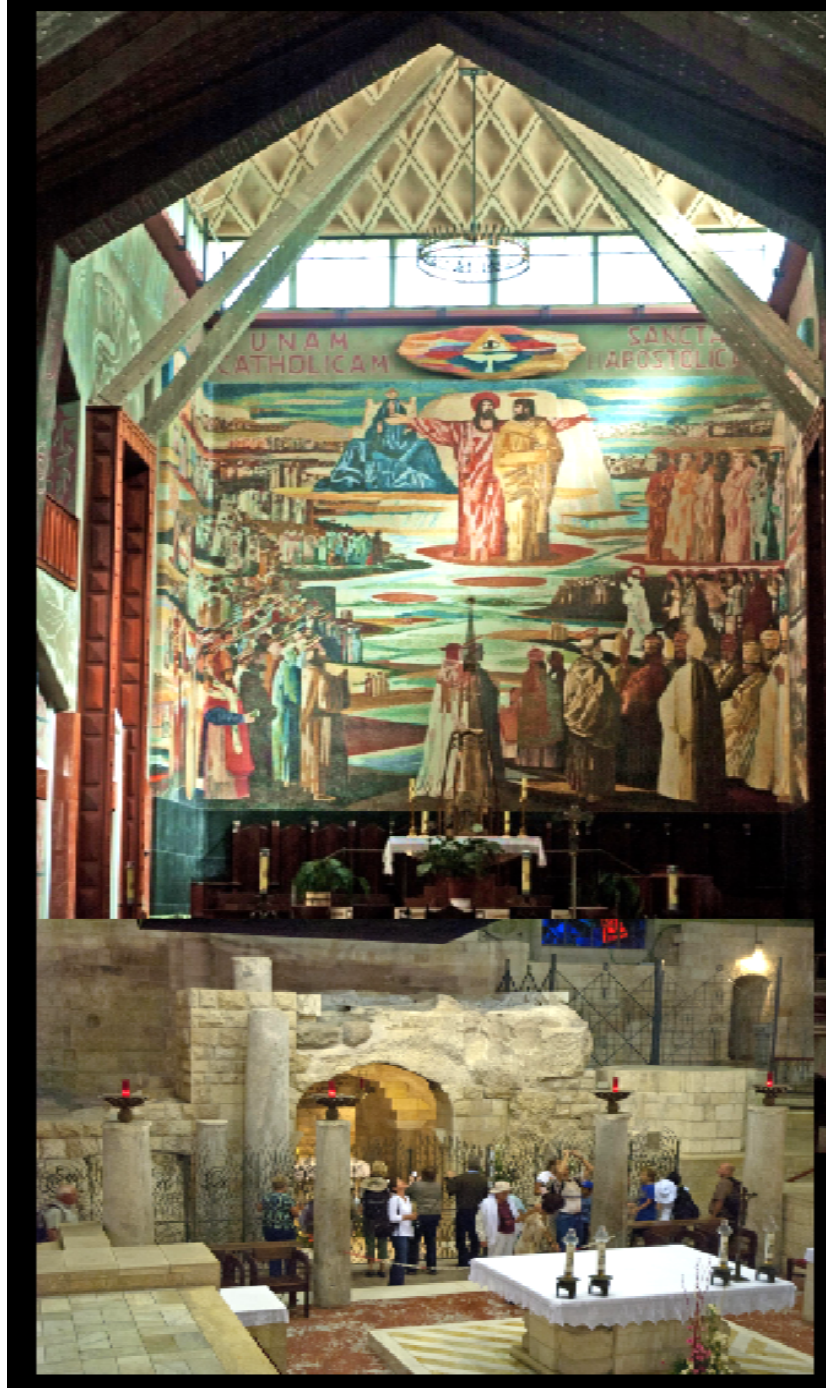


NT 18 2.04

The BIBLE PROJECT

1 & 2 TIMOTHY, TITUS & 1 Peter

Emergence of church organization and the consequence of suffering for the faith.

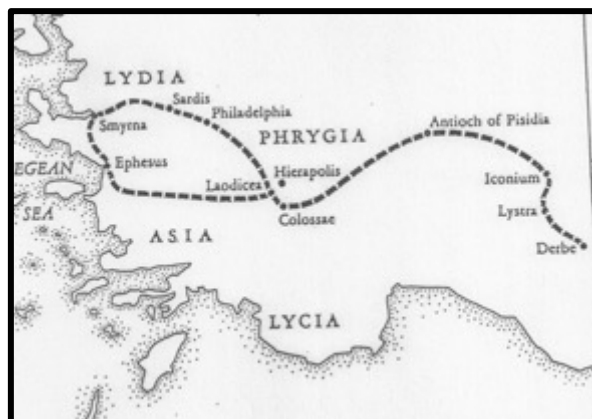


AKA “Pastoral Letters” MINISTRY AT EPHESUS CONTINUED

Introduction

1-2 Timothy and Titus are NOT addressed to churches, but to pastors.

