

Four Marks Of The Man Of God

I Tim. 6:11-14

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- 11 But thou, O *man of God*, flee these things; and follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, meekness.
- 12 Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses.
- 13 I give thee charge in the sight of God, who quickeneth all things, and [before] Christ Jesus, who before Pontius Pilate witnessed a good confession;
- 14 That thou keep this commandment without spot, unrebukeable, until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ:

Introduction

- A privilege to be called “man of God” – God’s man. A designation rich in meaning.
- No other specific person in the N.T. is referred to in that term.
 - II Tim. 3:17; II Pet. 1:21
- A very common description in the O.T. (71 times)
 - Moses the first called the man of God. (Dt. 33:1)
 - Many prophets: (I Sam. 2:27; I Ki. 13:1; 17:18ff – Elijah; II Ki. 4 – Elisha)
 - David, the man after God’s own heart called the man of God. (II Chron. 8:14, etc.)
- Described in II Tim. 3:17. That the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works.

Introduction

- The man of God has things in proper spiritual order.
 - Lives the life that far exceeds worldly aims and is devoted to Divine service.
 - A man whose primary concern is not with those things that are temporal, transitory and perishing, those that are spiritual and eternal in nature.
 - God's man is not the world's man, wrapped up in such things. But has raised his sights far above and beyond the worldly to become God's possession.

4 Distinctive Marks of The Man Of God

- The man of God is characterized by...
 - What he flees from
 - What he follow after
 - What he fights for
 - What he is faithful to

The Man of God Keeps On Fleeing (11a)

- “Flee” – word from which “fugitive” is derived.
 - It pictures one running from a poisonous snake, an attacking enemy – a roaring lion (I Pet. 5:8).
 - There are things that the man of God constantly flees from:
 - Fornication → I Cor. 6:18
 - Idolatry → I Cor. 10:14; Col. 3:5
 - Youthful lusts → II Tim. 2:2
 - The love of money → I Tim. 6:6-10

The Man of God Keeps On Following (11b)

- “Follows” – continually pursues. The man of God is always fleeing and always following. The man of God is not only running from evil but pursuing good.
- What do you pursue? What occupies your mind? What are the ultimate and final goals you seek to attain?

The Man of God Keeps On Following (11b)

- 6 Virtues pursued by the man of God:
 - Righteousness → Doing what is right before God and man. Making God's standards our standards in all areas of life.
 - Godliness → This is the God-ward attitude that directs our thought to doing what is right. It is the spirit of reverence, holiness piety for God. It is aware of Him (I Pet. 2:19; Heb. 12:28); and desires to please Him.

The Man of God Keeps On Following (11b)

- Faith → confident trust in God; loyalty to Him, confidence in His word, power, promises and provisions. (Hab. 2:4; Heb. 11:6; Rom. 10:17)
- Love → “Agape” – whole-heartedly devoted to God and committed to serving others. (Matt. 22:36-40; I Cor. 13:13; Eph. 5:25-29; Jn. 14:15; II Cor. 5:11-14)

The Man of God Keeps On Following (11b)

- Patience → Endurance even in severe suffering – no wavering or compromise. (Phil. 4:11-12; Acts 16:25).
 - The spirit that takes what comes without becoming vengeful, bitter, quitting.
 - Spiritual staying power. (Heb. 10:36-39; 12:1-2)
 - Victorious endurance not passive acquiescence.
 - Persistence that stays with the task. (Acts 14:19-21)
 - Trials are inevitable. Endurance faces and overcomes them. Unswerving loyalty to the Lord in the midst of trials.
- Meekness → Gentleness, humility, tender kindness toward others. (Matt. 11:28-30; 1 Pet. 3:15)

The Man of God Keeps On Fighting (12)

- The man of God is at war. (I Tim. 1:18; II Tim. 4:7)
 - Not sitting on the sidelines. (II Tim. 2:3-4)
 - Taking the whole armor of God and fighting the good fight. (Eph. 6:10-17; I Cor. 9:26)
 - Willing to die for the cause. (Matt. 10:24-28; Rev. 12:11)
- The fight is a spiritual conflict. (Jn. 18:36; II Cor. 10:4-5)
 - Against sin, temptation, worldliness, conformity, false teaching, immorality, Satan; and for the gospel, glory of God, eternal salvation.
 - The man of God must “lay hold on eternal life”. Have a firm grip on those things that are eternal in nature. (Col. 3:1-2; Phil. 3:20)

The Man of God Keeps On Being Faithful (13-14)

- I Tim. 6:14 → that you keep the commandment without stain or reproach until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ,
- A solemn command to keep, guard-- be faithful to the word of God. (II Tim. 4:1-4)
- There are those who are watching...witnesses, God, Christ Jesus, who is coming again.
- An unflinching, courageous commitment to truth till Jesus comes again.