

Today, we'd like to study the title of "Really Widows" in 1 Timothy 5:1-16.

To Online Word's people, we'd like to suggest 3 Questions:

- Q1. In verse 3, "Honor widows who are really widows," what is "Really Widows" in this context? (verses 5,9,10)
- Q2. In verse 6, "But she who lives in pleasure is dead while she lives," what does it mean?
- Q3. In verse 12, "having condemnation because they have cast off their first faith," what does the "first faith" mean?

(Background)

Previously, Paul exhorted Timothy the spiritual son in 1 Timothy 4:12, "Let no one despise your youth, but be an example to the believers in word, in conduct, in love, in spirit, in faith, in purity."

(Timothy the young minister was in charge to shepherd the church in Ephesus.)

Really Widows= Widows Indeed or Truly Widows.

<p>¹ Do <u>not rebuke an older man</u>, but <u>exhort him as a father</u>, <u>younger men</u> as brothers,</p>	<p>1= Do not rebuke an older man but exhort him as a father (not in public rebuke but in private exhortation as a father, with great respect); younger men as brothers (in Christ; Christian brothers of the body of Christ)</p>
<p>² <u>older women</u> as mothers, <u>younger women</u> as sisters, <u>with all purity</u>.</p>	<p>2= older women (as mothers of the body of Christ) ; younger women as sisters, with all purity (not with improper relationship; improper appearance, e.g., avoid even emotional intimacy causing offending others)</p>
<p>³ Honor widows who are <u>really widows</u>.</p>	<p>4= children of grandchildren (her direct family members); show piety at home (filial compassion to her; love to her; fruit of the Spirit) and repay their parents (support her – materially and spiritually)</p>
<p>⁴ But if any widow has <u>children or grandchildren</u>, let them first learn to <u>show piety at home</u> and to repay <u>their parents</u>; for this is good and acceptable before God.</p>	<p>5=Q1 really a widow; left alone (no family members); trusts in God and continues in supplications and prayers night and day (Put her first faith and trust in God as a prayer warrior. Verses 9 & 10)</p>
<p>⁵ Now she who is <u>really a widow</u>, and <u>left alone</u>, trusts in God and <u>continues in supplications and prayers night and day</u>.</p>	

<p>⁶ But she who <u>lives</u> in pleasure is dead while she lives.</p> <p>⁷ And these things <u>command</u>, that they may be <u>blameless</u>.</p> <p>⁸ But if anyone does not <u>provide for his own</u>, and <u>especially for those of his household</u>, he has denied the faith and is <u>worse than an unbeliever</u>.</p> <p>⁹ Do not let a <u>widow under sixty years old</u> be taken into <u>the number</u>, <i>and not unless</i> she has been <u>the wife of one man</u>,</p> <p>¹⁰ <u>well reported for good works</u>: if she has <u>brought up children</u>, if she has <u>lodged strangers</u>, if she has <u>washed the saints' feet</u>, if she has <u>relieved the afflicted</u>, if she has <u>diligently followed every good work</u>.</p>	<p>6= Q2 lives (two definitions of death – 1. Physical death – separation of brain/consciousness from the body; 2. Spiritual death – separation of brain/consciousness from God; that is, she who lives physically in fleshly pleasure is spiritually dead while she physically lives)</p> <p>7= blameless (obey Paul's commandment, above)</p> <p>8= provide (material necessity & spiritual things) for his own; those of his household (his own direct family members); worse than an unbeliever (not a good example to others)</p> <p>9= (qualified really widows) not let a widow under sixty years old (60 age or older); the number (necessity supported by the Church, e.g. No public welfare system unlike today in U.S.A. ¹Acts 6:1-6); the wife of one man (once married widow)</p> <p>10= (qualified really widows) well reported for good works (good reports according the Bible); brought up children (e.g. Sunday school teacher; baby sitters); washed the saints' feet (at that time, they used sandals; serve with humble heart like Jesus' washing His disciples ²John 13:14-17); relieved the afflicted; diligently ... every good work (every other good works for the church, and then she may be listed in the number supported necessity by the church)</p>
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1 Acts 6:1-6 Now in those days, when *the number of* the disciples was multiplying, there arose a complaint against the Hebrews by the Hellenists, because their widows were neglected in the daily distribution. 2 Then the twelve summoned the multitude of the disciples and said, "It is not desirable that we should leave the word of God and serve tables. 3 Therefore, brethren, seek out from among you seven men of *good* reputation, full of the Holy Spirit and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business; 4 but we will give ourselves continually to prayer and to the ministry of the word." 5 And the saying pleased the whole multitude. And they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and the Holy Spirit, and Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolas, a proselyte from Antioch, 6 whom they set before the apostles; and when they had prayed, they laid hands on them.

2 John 13:14-17 If I then, *your* Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. 15 For I have given you an example, that you should do as I have done to you. 16 Most assuredly, I say to you, a servant is not greater than his master; nor is he who is sent greater than he who sent him. 17 If you know these things, blessed are you if you do them.

<p>¹¹ But <u>refuse <i>the younger widows</i></u>; for when they have begun to grow <u>wanton against Christ</u>, they <u>desire to marry</u>,</p> <p>¹² having <u>condemnation</u> because they <u>have cast off their first faith</u>.</p> <p>¹³ And <u>besides</u> they learn <i>to be</i> idle, <u>wandering about from house to house</u>, and <u>not only idle but also gossips and busybodies</u>, saying things which they ought not.</p> <p>¹⁴ <u>Therefore I</u> desire that <u><i>the younger widows</i> marry</u>, bear children, manage the house, <u>give no opportunity to the adversary to speak reproachfully</u>. ¹⁵ For some have already <u>turned aside after Satan</u>. ¹⁶ If <u>any believing man or woman has widows</u>, let them relieve them, and do <u>not let the church be burdened</u>, that <u>it may relieve</u> those who are <u>really widows</u>.</p>	<p>11= refuse the younger widows (younger than 60 age); wanton against Christ (lewdness/ sexual desire against Christ who is in the first priority, 5 "trusts in God.."), they desire to marry</p> <p>12=Q3 condemnation (failure of the first faith) cast off their first faith (verse 5, in first priority trust and faith in God, serve God as a prayer warrior; i.e., first priority faith in new husband rather than in God)</p> <p>13= besides (in addition); they learn to be idle (lazy) wandering about from house to house; gossips and busybodies (like gadflies, trouble makers to give a room to devils to destroy the body of Christ, not to edify)</p> <p>14= the younger widows marry (remarry); adversary (critic; faultfinder; enemy; devils)</p> <p>16= any believing man or woman (believing relatives, just more than direct family members) has widows, let them relieve them (support them); it (the church) may relive really widows.</p>
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