

# Lifting Up The STANDARD

“When the enemy shall come in like a flood, the Spirit of the LORD shall lift up a standard against him” (Isaiah 59:19).



*Challenging And Encouraging God's Remnant To Remain Faithful*

## Timothy's Decisions

### **First Timothy 4:6,**

“If thou put the brethren in remembrance of these things, thou shalt be a good minister of Jesus Christ...”

### **“These Things”**

The phrase “*these things*” occurs in 279 verses in the Bible; 188 of which are found in the New Testament. Peter said, “*if ye do these things, ye shall never fall*” (Second Peter 1:10). He said “*Moreover I will endeavour that ye may be able after my decease to have these things always in remembrance*” (Second Peter 1:15).

### **Things Timothy Was Instructed To Do**

The phrase “*these things*” occurs eight times in the Book of First Timothy. Seven of the eight times, Paul would instruct Timothy concerning “*things*” that he would need to do if he was going to “*be a good minister of Jesus Christ.*”

### **First Timothy 4:6,**

“*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.*”

### **“If”**

“If” is a conjunction that introduces a conditional clause. The word if occurs 1,595 times in the Bible. Something that is conditional or subject to one or more requirements. The requirements for Pastor Timothy to be “*a good minister of Jesus Christ*” were as follows:

1. He was to “*put the brethren in remembrance*” of some “*things*” (v.6).

### **The People Not The Program**

The focus of the pastor is to be “*the brethren.*” Jesus rebuked the pastor at Ephesus because he “*left his first love*” (Revelation 2:4). As a Christian our first love should be Christ. as a husband our first love should be our wives, as... a father our first love should be our children, and as a pastor our first love should be the people, not the program.

### **Watch Out For The Junk Food**

2. He needed to be “*nourished up*” in the “*words of faith.*” (v.6).

3. He was also to be “*nourished up*” in “*good doctrine*” (v.6).

To be “*nourished*” is to be provided with food necessary for healthy growth. There is a lot of junk food being delivered up by some in our so-called fundamental movement.

### **Refuse The Fables**

4. He was to refuse “*fables*” (v.7).

Paul warned the pastor that “*The time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables*” (Second Timothy 4:3,4).

“If thou put the brethren in remembrance of these things, thou shalt be a good minister of Jesus Christ...”

**First Timothy 1:4,**

*“Neither give heed to fables...rather than godly edifying which is in faith: so do.”*

**First Timothy 4:4,**

*“But refuse profane and old wives' fables, and exercise thyself rather unto godliness.”*

**Second Peter 1:16,**

*“We have not followed cunningly devised fables.”*

**Titus 1:4,**

*“Not giving heed to Jewish fables, and commandments of men, that turn from the truth.”*

The pastor needed to understand that any teaching that would turn the people from the truth is a fable. Fables are in opposition to “the faith once delivered unto the saints.” (Jude 1:3).

**“There Mouths Must Be Stopped”**

**Titus 1:11,**

*“Whose mouths must be stopped, who subvert whole houses, teaching things which they ought not.”*

**Proper Exercise**

5. The pastor was to “exercise unto godliness” (v.7).

**First Timothy 4:8,**

*“For bodily exercise profiteth little: but godliness is profitable unto all things, having promise of the life that now is, and of that which is to come.”*

**First Timothy 4:7,**

*“Exercise thyself rather unto godliness.”*

**“Senses Exercised To Discern”**

If Timothy was going to be “a good minister of Jesus Christ” he would need to exercise. He would need to have his “senses exercised to discern both good and evil” (Hebrews 5:14).

**“These Things Command And Teach”**

**First Timothy 4:11,**

*“These things command and teach.”*

**No Choice But To Choose**

Timothy had no choice but to choose if he would or would not do these instructions from God. We also have no choice but to choose.



*“And they covet fields, and take them by violence; and houses, and take them away: so they oppress a man and his house, even a man and his heritage.”*

(Micah 2:11).



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*“Men that had understanding of the times, to know what Israel ought to do.”*

(First Chronicles 12:32)

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