

THE CHURCH THE PILLAR AND GROUND OF THE TRUTH 1 TIMOTHY 3

Text: 1 Tim 3:15

(1 Timothy 3:15) "But if I tarry long, that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth."

Introduction:

1. TWO THINGS MENTIONED IN OUR TEXT.

A. The Church of the living God

1. Notice the word used is singular.

"The Church"

2. This is not referring to independent churches, but to the saved, under one Head the Lord.

3. If any hold not the truth we cannot say that they belong to "the church of the living God"

B. The Church is called "the house of God"

WHY

1. God is it Architect
2. He is the builder

(Matthew 16:18) "And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it."

(Ephesians 2:20) "And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone;"

3. God resides there
4. He provides for it

2. TRUTH

What is truth? It is nothing more nor less than is wrapped up in these two covers of the Bible.

What is truth? The mind of God made known to men.

A. Importance "The truth"

1. Many think that there are many truths but there is but one.

(John 14:6) "Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me."

2. Many become offended by the truth

(Galatians 4:16) "Am I therefore become your enemy, because I tell you the truth?"

3. Many feel that it's not worth making noise over.

4. Many souls have been damned by false doctrine.

Illustration:

Read quote of Spurgeon concerning standing for truth.

Close:

(Ephesians 6:10-13) "Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. {11} Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. {12} For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities,

against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. {13} Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand."