fear and trembling, in singleness of your heart, as unto Christ; Not with eyeservice, as menpleasers; but as the servants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart” Ephesians 6:5-6.

“Servants, obey in all things your masters according to the flesh; not with eyeservice, as menpleasers; but in singleness of heart, fearing God” Colossians 3:22.

Note also Peter's exhortation to servants with harsh masters. It matches Paul's.

“Servants, be subject to your masters with all fear; not only to the good and gentle, but also to the froward. For this is thankworthy, if a man for conscience toward God endure grief, suffering wrongfully. For what glory is it, if, when ye be buffeted for your faults, ye shall take it patiently? but if, when ye do well, and suffer for it, ye take it patiently, this is acceptable with God” 1 Peter 2:18-20.

- **“not despise them, because they are brethren; but rather do them service, because they are faithful and beloved, partakers of the benefit”** with respect to **“believing masters”** 1 Timothy 6:2 i.e. because you're both saved, don't despise him because he's boss and over you.

Paul explains why in his Epistle to the Colossians **“that none of you be puffed up for one against another”** 1 Corinthians 4:6 but instead:

“Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light” Colossians 1:11 that is **“partakers of the benefit”** 1 Timothy 6:2 **“whether he be bond or free”** Ephesians 6:8 by having become **“in Christ...a new creature”** 2 Corinthians 5:17:

“And have put on the new man, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him; Where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcision nor uncircumcision, Barbarian, Scythian, bond nor free: but Christ is all, and in all” Colossians 3:10-11.

Everyone that is **“in Christ...a new creature”** 2 Corinthians 5:17 is *equally* entitled regardless of his earthly status to be among the **“partakers of the benefit”** 1 Timothy 6:2 *from God*, which is the true equality that counts, as Peter explains.

“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you” 1 Peter 1:3-4.

2. What do you think Paul means by an unhealthy interest* (1 Timothy 6:4)? *Note that the correct term is **“doting.”**

The word **“doting”** is defined by the use of its companion word **“doted”** found 6 times in Ezekiel 23:5, 7, 9, 12, 16, 20 and defined explicitly in Ezekiel 23:5, 7, 16.

- **“And Aholah played the harlot when she was mine; and she doted on her lovers”** Ezekiel 23:5.

“doting” is *harlotry* and *adultery* against God.

- **“with all on whom she doted: with all their idols she defiled herself”** Ezekiel 23:7.

“doting” is *idolatry* against God.

- **“And as soon as she saw them with her eyes, she doted upon them, and sent messengers unto them into Chaldea”** Ezekiel 23:16.

“doting” is *infidelity* against God.

Paul uses the term **“doting”** against a *proud saved individual* of whom Paul says **“He is proud”** and who by his pride therefore manifests all the evils of **“doting”** i.e. *harlotry, adultery, idolatry, infidelity against God*. That individual is like his mentor who said **“I will be like the most High”** Isaiah 14:14. His pride is manifest in that **“He is...doting about questions and strifes of words”** 1 Timothy 6:4 just like his mentor whose first recorded words were **“Yea, hath God said...?”** Genesis 3:1. The Devil’s aim in his question was to cast *doubt* on God’s words. That is what the *doters* do. They *dote* on casting *doubt* on God’s words. You can *easily* spot the doters by what they say, always very *positively*:

“A better translation would be...”

“A more accurate translation would be...”

“This word should actually be...” etc.

Sometimes, as with the Devil in Genesis 3:1, the questioning tactic is used against **“the scripture of truth”** Daniel 10:21. See this extract from www.timefortruth.co.uk/why-av-only/ ‘O Biblios’ – the Book p 180 in green type with a reference inserted in blue type.

