

1 Timothy - Chapter 5 verses 1 to 10

January 21st, 2021 – Pastor Charles A. Hall

Chapter 5 – In this chapter the apostle Paul give specific commandments and instructions to Timothy on how believers are to treat each other's as members of the same body, and how care should be rendered to believing widows by the church and their families.

Verse 1 – In this verse the term elder is referring to an older man rather than a church leader. Paul instructs that a young man should never rebuke (criticize, reprimand or lecture) an older man harshly. The younger men should treat an older man as though each were their father. Younger men and men of the same age should treat each other as brothers.

Verse 2 – In this verse Paul gives Timothy the same instructions for women that he gave for men in the prior verse. That younger women should treat older women as mothers, and the younger women should treat each other's as sisters in Christ.

Verse 3 – Paul instructs and command Timothy to honor (support) those widows who are actual widows based on biblical criteria which follow three prerequisites (1) she must be desolate, having no family to care for her, (2) she must possess certain spiritual qualities, (3) she must be a certain age.

Verse 4 – As a follow on to the prior verse Paul states that any widow who has children or close family members that they should show respect to her and take care of her needs, because this is acceptable behavior before God. The responsibility for supporting a widow lies first with her family, second with the church.

Verse 5 – This verse provides specific detail for verse 3, a widow who is in need and deserving of church support is one that has no family aid. A deserving widow is required to live a Christian life of faithfulness to God, which include constant prayer and showing support to the ministries of the church.

Verse 6 – Paul states in this verse that the widow who indulges in luxurious lifestyle, although she is physically alive, she is considered to be spiritually dead.

Verse 7 – Paul command Timothy to make sure that the church is aware and complies with all the directives in verse 3 thru 6, so that the widow and her family are blameless or (innocence or righteous) in the matter of widow care.

Verse 8 – Paul states in this verse that any family member, especially those of the same household who fail to provide care for their own widow is considered morally worse than an infidel or (unbeliever unbelievers), for even generally assume responsibility for age parent.

Verse 9 – In this verse Paul states that a widow qualifies for church aid if she is at least 60 years old and has been faithful to her husband and has done good works, and the wife of one man. Paul is referring to marital fidelity.

Verse 10 – Paul states that a widow who is eligible for church aid is one that is well known for her good deeds, such as raising her children, showing hospitality, washing the feet of God's people, helping those in need and one who continually devote herself to good works.