**Notes for 1 Timothy 4:1-11**

**“Knowing the truth when you hear it”**

**06-13-21**

Here in vv. 1-11 Paul is going to lay out what a pastor does and how to recognize false teachers by what they do and teach. Signs of false teachers and false teaching…

**They are energized by Satan vv.1-6**

**They lead people astray v. 1b**

**They are hypocrites v. 2**

**They deny God’s Word vv. 3-5**

This is the only place where **demons** are mentioned in the pastoral epistles.

Just as there is a “mystery of godliness” concerning Christ (1 Tim. 3:16), so there is a “mystery of iniquity” that surrounds Satan and his work (2 Thess. 2:7).

The first test of any religious doctrine is what it says about Jesus Christ (1 John 4:1–6).

But Satan once used Peter to try to lead Jesus on a wrong path (Matt. 16:21–23), and he used Ananias and Sapphira to try to deceive the church at Jerusalem (Acts 5).

This is the word apostasy, and it is defined as “a willful turning away from the truth of the Christian faith.”

“Ye shall know them by their fruits” (Matt. 7:15–20).

Jesus made it clear that it is not religious talk or even performing miracles that qualifies a person for heaven, but doing God’s will in everyday life (Matt. 7:21–29).

**Believing and behaving always go together.**

Jesus put His seal of approval on marriage (Matt. 19:1–9), though He pointed out that not everybody is supposed to marry (Matt. 19:10–12).

The fact that God called His own creation “good” (Gen. 1:10, 12, 18, 21, 25) did not interest these teachers.

**Teach the church the truth v. 6a**

**He must nourish himself in the Word v. 6b**

Of course, every Christian ought to feed daily on the Word (Jer. 15:16; Matt. 4:4; 1 Peter 2:2),

Certainly we ought to care for our bodies, and exercise is a part of that care. Our bodies are God’s temples, to be used for His glory (1 Cor. 6:19–20), and His tools for His service (Rom. 12:1–2). The word translated “strive” used in the KJV is an athletic word from which we get our English word **agonize.**

In fact, he was to “command” these things, and this is our military word “charge” (1 Tim. 1:3).