Our critic also asks **“If revision has been tolerated and even encouraged in the past why should it be terminated now?”**

That our critic should even ask such a question shows that, in true Nicolataine fashion, he tends to dismiss ANYTHING which is put forward as documented evidence by a mere layman. Nevertheless, I will respond to his question with the help of another layman, Norman Ward [[Famine In The Land](#) Norman Ward, Which Bible? Society Inc.] p 43:

“The modern versions utilize as their manuscript base the corrupt texts of the Alexandrian tradition.” Modern revision seeks to overthrow the PROTESTANT Text of the English Reformation with the ROMAN CATHOLIC text of the Dark Ages. This was extensively documented in Chapters 1, 6, 7 especially with respect to manuscripts Aleph and B, Section 1.6, the duplicity of Westcott and Hort, Section 6.2 and the Roman Catholic readings in the modern versions, Sections 7.2, 7.3.

Note Paul’s warning against the doter-preachers.

“For they that are such serve not our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly; and by good words and fair speeches deceive the hearts of the simple” Romans 16:18.

If such a preacher is casting a shadow, look for the horns, Ezekiel 1:10, 10:14.

“Yea, hath God said...?” Genesis 3:1.

3. Why is godliness great gain (1 Timothy 6:6)?

It enables the *genuinely* godly believer:

- made **“perfect in every good work to do his will”** Hebrews 13:21
- i.e. **“perfect and complete in all the will of God”** Colossians 4:12
- to **“know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose”** Romans 8:28
- and therefore to **“In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you”** 1 Thessalonians 5:18 always
- **“Rejoicing in hope; patient in tribulation; continuing instant in prayer”** Romans 12:12 as Paul explains in his Epistles to the Philippians with respect to **“godliness with contentment”** 1 Timothy 6:6.

“Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content” Philippians 4:11.

4. According to [1 Timothy 6:6-8], how are we to find contentment?

See *Question 3*. 1 Timothy 6:6-8 address the transience of temporal things and basic worldly needs i.e. **“food and raiment”** 1 Timothy 6:8. The saint seeking contentment should therefore, keeping in mind Philippians 4:13 **“I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me”**:

- **“bless the LORD at all times”** Psalm 34:1
“Naked came I out of my mother’s womb, and naked shall I return thither: the LORD gave, and the LORD hath taken away; blessed be the name of the LORD” Job 1:21
- **“Pray without ceasing”** 1 Thessalonians 5:17
“Remove far from me vanity and lies: give me neither poverty nor riches; feed me with food convenient for me: Lest I be full, and deny thee, and say, Who is the LORD? or lest I be poor, and steal, and take the name of my God in vain” Proverbs 30:8-9 i.e.:
“that when they shall be hungry, they shall fret themselves, and curse their king and their God” Isaiah 8:21
- **“Take...no thought for the morrow...Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof”** Matthew 6:34
“But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you” Matthew 6:33 i.e. **“food and raiment”** 1 Timothy 6:8.

5. What have some done in their greediness (1 Timothy 6:10)?

“they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows” 1 Timothy 6:10 and incurred God’s judgement **“through covetousness”** 2 Peter 2:3.

- Like Saul, who coveted to keep the kingdom 1 Samuel 18:8 and:
“died for his transgression which he committed against the LORD, even against the word of the LORD, which he kept not, and also for asking counsel of one that had a familiar spirit, to enquire of it; And enquired not of the LORD: therefore he slew him, and turned the kingdom unto David the son of Jesse” 1 Chronicles 10:13-14

- Like Israel's leaders, who coveted for profit and brought down "the judgment of God" Romans 1:32 upon themselves. The same could be said of Britain's national leaders, both spiritual and secular:

"The heads thereof judge for reward, and the priests thereof teach for hire, and the prophets thereof divine for money: yet will they lean upon the LORD, and say, Is not the LORD among us? none evil can come upon us. Therefore shall Zion for your sake be plowed as a field, and Jerusalem shall become heaps, and the mountain of the house as the high places of the forest" Micah 3:11-12.