Probably written near the end of Paul’s life, possibly between imprisonments in Rome.



Paul's second Missionary Journey

Timothy is instructed to stay (1T 1.3) in Ephesus—the major city of Western “Asia Minor.” Ephesus is also a subject of John’s Revelation—one of the seven churches. Rev 2.1 ff. Timothy’s purpose: to “command **certain people** not to teach false doctrines any longer...”

Timothy’s background. Paul met Timothy in Lystra. He travelled with Paul from the beginning of the second Missionary Journey. Acts 16.1-3. Son of Jewish mother and Greek father whom Paul had circumcised. One of Paul’s closest companions in Macedonia, Achaia, Asia and Rome, Tim is sent

- to Thessalonica (1 Thess 3.1-5)
- to Corinth from Ephesus 1 Cor 4.17 and
- left at Ephesus 1 Tim 1.3.

He is mentioned in 2 Cor, Philemon, Colossians, and 1 & 2 Thess.

Paul’s late history.

Eusebius, the early church historian, (300 AD and after) writes: “Tradition has it that after defending himself the apostle [Paul] was again sent on the ministry of preaching and coming a second time to the same city, suffered martyrdom under Nero” (*Ecclesiastical History*, II. xxii) This understands that there is a bit of Paul not mentioned in Acts. There is evidence for this, but sketchy. Incidental mentions in 2 Tim indicate stops in Ephesus, Miletus, Troas and Corinth (2 Tim. 4.13, 20)

Apparently, he stopped with Timothy in Ephesus and left him there with the Letter of instructions for his ministry.

The letter to Titus implies some ministry stopover in Crete and the west Coast of Greece at Nicopolis. Perhaps Paul stopped in Crete on his way to Ephesus after having been released from his first Roman imprisonment at the end of Acts. Interpretive principle: The Bible does not tell us everything.

Nothing is known about the circumstances of Paul's second arrest and imprisonment in Rome. But the conditions mentioned at the end of 2 Tim make that quite different from the way Acts ends the story of Paul's imprisonment. 2 Tim 1.8,15-18; 2.9; 4.6 & 10. Paul now expects to be executed soon.

The nature of the “false doctrines” in Ephesus.

Forbidding marriage and commanding abstinence from meats. Both marriage and meat are good by God's creation—1 T 4.1-4.

Some taught that the resurrection had already occurred—2 T 2.18. This became the basis on which to forbid marriage because of Jesus' teaching that in heaven there is neither marriage nor giving in marriage. Matthew 22.30.

The other reality in Ephesus centers on the worship of Artemis and the Mother-goddess cult (Kybele/Cybele). This may explain Paul's emphasis on the differentiation in the sexes in 1 Tim 2. Maybe there is something inherent in the order of Creation after all? The man-woman relationship and differentiation is intrinsic [baked in] to human nature. It is non-reversible, the current fad regarding the malleability of the sexes notwithstanding.

TIMOTHY & TITUS Disciples of Paul/ A Manual for Discipling Others



BIG IDEA 1: BUILD THE KINGDOM

On Prayer and Pure Worship opposed to false teaching

THE PURPOSE: Titus 1.1-2 To further the faith of God's elect and their knowledge of the truth that leads to godliness—in the hope of eternal life, which God, who does not lie, promised before the beginning of time and ... which now he has brought to light through my preaching.

The goal is love which comes from 1 Tim 1.5

- a pure heart and
- a good conscience and
- a sincere faith.

1 Tim 1.6-7 “Some have departed ... and have turned to meaningless talk. They want to be teachers of the law, but they do not know what they are talking about or what they confidently affirm.”

Here is what you can trust: “**Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.**”

1 Tim 2.1 **First, petitions, prayer, intercession and thanksgiving**
be made for all people.
For kings and all in authority

That we **may live peaceful and quiet lives** in all godliness and holiness. See PURPOSE.
“**GOD our Savior**” wants all people to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth. 1 Tim 3.3-4

TRUTH is this: One God, and

- one mediator between God and humanity,
- the man Christ Jesus
- who gave himself as ransom for all people.

Therefore, ORDER IN WORSHIP.

No anger or disputing.

