

1 Timothy 4:1-8. *Stick to What the Faith*. Holy Spirit says very clearly that in the latter days, some will abandon the faith. They'll pay attention to lying spirits and stuff taught by demons.

This stuff is promulgated by liars, hypocritical liars. They've been able to do this because their consciences have been seared, sealed like with a hot iron [κεκαυστηριασμένων]. For example, they forbid people from marrying, and eating certain foods.

Now the Lord God has created these foods to be received with thanks by those who believe and know the Truth. Everything the Lord God has created is good—nothing is to be rejected, if received with thanksgiving. Why? Such food is consecrated by the word of God and prayer.

If you show these things to people, you will be a good minister [διάκονος] of Christ Jesus. You will show you've been brought up in the words [truth] of the faith of the faith, and the good teaching you've been following.

Listen, have nothing to do with godless myths, or old wives' tales. No, train yourself to be godly. Sure physical training has some value, but godliness has much broader application and value—holding promise for both the present life and the life to come.

- Q What does it mean to “abandon the faith?” Soteriological consequences?
- Q What's the most deceptive spirit with which you are familiar, especially one that causes one to abandon the faith?
- Q What's the most demonic thing you see being taught in these last days?
- Q Why is it useful to forbid people to marry? To abstain from certain foods?
- Q What food should be rejected? BTW, when did the Lord God permit all food for ingestion? Why did the Lord God require certain foods at one time to be avoided?
- Q What a good example of a godless myth told today? [e.g., my country is God's country; some effects have no causes]
- Q Why do we drift away from “the faith?” What is the toughest part of the faith to stick to?

1 TIMOTHY 4:1-8

The Spirit clearly says that in later times some will abandon the faith and follow deceiving spirits and things taught by demons.

²Such teachings come through hypocritical liars, whose consciences have been seared as with a hot iron. ³They forbid people to marry and order them to abstain from certain foods, which God created to be received with thanksgiving by those who believe and who know the truth. ⁴For everything God created is good, and nothing is to be rejected if it is received with thanksgiving, ⁵because it is consecrated by the word of God and prayer.

⁶If you point these things out to the brothers, you will be a good minister of Christ Jesus, brought up in the truths of the faith and of the good teaching that you have followed. ⁷Have nothing to do with godless myths and old wives' tales; rather, train yourself to be godly.

⁸For physical training is of some value, but godliness has value for all things, holding promise for both the present life and the life to come.

1 Timothy 4:9-16. *Keeping the Main Thing the Main Thing*. Now here's something else which bears remembering and fully accepting (and for which we labor and strive)—We put our hope in the living God, the living God who is our Savior of all people, especially the Savior of those who believe.

Command and teach these principles. Don't let anyone put you down because you're young. Set an example for the believers—how you speak, how you live, how you love, how you practice your faith, and how you live a pure life.

Until I come, make sure you devote yourself to reading the Scripture publically, to preaching [παροακλήσει; exhorting, by one's side; 3874] and to teaching [διδασκαλία; instruction; 1319]. And, don't neglect your charismatos which was given you through prophecy, when the presbyters laid their hands on you.

Stay diligent on all this—give it all up to them so everyone may see your progress. Watch your life, and your doctrine, closely. Stay persistent because if you do, you will save not only yourself, but those who hear you exhort and instruct (verse 13).

Q Why do we “strive” to put our hope in a “living God,” a God who saves all people?

Q If the Lord God is not only living, but the Savior of all people, how also is the Lord God “especially the Savior of those who believe?” [μάλιστα; most of all, particularly so; 3122]

✓ Why is universalism not a particularly useful view in soteriology?

✓ Why is universalism a particularly useful view in soteriology?

Q Do we read the Scripture publically enough? Why don't we? And, why publically?

Q What “Scripture” is to be read publically? So, why do we call it “Old?”

Q Which is more important, to watch one's life or doctrine closely?

Q What can we learn about the word Paul/Saul used to describe “preaching” here (verse 13)?

1 TIMOTHY 4:9-16

This is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance ¹⁰(and for this we labor and strive), that we have put our hope in the living God, who is the Savior of all men, and especially of those who believe.

¹¹Command and teach these things. ¹²Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in life, in love, in faith and in purity. ¹³Until I come, devote yourself to the public reading of Scripture, to preaching and to teaching. ¹⁴Do not neglect your gift, which was given you through a prophetic message when the body of elders laid their hands on you.

¹⁵Be diligent in these matters; give yourself wholly to them, so that everyone may see your progress. ¹⁶Watch your life and doctrine closely. Persevere in them, because if you do, you will save both yourself and your hearers.