"And the great city was divided into three parts, and the cities of the nations fell: and great Babylon came in remembrance before God, to give unto her the cup of the wine of the fierceness of his wrath" Revelation 16:19.

- Like Judas, who coveted for money Matthew 26:15, Luke 22:5 but later testified:
"I have sinned in that I have betrayed the innocent blood. And he cast down the pieces of silver in the temple, and departed, and went and hanged himself" Matthew 27:3, 4
- Like "Ananias, with Sapphira his wife" who coveted wealth and "sold a possession. And kept back part of the price" Acts 5:1-2

At Peter's rebukes:

"Ananias hearing these words fell down, and gave up the ghost" Acts 5:5

"Then fell she down straightway at his feet, and yielded up the ghost" Acts 5:10

"Now all these things happened unto them for ensamples; and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come" 1 Corinthians 10:11.

That is why God commands "Thou shalt not covet" Exodus 20:17 and King David prays as should today's believer "Incline my heart unto thy testimonies, and not to covetousness" Psalm 119:36.

6. What is the man of God to pursue* (1 Timothy 6:11)? *The correct term is to "follow." Faith is a guide, not a quarry ("For we walk by faith, not by sight:") 2 Corinthians 5:7.

Note that in 1 Timothy 6:11, 12, Timothy is to "flee...follow...Fight."

Note also that 1 Timothy 6:11 is the only occurrence of the expression "O man of God" in the New Testament, denoted by the name "Timotheus" found 17 times in the New Testament and having the embedded word "theus" or God. See www.timefortruth.co.uk/bible-studies/alan-oreillys-studies.php Timothy the Faithful.

Timothy – and today's believer – is to "follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, meekness" 1 Timothy 6:11.

These qualities are "the fruit of the Spirit." Under-linings show the qualities found in both Galatians 5:22-23 and 1 Timothy 6:11. "Righteousness" and "godliness" correspond to "goodness" and "patience" corresponds to "longsuffering."

"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law" Galatians 5:22-23.

The Lord Jesus Christ and Paul describe the manner of following after these qualities and fruit-bearing.

"But that on the good ground are they, which in an honest and good heart, having heard the word, keep it, and bring forth fruit with patience" Luke 8:15.

"Hold fast the form of sound words, which thou hast heard of me, in faith and love which is in Christ Jesus" 2 Timothy 1:13.

“The certainty of the words of truth” Proverbs 22:21 with Ecclesiastes 12:10, Acts 26:25 is key to those exhortations.

Therefore stick in “the scripture of truth” Daniel 10:21 the 1611 Holy Bible. That is why Paul further exhorts Timothy and today’s believer as follows.

“Flee also youthful lusts: but follow righteousness, faith, charity, peace, with them that call on the Lord out of a pure heart” 2 Timothy 2:22 with Luke 8:15.

7. What should we flee and what should we pursue* (1 Timothy 6:11)? *The correct term is to “follow.” Faith is a guide, not a quarry “(For we walk by faith, not by sight:)” 2 Corinthians 5:7.

See *Question 6* and note Paul’s exhortation that is as essential today as it was when first written.

“Be ye followers of me, even as I also am of Christ” 1 Corinthians 11:1.

8. What kind of fight should we be fighting (1 Timothy 6:12)?

“The good fight of faith” 1 Timothy 6:12. The main weapons are “the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked” Ephesians 6:16 “and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God” Ephesians 6:17. That is how the Lord Jesus Christ deflected “the fiery darts of the wicked” in the wilderness and defeated the enemy.

“Then saith Jesus unto him, Get thee hence, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve. Then the devil leaveth him” Matthew 4:10-11.

The Lord Jesus Christ “believed the scripture, and the word which Jesus had said” John 2:22 as cited in Matthew 4:4, 7, 10 and so did the Devil because as James discloses “the devils also believe, and tremble” James 2:19!