Modesty and good deeds

*A woman/wife **should learn**—most of the culture thought women couldn’t be taught. ... in quietness ... Why were women to be quiet? Maybe there was false teaching. Maybe since the culture did not teach them, Paul is saying they should learn first before they teach those who have learned which would be mostly men???? See parenthesis at page 18.*

Note the grammatical differences among “**shall,**” “**should**” and “**may.**” Command, recommendation and permission.

1 Tim 1.3-4 Command certain people not to teach false doctrine: myths and genealogies;

1 Tim 1.6-7 “Some have departed ... and have turned to meaningless talk. They want to be teachers of the law, but they do not know what they are talking about or what they confidently affirm.”

No false emphasis on law as an end in itself 1 tim 1. 8-10 purpose of the law is to show and judge sin so that the gospel shines.

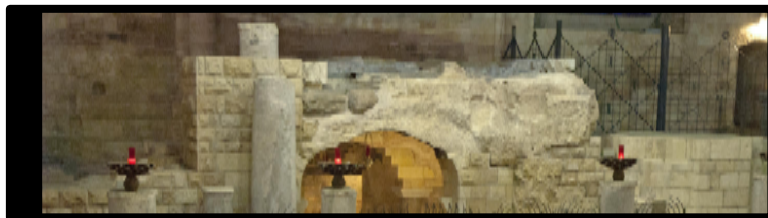
As it shines in Paul’s example—if the most heinous of all sinners can be saved, there is hope for everyone.

2 Tim 2.23ff:

Again I say, don’t get involved in foolish, ignorant arguments that only start fights.

Don’t be argumentative but teach and be patient with difficult people. Correct with gentleness. Then they may come to their senses and escape the devil’s trap for they have been held captive.

BIG IDEA 2: COMBAT FALSE TEACHING—see the red lights



Not all roads lead to Salvation. Paul is concerned lest attempts to mislead the churches might take hold. Combat false teaching with the truth. Apparently there was a considerable “diversity” of theology going around in the early church. **Paul NEVER affirms “diversity” of doctrine**, unlike some in the modern church who have trouble distinguishing between authentic Christian doctrine and inferior or false teaching.

1 Tim 4.1-5

Now the Holy Spirit tells us clearly that in the last times some will turn away from the true faith; they will follow deceptive spirits and teachings that come from demons. ² These people are hypocrites and liars, and their consciences are dead.

³ They will say it is wrong to be married and wrong to eat certain foods. But God created those foods to be eaten with thanks by faithful people who know the truth. ⁴ Since everything God created is good, we should not reject any of it but receive it with thanks. ⁵ For we know it is made acceptable by the word of God and prayer.

1 Tim 4. 7

Do not waste time arguing over godless ideas and “old wives’ tales.” Instead, train yourself to be godly.

1 Tim 6. 3-5 Some people may contradict our teaching, but these are the wholesome teachings of the Lord Jesus Christ. These teachings promote a godly life. ⁴ **Anyone who teaches something different is arrogant and lacks understanding.** Such a person has an unhealthy desire to quibble over the meaning of words. This stirs up arguments ending in jealousy, division, slander, and evil suspicions.⁵ These people always cause trouble. Their minds are corrupt, and they have turned their backs on the truth. To them, a show of godliness is just a way to become wealthy.

2 Tim 2. 14

¹⁴ Remind everyone about these things, and command them in God’s presence to stop fighting over words. Such arguments are useless, and they can ruin those who hear them.

2 Tim 2. 16-19

¹⁶ Avoid worthless, foolish talk that only leads to more godless behavior. ¹⁷ This kind of talk spreads like cancer,^[a] as in the case of Hymenaeus and Philetus. ¹⁸ They have left the path of truth, claiming that the resurrection of the dead has already occurred; in this way, they have turned some people away from the faith.

2 Timothy 4:3

For a time is coming when people will no longer listen to sound and wholesome teaching. They will follow their own desires and **will look for teachers who will tell them whatever their itching ears** want to hear.

Combat false ideas with true ones

Do you get a good lawn by killing the weeds or by fertilizing the lawn? Both, but the fertilizing is the more needed and best strategy.

1 Tim 3.16

¹⁶ Without question, this is the great mystery of our faith^[f]:

Christ^[g] was revealed in a human body
and vindicated by the Spirit.^[h]
He was seen by angels
and announced to the nations.
He was believed in throughout the world
and taken to heaven in glory.

1 Tim 6.20

²⁰ Timothy, guard what God has entrusted to you. Avoid godless, foolish discussions with those who oppose you with their so-called knowledge. ²¹ Some people have wandered from the faith by following such foolishness.

