INTRODUCTION

(2 Timothy 4:7) "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith" (1 Peter 1:9) "receiving the end of your faith, the salvation of your souls"

CONSIDER PAUL'S 5 WARNINGS TO TIMOTHY - don't let this happen to your faith.

1. (1 Timothy 1:18-19) " ... concerning the faith have suffered shipwreck"

Don't "shipwreck" your faith by taking yourself "out of service," crashing your faith.

"learn not to blaspheme" - to defame the faith once held; to speak evil of;

to speak with contempt at God or sacred things; to reject faith and faithfulness.

2. (1 Tim. 4:1-2) "... some will depart from the faith ... "

"Depart" - abandon; discard; forsake; leave; wander away; go a different direction. (Matthew 7:15) "beware of false prophets" (Acts 20:29-30) "draw away disciples" (1 John 4:1) "Beloved, believe not every spirit ... because many false prophets ... "

3. (1 Tim. 5:7-8) " ... but if anyone does not provide for his own, and especially for those of his household, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever"

Provide spiritually for your family: (Deuteronomy 6:4-9; Ephesians 6:4) Provide physically for your family: (text)

4. (1 Tim. 6:7-10) (v10) "For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, for which some have strayed from the faith in their greediness, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows"

Other translations say: "erred" "wandered away" "led astray from the faith"

The message is, do not allow the pursuit of treasure to push God out of the picture. "and pierced themselves through with many sorrows." - an eternal regret.

The remedy: (v17-19) "be not haughty, nor trust in uncertain riches but in the living God, who gives us richly all things to enjoy. Let them do good, that they may be rich in good works, ready to give, willing to share ... lay hold on eternal life"

5. (1 Tim. 6:20-21) "O Timothy! Guard what was committed to your trust, avoiding the profane and idle babblings and contradictions of what is falsely called knowledge - by professing it some have strayed concerning the faith. Grace be with you. Amen."

The cause of the (KJV "error") was false knowledge, grasping at unproven theories.

Clairvoyants, palmists, spiritualists, astrology, witchcraft, sorcery, wizard, etc. (Ex. 22:18; Lev. 19:31, 20:6 and v27; Deut. 18:9-14; Isaiah 47:9-11)