That is how the Christian can fight “The good fight of faith” 1 Timothy 6:12 and have victory as James also exhorts. Learn “the scripture of truth” Daniel 10:21 as the Lord Jesus Christ did in obedience to God Who said “And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart” Deuteronomy 6:6 so you can quote it.

“Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you” James 4:7.

In addition to resisting the Devil, scripture memory is also germane to loving the Lord Jesus Christ, Who kept God’s words so that He could quote them.

“Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him” John 14:23.

If you are not actively memorising scripture, you do not love the Lord Jesus Christ no matter what you profess to the contrary. That is also part of “The good fight of faith” 1 Timothy 6:12 because it is walking by faith, not by sight 2 Corinthians 5:7, see *Questions 6, 7*, as Peter explains with respect to the Lord Jesus Christ:

“Whom having not seen, ye love; in whom, though now ye see him not, yet believing, ye rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory” 1 Peter 1:8.

9. How does Paul describe our Lord Jesus Christ (1 Timothy 6:15-16)?

The Lord Jesus Christ is:

- **“the blessed and only Potentate”** 1 Timothy 6:15 because **“All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth”** Matthew 28:18 and He is **“Christ...who is over all, God blessed for ever. Amen”** Romans 9:5
- **“the King of kings, and Lord of lords”** 1 Timothy 6:15 with Revelation 17:14, 19:16 because **“thou crownedst him with glory and honour, and didst set him over the works of thy hands: Thou hast put all things in subjection under his feet. For in that he put all in subjection under him, he left nothing that is not put under him. But now we see not yet all things put under him”** Hebrews 2:7-8 but at the Second Advent **“the LORD shall be king over all the earth: in that day shall there be one LORD, and his name one”** Zechariah 14:9
- He **“Who only hath immortality”** 1 Timothy 6:16 because only **“In him was life; and the life was the light of men”** John 1:4
- He Who is **“dwelling in the light which no man can approach unto; whom no man hath seen, nor can see”** 1 Timothy 6:16 because **“Thou canst not see my face: for there shall no man see me, and live”** Exodus 33:20, which is why **“Moses hid his face; for he was afraid to look upon God”** Exodus 3:6 and as King David said **“O LORD my God, thou art very great; thou art clothed with honour and majesty. Who coverest thyself with light as with a garment: who stretchest out the heavens like a curtain”** Psalm 104:1-2
- He **“to whom be honour and power everlasting. Amen”** 1 Timothy 6:16 because in **“the third heaven”** 2 Corinthians 12:2 will be for a *sevenfold* worshipful reception, *Bible Numerics* by Dr Peter S. Ruckman pp 23-27, **“heard the voice of many angels round about the throne and the beasts and the elders; and the number of them was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands; Saying with a loud voice, Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honour, and glory, and blessing”** Revelation 5:11-12.

Therefore **“Kiss the Son, lest he be angry, and ye perish from the way, when his wrath is kindled but a little. Blessed are all they that put their trust in him”** Psalm 2:12.

10. What was Timothy to avoid? Why (1 Timothy 6:20-21)?

- **“profane and vain babblings”** 1 Timothy 6:20. Paul explains why in his next Epistle to Timothy.

“But shun profane and vain babblings: for they will increase unto more ungodliness. And their word will eat as doth a canker: of whom is Hymenaeus and Philetus; Who concerning the truth have erred, saying that the resurrection is past already; and overthrow the faith of some” 2 Timothy 2:16-18.

“Hymenaeus and Philetus” were *doters* on casting *doubt* on God’s words, see *Question 2*. They taught error in that the *only* resurrection was a *spiritual* resurrection with times continuing as they are now until a final cataclysmic judgement at the end of time. **“Hymenaeus and Philetus”** were **“false teachers”** 2 Peter 2:1 who taught what is now called A-millennialism with no literal, visible 1000-year reign of the Lord Jesus Christ on earth where glorified and resurrected saints **“lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years”** on earth with the Lord Jesus Christ occupying **“the throne of his father David: And he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end”** Luke 1:32-33.