2 Tim 2.2

Now teach these truths to other trustworthy people who will be able to pass them on to others.

2 Tim 2.15

¹⁵ Work hard so you can present yourself to God and receive his approval. Be a good worker, one who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly explains the word of truth.

2 Tim 2.23-26

²³ Again I say, don't get involved in foolish, ignorant arguments that only start fights. ²⁴ A servant of the Lord must not quarrel but must be kind to everyone, be able to teach, and be patient with difficult people. ²⁵ Gently instruct those who oppose the truth. Perhaps God will change those people's hearts, and they will learn the truth. ²⁶ **Then they will come to their senses** and escape from the devil's trap. For they have been held captive by him to do whatever he wants.

2 Tim 3.1-9

You should know this, Timothy, that in the last days there will be very difficult times. ² For people will love only themselves and their money. They will be boastful and proud, scoffing at God, disobedient to their parents, and ungrateful. They will consider nothing sacred. ³ They will be unloving and unforgiving; they will slander others and have no self-control. They will be cruel and hate what is good. ⁴ They will betray their friends, be reckless, be puffed up with pride, and love pleasure rather than God. ⁵ They will act religious, but they will reject the power that could make them godly. Stay away from people like that!

⁶ They are the kind who work their way into people's homes and win the confidence of vulnerable [gullible-NIV] women who are burdened with the guilt of sin and controlled by various desires. ⁷ (Such women are forever following new teachings, but they are never able to understand the truth.) ⁸ These teachers oppose the truth just as Jannes and Jambres opposed Moses. They have depraved minds and a counterfeit faith. ⁹ But they won't get away with this for long. Someday everyone will recognize what fools they are, just as with Jannes and Jambres.

Titus 3.3-7

³ Once we, too, were foolish and disobedient. We were misled and became slaves to many lusts and pleasures. Our lives were full of evil and envy, and we hated each other. ⁴ But—

When **God our Savior** revealed his kindness and love, ⁵ he saved us, not because of the righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He washed away our sins, giving us a new birth and new life through the Holy Spirit.^[a] ⁶ He generously poured out the Spirit upon us through Jesus Christ our Savior. ⁷ Because of his grace he made us right in his sight and gave us confidence that we will inherit eternal life.



BIG IDEA 3: TEACH CHURCH OFFICERS TO LIVE WORTHY OF THEIR CALLING

1 Tim 3, Titus 1.5ff

Now we get some approach to church organization.

- Bishops, *Episcopos*-Overseer—Episcopal
- Deacons, *Deaconos*-Minister/server
- Elders, *Presbuteros*—Elders—Presbyter Titus 1.5 “Appoint Elders in every town.” Used interchangeably with Overseers 1.7

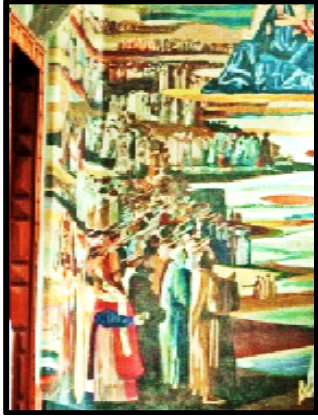
1 Tim 3.2ff Character qualities:

- Above reproach
- Must be faithful to his wife.^[b]
- He must exercise self-control,
- live wisely, and
- have a good reputation.
- He must enjoy having guests in his home, and
- he must be able to teach.
- He must not be a heavy drinker^[c] or be violent.
- He must be gentle, not quarrelsome, and
- not love money.
- He must manage his own family well, having children who respect and obey him.⁵
- For if a man cannot manage his own household, how can he take care of God’s church?

1 Tim 3.11 Apparently women can be Deacons/church leaders

In the same way, [“women” in Greek] must be respected and must not slander others. They must exercise self-control and be faithful in everything they do.

Titus 1.9 He must hold firmly to the trustworthy message as it has been taught so he can encourage others by sound doctrine and refute those who oppose it.



BIG IDEA 4: RESPECT THOSE OLDER THAN YOU AND WIDOWS

Experience matters.

1 Tim 5.1

Never speak harshly to an older man,^[a] but appeal to him respectfully as you would to your own father. Talk to younger men as you would to your own brothers.² Treat older women as you would your mother, and treat younger women with all purity as you would your own sisters.

1 Tim 5.3 ff

Rules about widows focus on both moral clarity and life-experience about the needs of singles. The church should care for widows, but family should be the first care. Younger widows should marry.

