

November 10, 2013  
*The Bridge Bible Fellowship*  
Pastor Paul S. Brown  
1 Timothy 6:11-16

## **“The God of Man”**

- I. The Prologue (1:1-20)
- II. The Body (2:1-6:19)
  - A. Paul’s Instruction concerning Conduct in the Church (2:1-3:16)
  - B. Paul’s Instruction to Timothy concerning His Personal Ministry (4:1-6:19)
    - 1. Timothy’s Attention to Himself and His Teaching (4:1-16)
    - 2. Timothy’s Relationships with Groups in the Church (5:1-25)
    - 3. Paul’s Final Instruction to Timothy (6:1-19)
      - a. Timothy’s Instruction to Slaves (6:1-2)
      - b. Timothy’s Awareness of False Teachers (6:3-10)
      - c. Timothy’s Proper Pursuits (6:11-16)
        - 1) The Man of God: a Runner, a Fighter, a Wrestler, a Martyr – v. 11-15a

### **2) The God of Man – v. 15b-16**

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. What was a “man of God” in the Old Testament? Why was this significant to Timothy? How would it encourage him in his battles as a spiritual leader in the church in Ephesus?
2. Do you pray regularly for the pastors & elders at your church? Why is this important? What specifically do you pray for them? What temptations are they facing that are particularly aimed at people in spiritual leadership? Besides prayer, what other encouragement / support could you give them?
3. Paul appears to give a “doxology” (short hymn of praise to God) in 1 Timothy 1:17 and then again here in 1 Timothy 6:15-16. What similarities and differences do you see? What was the context of each? Why did Paul include these statements about God at these specific points in 1 Timothy? How would it help Timothy in the battles he was facing? How does it help us?
4. A.W. Tozer stated in his book, “The Knowledge of the Holy,” **“What comes into our minds when we think about God is the most important thing about us.”** How do you respond to that statement? Why do our thoughts about God have such a dramatic impact on our lives (both good & bad)? What happens if we have wrong (unbiblical) thoughts about God? Where might those thoughts come from? How is Timothy to guard the people in his church from unbiblical thoughts about God?
5. A.W. Tozer went on to say, **“The history of mankind will probably show that no people has ever risen above its religion, and man’s spiritual history will positively demonstrate that no religion has ever been greater than its idea of God. ... For this reason the gravest question before the Church is always God Himself, and the most portentous fact about any man is not what he at a given time may say or do, but what he in his deep heart conceives God to be like. ... Were we able to extract from any man a complete answer to the question, ‘What comes into your mind when you think about God?’ we might predict with certainty the spiritual future of that man.”** Dr. Howard Hendricks (former professor at Dallas Theological Seminary) once said he could tell what would be the future fruitfulness of his students by their belief in God. He said some were “BIG Godders” and others were “LITTLE Godders.” Tozer and Hendricks appear to be saying the same thing. What comes into your mind when you think about God? What can you do on a daily basis to fill your mind with true, Biblical thoughts about God?
6. 1 Timothy 6:15 says that God is the “blessed and only Sovereign.” Blessed = happy. What does it mean that God is happy? How does that tie in to His sovereignty? Why is God so happy about the way He is running the universe? What impact should that have on us as we view a world that seems to be out of control?
7. 1 Cor. 15:53 says there is a day when we will put on “immortality.” Why does 1 Timothy 6:16 say that God alone “possesses immortality”? What is the difference? How would God’s immortality encourage Timothy in the battles he was facing?
8. Paul says that God “dwells in unapproachable light.” Why can’t sinful man behold God’s full glory? What was the response of men when they got a partial glimpse of God’s glory (Ex. 33:18-34:9; Is. 6:1-8)?
9. What are some practical ways we can give honor to God in our daily lives? How do we give him dominion in our lives on a daily basis?
10. What is meant by “Amen”? Why was that important to conclude this section of 1 Timothy 6?