Paul calls the teaching of **“Hymenaeus and Philetus”** *cancerous* that threatens to **“overthrow the faith of some”** 2 Timothy 2:18. That is why Timothy is to *avoid* the teaching of **“Hymenaeus and Philetus”** and as Paul says **“Take heed unto thyself, and unto the doctrine”** 1

Timothy 4:16 and **“Hold fast the form of sound words, which thou hast heard of me, in faith and love which is in Christ Jesus”** 2 Timothy 1:13.

- **“oppositions of science falsely so called”** 1 Timothy 6:20. Paul explains why in 1 Timothy 6:21.

“Which some professing have erred concerning the faith. Grace be with thee. Amen.”

Paul identifies the erring professors in his Epistles to the Romans. **“Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools”** Romans 1:23. They are *evolutionist liars* that deny God as Creator and therefore all Persons of the Godhead, referred to as **“us”** in Genesis 1:26, just as their mentor, Charles Darwin did.

Researcher Vance Ferrell¹ states *“It is not commonly known that Charles Darwin, while a naturalist aboard the Beagle, was initiated into witchcraft in South America by nationals. During horseback travels into the interior, he took part in their ceremonies and, as a result, something happened to him. Upon his return to England, although his health was strangely weakened, he spent the rest of his life working on theories to destroy faith in the Creator.”*

Evolution is of course an example of **“science falsely so called”** 1 Timothy 6:20 and it is an avowed enemy of **“the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation”** Ephesians 1:13. Note that the word **“science”** has been changed in all the new bibles, so that you won’t get the warning about **“science falsely so called.”**

Note that Karl Marx, the first Marxist liar, followed Darwin, as Ferrell explains *“Karl Marx (1818-1883) is closely linked with Darwinism. That which Darwin did to biology, Marx with the help of others did to society. All the worst political philosophies of the 20th century emerged from the dark cave of Darwinism. Marx was thrilled when he read Origin of the Species; and he immediately wrote Darwin and asked to dedicate his own major work, Das Kapital, to him. Darwin, in his reply, thanked him but said it would be best not to do so.”*

That’s the cautious Englishman versus the aggressive German. Researcher Ian Taylor² notes Marx’s hatred for Christian belief.

“The founding father of communism, Karl Marx, recognized that “religion is the opium of the people” (Marx 1843). He further recognized that religious beliefs stood in the way of the vision for a new world order, while heading that list of religions was Bible-based Christianity.”

All Marxists follow Darwin. They deny God as Creator and therefore all Persons of the Godhead. Such is the **“corrupt fruit”** Luke 6:43 of **“science falsely so called: Which some professing have erred concerning the faith”** 1 Timothy 6:20-21. As Paul exhorted Timothy **“Avoid it, pass not by it, turn from it, and pass away”** Proverbs 4:15.

11. *How does eagerness for money cause a person to wander from the faith (1 Timothy 6:21)?*

See *Question 5* and note Peter’s warning about the contagion of *covetousness* that infects both **“false prophets”** and **“false teachers”** 2 Peter 2:1 aka *doters* **“about questions and strifes of words”** 1 Timothy 6:4 *who are the Devil’s ministers of doubt*. See *Question 2*.

“And through covetousness shall they with feigned words make merchandise of you: whose judgment now of a long time lingereth not, and their damnation slumbereth not” 2 Peter 2:3.

References

¹ *The Evolution Handbook* Vance Ferrell, Evolution Facts, Inc. 2005, evolution-facts.org/index.htm, pp 25, 33. Note that one anonymous critic www.epicidiot.com/evo_cre/br_evolution_cruncher.htm has objected to 9 of the 3,000+ information items in Vance Ferrell’s work but none of these objections address the statements quoted.

² *In The Minds Of Men, Darwin And The New World Order* Ian T. Taylor, TFE Publishing, 1991, 3rd Edition, pp 137, 376