BIG IDEA 5: CONTENT OF 2 TIMOTHY

1. HOLD on to TRUTH 2 Tim 1.13-14

Through the power of the Holy Spirit who lives within us, carefully guard the precious truth that has been entrusted to you.

2 Tim 2.15 Work hard so you can present yourself to God and receive his approval. Be a good worker, one who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly explains the word of truth.

2. Seek strength in Christ 2 Tim 1.7, 2.1

For God has not given us a spirit of fear and timidity, but of power, love, and self-discipline.

3. Endure the hardship and discipline of being a soldier 2 Tim 2.3

Endure suffering along with me, as a good soldier of Christ Jesus.⁴ Soldiers don't get tied up in the affairs of civilian life, for then they cannot please the officer who enlisted them.

4. Be focused 2 Tim 3.14

But you must remain faithful to the things you have been taught. You know they are true, for you know you can trust those who taught you.¹⁵ You have been taught the holy Scriptures from childhood, and they have given you the wisdom to receive the salvation that comes by trusting in Christ Jesus.

5. Be diligent, persistent, dogged 2 Tim 4.1

I solemnly urge you in the presence of God and Christ Jesus, who will someday judge the living and the dead when he comes to set up his Kingdom: ² Preach the word of God. Be prepared, whether the time is favorable or not. Patiently correct, rebuke, and encourage your people with good teaching.

6. Be patient 2 Tim 2.24-25;

A servant of the Lord must not quarrel but must be kind to everyone, be able to teach, and be patient with difficult people. ²⁵ Gently instruct those who oppose the truth. Perhaps God will change those people's hearts, and they will learn the truth.

4.5 But you should keep a clear mind in every situation. Don't be afraid of suffering for the Lord. Work at telling others the Good News, and fully carry out the ministry God has given you.

Entrust the message to those who are capable and true. 2 Tim 2.2

That's YOU!

BIG IDEA 6: CONTENT OF TITUS

Doctrine and duty (John Stott, *Guard the Truth?*)

1. In church—Titus 1
2. In the home—Titus 2
3. In the world—Titus 3

In the church

Appoint elders

Elders must hold firmly to the trustworthy message as taught to encourage sound doctrine

Rebellious people must be silenced

Pay no attention to Jewish myths or the merely human commands of those who reject the truth.

They claim to know God, but that is confirmed by moral behavior.

In the home—so that no one may malign the word of God. Also so that those who oppose you may be ashamed because they have nothing bad to say about us.

Older men

Older women

Younger men

Slaves—so in every way they will make the teaching about God our Savior attractive.

2.11 ff

For the **grace of God has been revealed**, bringing salvation to all people. ¹² And we are instructed to **turn from godless living and sinful pleasures**. We should live in this evil world with wisdom, righteousness, and devotion to God, ¹³ while we look forward with hope to that wonderful day when the glory of our great **God and Savior, Jesus Christ**, will be revealed. He gave his life to free us from every kind of sin, to cleanse us, and to make us his very own people, **totally committed to doing good deeds**. This is a parallel to Ephesians 2.8-10.

In the World--

Be subject to rulers and authorities

So that the **Gospel** might be presented:

Titus 3.3-7

Once we, too, were foolish and disobedient. We were misled and became slaves to many lusts and pleasures. Our lives were full of evil and envy, and we hated each other. ⁴ But—When **God our Savior** revealed his kindness and love, ⁵ he saved us, not because of the righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He washed away our sins, giving us a new birth and new life through the Holy Spirit ⁶ He generously poured out the Spirit upon us through Jesus Christ our Savior. ⁷ Because of his grace he made us right in his sight and gave us confidence that we will inherit eternal life.

1 PETER

The cost of Living for God in a World without the True God.



Mt Hermon, Israel



Caesarea Philippi—Gates of Hell

Background

1 Peter is written to the scattered mainly Gentile Christians in Asia Minor. (Redeemed out of paganism 4.3-4. To the “diaspora” in Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia and Bithynia. Peter writes as a leader of the “new Israel” exiled in a new Babylon 5.13



Nelson's Bible Maps

PETER—BIG IDEA 7: THE IDENTITY OF THE GENTILES WITH ISRAEL

“Nowhere in the New Testament are the privileges and responsibilities of Israel applied to the Christian community as freely as in 1 Peter.” (*The New Testament Speaks*, p. 337)



Church built on rock at Caesarea Philippi (Gentile place)

Peter refers to the Christians he writes as the “diaspora”—they are largely Gentile in origin as is known from the areas mentioned and from their history 4.3-4. But they have been made what the Old Testament calls the people of God: Ex 19.6 an elect race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation a distinctive people ... the people of God.” Therefore the command to Israel is the command to the “new Israel:” Be holy: 1 P 1. 15-16 But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do;¹⁶ for it is written: “Be holy, because I am holy.”

