## INTRODUCTION

"This is a faithful saying" - it is true, reliable, dependable; words to be believed; trustworthy.

"Worthy" - these are valuable; significant; to be desired.

"Of all acceptance" - to be taken without protest; to receive; treasure it.

- 1. (1 Timothy 1:15-16) "This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am chief. ... I obtained mercy"
- 2. (1 Timothy 3:1) "This is a faithful saying, If a man desires the position of a bishop, he desires a good work ... "

"Position of a bishop" - reference to a group of men in the congregation who have displayed the requirements noted in the following verses (v2-7) and selected by the congregation to that position.

Also referred to as: (Acts 20:17) "elders" (v28) "overseers" and "shepherd" and in (1 Timothy 4:14) "presbytery" (KJV)

"He desires a good work" - this leadership is more than merely holding a position.

3. (1 Timothy 4:8-11) "For bodily exercise profits a little, but godliness is profitable for all things ... This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance, for to this end we both labor and suffer reproach, because we trust in the living God ... "

"Bodily exercise profits a little" - it's good for here; it's healthy; limited profit.

"But godliness is profitable for all things, having the promise of the life that now is and of that which is to come" - it comes with a promise for here and hereafter.

- 4. (2 Timothy 2:11-13) "This is a faithful saying:
  For if we died with Him, we shall also live with Him.
  If we endure, we shall also reign with Him.
  If we deny Him, He also will deny us.
  If we are faithless, He remains faithful; He cannot deny Himself."
- 5. (Titus 3:8) "This is a faithful saying, and these things I want you to affirm constantly, that those who have believed in God should be careful to maintain good works.

  These things are good and profitable to men."
  - "Affirm constantly" it's those things in (v4-7): "The kindness and the love of God our Savior toward man appeared ... according to His mercy ... "
  - "Be careful to maintain good works" (Hebrews 6:9-11) "Beloved, we are confident of better things concerning you, yes, things that accompany salvation ... your work and labor of love ... you have ministered to the saints ... "