

"CHALLENGES FOR THE MAN OF GOD"
1 TIMOTHY 6:11,12

INTRO: Today is FATHERS DAY when people all across America will be HONORING THEIR FATHERS. **Indeed we MUST HONOR GODLY FATHERS!** Throughout scripture God is looking for MEN to be MEN OF GOD. Sadly there were certain times when HE COULD FIND NONE...Ezekiel 22:30. But most of the time there was a remnant of GODLY MEN who stood for the TRUTH OF GOD! Today, GOD IS LOOKING FOR THOSE WHO WOULD CHARACTERIZE AS BEING "MEN OF GOD." **As a member of the MALE GENDER, would you consider yourself A MAN OF GOD? THAT IS THE DESIRE OF GOD FOR YOU THIS MORNING.**

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I. THE DESCRIPTION OF THE MAN OF GOD - VS. 11a

"THOU O MAN OF GOD"

- A. A Familiar O.T. term for a Prophet
- B. A Formidable Title for Those in Ministry
- C. A Faithful Follower of Christ
 - 1. Who Belongs to God through Salvation
 - 2. Who Is Dedicated to God for Service
 - 3. Who Depends upon God for Strength
 - 4. Who Glorifies God through Sanctification

QUESTION: SIR, ARE YOU A MAN OF GOD TODAY?

ILLUSTRATION:

II. THE DIRECTIVES FOR THE MAN OF GOD - VSS. 11,12

- A. The Man of God Flees - **"Flee These Things"** Vs. 11b

The Man of God FLEES the LOVE of and for Material Things

- 1. Material Things Destroy Contentment - Vs. 8
- 2. Material Things Bring Temptation - Vs. 9a
- 3. Material Things Create Snares - Vs. 9b
- 4. Material Things Destroy Godly Living - Vs. 9c
- 5. Material Things Remove Genuine Faith - Vs. 10a
- 6. Material Things Bring Sorrow - Vs. 10b

- B. The Man of God Follows - **"Follow After"** Vs. 11c

The Man of God FOLLOWS Spiritual Virtues

- 1. Righteous and Godliness - **General Conformity to God's Plan**
 - a. Righteousness - Being Biblically Correct in all things
 - b. Godliness - Maintaining Holy Living in all actions and attitudes
- 2. Faith and Love - **Foundational Principles for Christian Living**
 - a. Faith - The Primary Component for Christian living - Romans 1:17
 - b. Love - The Practical Result of Faith - Galatians 5:6
- 3. Patience and Meekness - **Evident Virtues of Spiritual Maturity**
 - a. Patience - Godly Endurance in the trials of life
 - b. Meekness - Submission to God without rebellion and to mankind without retaliation.

- C. The Man of God Fights - **"Fight the Good Fight of Faith"** - Vs. 12a

NOTE: The word "Fight" is a MILITARY AND AN ATHLETIC term to describe the concept of AGONIZING.

NOTE: The "Good Fight of Faith" is the SPIRITUAL CONFLICT we all face with Satan and his minions every day.

The Man of God FIGHTS for Biblical Correctness in Personal and Societal issues.

- 1. Involves Concentrating on Standing for What is Biblically Correct
- 2. Involves Discipline to Do what is Biblically Correct
- 3. Involves Effort to Win Biblical Correctness

- D. The Man of God Focuses - **"Lay Hold on Eternal Life"** - Vs. 12b

The Man of God FOCUSES on that which is of Eternal Value

- 1. Involves "getting a grip" on the reality of Eternal Values
 - a. Salvation
 - b. Sanctification
 - c. Service

d. Sound Doctrine

2. Involves "letting go" of that which has NO Eternal Value

ILLUSTRATION:

III. THE DECISION OF THE MAN OF GOD

A. Make Certain **YOU** are a Man of God

-Starting with Personal Salvation

B. Model **YOUR** life according to Biblical Truth

ILLUSTRATION:

LESSON: Good fathers will be MEN OF GOD and will order every aspect of their lives according to the Word of God. Ask God to examine YOUR life by His Holy Spirit and see what He reveals to you. At first glance you may think you are a MAN OF GOD but when the Holy Spirit does the examination you may fall short.