Right at the beginning of the letter (1 P 1.2) Peter alludes to the **Covenant blood ceremony** from Exodus 24:8... elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, in sanctification of the Spirit, for obedience and *sprinkling* of the blood of Jesus Christ. (NKJV)

Remember after Moses came down from Mt. Sinai with the 10 Commandments, he led Israel into a covenant where there will animal sacrifices and half the blood was sprinkled on the gathered Israelites? Ex 24:8 *And Moses took the blood, sprinkled it on the people, and said, “This is the blood of the covenant which the Lord has made with you according to all these words.”*

This is the background for the address to these Gentile People of God, the New Israel.

And Peter continues in 1 P 1.18f “knowing that you were not redeemed with corruptible things, like silver or gold, from your aimless conduct received by tradition from your fathers,¹⁹ but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot.” So Peter is using classic OT imagery to Gentiles as if they were the Israelites of old.

So when Peter refers to “obedience,” he is not meaning that law-works are their means of salvation, but the “obedience” that the people swore on the day of their being constituted by the cutting of the Covenant to be those whose obedience is the **consequence** of God’s action to make them his people. As in “I am the Lord your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt; therefore you shall have no other gods before me.”

FOREIGNERS in a world they seek to reach:

Right at the beginning of the letter: 1.1 I am writing to God’s chosen people who are **living as foreigners** in the provinces ...

1 P 1.17 So you must live in reverent fear of him during your time here as **“temporary residents.”** “illegal aliens?”

1 P 2.11 Dear friends, I warn you as **“temporary residents and foreigners”** to keep away from worldly desires that wage war against your very souls.

This connects up with “holiness”. *What do foreigners tend to do in a foreign land?*

PETER—BIG IDEA 8: BORN ANEW—PUT OFF OLD NATURE



Water from Springs at Caesarea Philippi

The original sin in the Garden of Eden resulted in an “old” nature less than fully human, so called by the NT. That nature is Adam asserting his REVOLT against and independence from God. The Old Testament is a testimony of the results of that independence. Now Peter is urging those who have been born anew (or again) to live the NEW life in Christ. Jesus said, if anyone would follow he, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For the one who would keep his life shall lose it, but he who would lose his life for my sake will find eternal life.

Discard the old self-centered sub-human nature ...

1.14-16

So you must live as God’s obedient children. Don’t slip back into your old ways of living to satisfy your own desires. You didn’t know any better then. ¹⁵ But now you must **be holy** in everything you do, just as God who chose you is holy.

2.1-2

So get rid of all evil behavior. Be done with all deceit, hypocrisy, jealousy, and all unkind speech.

2.11

Dear friends, I warn you as **“temporary residents and foreigners”** to keep away from worldly desires that wage war against your very souls.

4.3

You have had enough in the past of the evil things that godless people enjoy—their immorality and lust, their feasting and drunkenness and wild parties, and their terrible worship of idols.

You have been born anew (again):

1.3

All praise to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. It is by his great mercy that we have been **born again**, because God raised Jesus Christ from the dead.

1.23

For you have been **born again**, but not to a life that will quickly end. Your new life will last forever because it comes from the eternal, living word of God.

1.18

For you know that God paid a ransom to save you from the empty life you inherited from your ancestors.

2.2

Like newborn babies, you must crave pure spiritual milk so that you will grow into a full experience of salvation.

4.2

You won't spend the rest of your lives chasing your own desires, but you will be anxious to do the will of God.

The teaching of Jesus is that you must be born again to see eternal life. For what is born of the flesh is flesh, but what is born of the Spirit is spirit. John 3.

Paul took that up in 2 Cor 5:17 If anyone is in Christ he is a new creation. The old has passed away and the new has come.

PETER—BIG IDEA 9: FOLLOWING JESUS WILL INVOLVE SUFFERING.



The early church during Nero's time was between a rock and a hard place.

Jesus said, "In this world you will have trials/trouble/persecution. But be of good cheer I have overcome the world." John 16.33

Four values of suffering

1. Test of faith 1 P 4.12 fiery trial Every child who takes up Christ can expect to suffered when he engaged in the warfare for our salvation.
2. Identification with the sufferings of Christ 1 P 4.13f
3. Discipline that shows that we are family of God and makes us purer in character
1P 1.6-7 There is wonderful joy ahead, even though you must **endure many trials** for a little while. ⁷These **trials** will show that your faith is genuine. It is being tested as fire tests and purifies gold—though your faith is far more precious than mere gold. So when your faith remains strong through many trials, it will bring you much praise and glory and honor on the day when Jesus Christ is revealed to the whole world.
1P 2.21 ²¹For God called you to do good, even if it means suffering, just as Christ suffered^[1] for you. He is your example, and you must follow in his steps.

