

"On the Way" 365 Bible Reading Plan**I TIMOTHY 4*****I Timothy 4***

The chapter break for I Timothy 4 and 5 would perhaps be better at I Timothy 3:14, rather than in the present structure. This is because the Apostle finishes up his instruction concerning the two offices within the local church. He then begins to deal with a personal issue of his coming to Timothy and that until then, he must conduct himself in a godly, orderly manner in the "House of God" of the church. It is as though when he thinks of and mentions the church and remembers what a great mystery the Church Jesus was, that he gets caught up in the wonder of who Jesus is, and in doing so he reveals the "mystery of godliness" which is, ***"God was manifested in the flesh, Justified in the Spirit, Seen by angels, Preached among the Gentiles, Believed on in the world, Received up in glory."*** (I Timothy 3:16)

Chapter four Paul begins to warn Timothy, his beloved son in the faith, that some of those with whom he would lead ***will depart from the faith***. These would be caught up in a web of deception which will lead to their own demise and destruction. These will

demand that various rituals be observed in order to be right with God and will draw people away from the simplicity of the gospel. Timothy was to remain vitally connected to the Scriptures which made him aware and wise unto salvation. He was not to stray from the truth that he had heard from the Apostle Paul, his mentor. The last thing he wanted to get across to his young protégé was that he was to stay focused and disciplined. He was to be ***"all in"*** and ***"throw himself in to the tasks"*** given to him by Paul and in this way, Timothy would be a blessing to all.

"Do not neglect the spiritual gift you received through the prophecy spoken over you when the elders of the church laid their hands on you. Give your complete attention to these matters. Throw yourself into your tasks so that everyone will see your progress. Keep a close watch on how you live and on your teaching. Stay true to what is right for the sake of your own salvation and the salvation of those who hear you."
(I Timothy 4:12-16)

Prayer and Action Steps

Lord, please help me today to "throw myself into the tasks" you have for me!
Help me to be disciplined and to stay focused on what you have given me to do this day.
Amen