

PLAIN SPEECH

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“Seeing then that we have such hope, we use great plainness of speech” (2 Cor. 3:12)

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WHAT WAS TIMOTHY SUPPOSED TO DO IN EPHEBUS?

Before venturing into Macedonia the apostle Paul asked Timothy – his dearly beloved son in the faith (2 Tim. 1:1-2) – to abide in the city of Ephesus. We know this from a personal letter Paul wrote the young evangelist (1 Tim. 1:1-3a). It is obvious from reading said letter (today called 1 Timothy) that Paul had certain goals he wanted Timothy to reach as the “local preacher” in Ephesus. This article will (using only the inspired text) outline what it was Paul wanted Timothy to do.

1. Timothy was supposed to wage war upon those opposed to sound doctrine (1 Tim. 1:3-11, 18-20; 6:11-14, 20-21).
2. Timothy was supposed to be talking with God about people coming to the knowledge of the truth (1 Tim. 2:1-6).
3. Timothy was supposed to make sure that others were also known for prayer (1 Tim. 2:8).
4. Timothy was supposed to make sure that the female saints were workers who dressed properly (1 Tim. 2:9-10).
5. Timothy was supposed to make sure that the proper roles of men and women were adhered to (1 Tim. 2:11-12).
6. Timothy was supposed to make sure the local church in Ephesus had elders that met God’s approval (1 Tim. 3:1-7).
7. Timothy was supposed to make sure the local church in Ephesus had deacons who met God’s approval (1 Tim. 3:8-13).
8. Timothy was supposed to remember there is a certain way local congregations behave themselves (1 Tim. 3:14-15).
9. Timothy was supposed to remind the brethren in Ephesus that not all doctrine is to be trusted (1 Tim. 4:1-6, 11).
10. Timothy was supposed to refuse to be involved with worldly chatter (1 Tim. 4:7).
11. Timothy was supposed to remember to exercise himself unto godliness so as to be blessed (1 Tim. 4:7-8).
12. Timothy was supposed to live in such a way that people could not use his youth against him (1 Tim. 4:12).
13. Timothy was supposed to give attendance to reading scripture, scriptural exhortation, and proper doctrine (1 Tim. 4:13).
14. Timothy was supposed to remember the gravity of what it was he was doing (1 Tim. 4:14-16).
15. Timothy was supposed to remember to approach people in the proper manner (1 Tim. 5:1-2).
16. Timothy was supposed to understand and teach just who exactly was a “widow indeed” (1 Tim. 3:5-7, 9-10).
17. Timothy was supposed to make sure the congregation met the material needs of widows indeed (1 Tim. 3:3, 16).
18. Timothy was supposed to make sure individuals fulfilled their responsibilities to other aged widows (1 Tim. 5:4, 8, 16).
19. Timothy was supposed to remind younger women who were widows of their duty (1 Tim. 3:11-15).
20. Timothy was supposed to deal properly with elders (1 Tim. 5:17-22).
21. Timothy was supposed to understand that he could not be friends with everybody (1 Tim. 6:1-5).
22. Timothy was supposed to remind people of the dangers, and proper use, of material riches (1 Tim. 6:6-10, 17-19).