1 P 4.1 if you have suffered physically for Christ, you have finished with sin.

1 P 4.19 So if you are suffering in a manner that pleases God, keep on doing what is right, and trust your lives to the God who created you, for he will never fail you.

4. Where God's people are willing to suffer for their faith, God's Kingdom will advance and God will be glorified. 1 P 2.12, 15; 3.1-2, 9-16.



On this rock, I will build my church and the gates of Hell shall not prevail against it.

PETER—BIG IDEA 10: SUFFERING, BEING ALIENS, AND SUBMITTING IS FOR A PURPOSE: *to win the world for Christ*

1 PT 2.12 Be careful to live properly among your unbelieving neighbors. Then even if they accuse you of doing wrong, they will see your honorable behavior, and they will give honor to God when he judges the world.^[i]

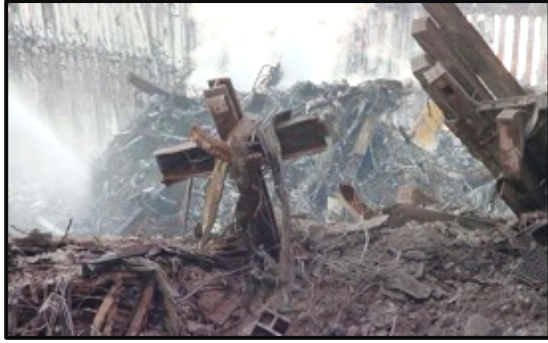
It's about "proper" living, or living within the recognizable and non controversial lifestyle of the world except where it conflicts with the teaching of the faith. So wives and husbands, slaves and citizens are to live in a way that does not call attention to decadent or slanderous behavior.

1 P 2.15 It is God's will that your honorable lives should silence those ignorant people who make foolish accusations against you.

1P 3.15-17 Instead, you must worship Christ as Lord of your life. And if someone asks about your hope as a believer, always be ready to explain it. ¹⁶ But do this in a gentle and respectful way.^[c] Keep your conscience clear. Then if people speak against you, they will be ashamed when they see what a good life you live because you belong to Christ.¹⁷ Remember, it is better to suffer for doing good, if that is what God wants, than to suffer for doing wrong!

BUT KEEP YOUR OBEDIENCE TO GOD: 1 P 2.17 **Fear** God, and [but only] respect the king. Fear the ultimate power and judge while trying to make as small a target for persecution as possible.

PETER—BIG IDEA 11: EVIL IS REAL AND GOD’S PEOPLE ARE AT WAR



What are the theoretical options regarding evil?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

1 P 4.12 Dear friends, don't be surprised at the fiery trials you are going through, as if something strange were happening to you.

1 P 4.14 If you are insulted because you bear the name of Christ, you will be blessed, for the glorious Spirit of God^[a] rests upon you.

1 P 4.16 But it is no shame to suffer for being a Christian. Praise God for the privilege of being called by his name! ¹⁷ For the time has come for judgment,

5.8-11 Stay alert! Watch out for your great enemy, the devil. He prowls around like a roaring lion, looking for someone to devour. ⁹ Stand firm against him, and be strong in your faith. Remember that your family of believers^[b] all over the world is going through the same kind of suffering you are.



PETER—BIG IDEA 12: CHRIST OUR RANSOM

1 P 1.2 As a result, you have obeyed him and have been cleansed by the blood of Jesus Christ.

1 P 1.18-20 For you know that God paid a ransom to save you from the empty life you inherited from your ancestors. And it was not paid with mere gold or silver, which lose their value. ¹⁹ It was the

precious blood of Christ, the sinless, spotless Lamb of God.²⁰ God chose him as your ransom long before the world began, but now in these last days he has been revealed for your sake.

1 P. 2.24 He personally carried our sins
in his body on the cross
so that we can be dead to sin
and live for what is right.

1 P 3.18 Christ suffered for our sins **once for all time**. He never sinned, but he died for sinners to bring you safely home to God.

And that ransom has purchased us for God:

1 P 1.3-5 All praise to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. It is by his great mercy that we have been born again, because God raised Jesus Christ from the dead. Now we live with great expectation,⁴ and we have a priceless inheritance—an inheritance that is kept in heaven for you, pure and undefiled, beyond the reach of change and decay.⁵ And through your faith, God is protecting you by his power until you receive this salvation, which is ready to be revealed on the last day for all to see.

1 P 1.6 So be truly glad. There is wonderful joy ahead, even though you must **endure many trials** for a little while.

BIG IDEA SUMMARY

BIG IDEA 1: BUILD THE KINGDOM

BIG IDEA 2: COMBAT FALSE TEACHING—see the red lights

BIG IDEA 3: TEACH CHURCH OFFICERS TO LIVE WORTHY OF THEIR

CALLING

BIG IDEA 4: RESPECT THOSE OLDER THAN YOU AND WIDOWS

BIG IDEA 5: CONTENT OF 2 TIMOTHY

BIG IDEA 6: CONTENT OF TITUS

PETER—BIG IDEA 7: THE IDENTITY OF THE GENTILES WITH ISRAEL

PETER—BIG IDEA 8: BORN ANEW—PUT OFF OLD NATURE

PETER—BIG IDEA 9: FOLLOWING JESUS WILL INVOLVE SUFFERING.

PETER—BIG IDEA 10: SUFFERING, BEING ALIENS, AND SUBMITTING IS

PETER—FOR A PURPOSE: *to win the world for Christ*

PETER—BIG IDEA 11: EVIL IS REAL AND GOD’S PEOPLE ARE AT WAR

PETER—BIG IDEA 12: CHRIST OUR RANSOM

The Bible Project NT 18 2.04

Consider the following if you choose to prepare for the next class

Read

Colossians
Philemon
James
2 Peter
1 & 2 John
Jude

Markers

1 Tim 1	Christ came to save sinners
1 Tim 2	One God and one Mediator
2 Tim 2.	A workman approved
2 Tim 3	All Scripture is God-breathed
2 Tim 4	I have fought the good fight
1 Peter 1	Be holy
1 Peter 2	Christ suffered as our example
1 Peter 5	Cast all your cares on Christ

Parenthesis on 1 Tim 2.11-15 NLT

Women should **learn** quietly and submissively. ¹² I do not let women teach men or have authority over them.^(b) Let them listen quietly. ¹³ For God made Adam first, and afterward he made Eve. ¹⁴ And it was not Adam who was deceived by Satan. The woman was deceived, and sin was the result. ¹⁵ But women will be saved through childbearing,^(c) assuming they continue to live in faith, love, holiness, and modesty.

- a. 2.12 Or teach men or usurp their authority.
- b. 2.15 Or will be saved by accepting their role as mothers, or will be saved by the birth of the Child.

Ephesus was **famous for its cult of Artemis**, the Great Mother. In 2 Tim. 4 Paul will warn about “gullible women” perhaps emboldened by the cultural prominence of the Artemis cult. Later still the Lycus Valley, where Timothy is ministering from its western end at Ephesus, was known for its cult of Jezebel. Rev. 2.20. At Ephesus and Pergamum there was also the doctrine of the Nicolaitans whose later description in the writings of the church fathers introduced immorality and licentiousness.

In any case, it may be that what Paul writes Timothy had these local situations in view. Scripture interprets Scripture. Certainly Paul did not object to Priscilla teaching Apollos. Paul works side by side with Euodia and Syntyche in Philippi. He was pleased that Lydia helped found the church in Philippi. He teaches women to pray and prophesy in Corinth. Paul commends Junia who is highly respected among the Apostles (Rom. 16.7) So, to take the whole of Scripture this passage cannot mean simply that Paul is intending his instructions to apply universally to silence women.

Perhaps it's the Ephesian situation. It may well be that at Ephesus, the church was troubled by a first century form of “woman-led” false doctrine? Paul wants to restore order to worship and teaching by having authorized leaders take leadership. And “usurp authority” is probably the better translation of the term “have authority,” as in the NLT footnote: 1 Tim 1.6-7

“*Some* have departed ... and have turned to meaningless talk. They want to be teachers of the law, but they do not know what they are talking about or what they confidently affirm.” This could lead Paul to say the “Some” need to learn *before* they speak or teach.” “Some” could include these “empowered” women, but not necessarily be limited to them. In any case false teaching is taking the place of sound doctrine and that is in view throughout the pastoral correspondence.

It is wise not to take the text that makes the Genesis order of creation man first and woman deceived as a normative basis for priority where the Bible does not do that. See our teaching on Genesis 1 & 2. Salvation is by grace through faith. If Paul teaches anything, he teaches Grace with great urgency and emphasis. So that he can now say that women will be saved by child-bearing is not only inconsistent but unthinkable.