

**Outline of
the Messages for the Full-time Training
in the Fall Term of 2026**

**GENERAL SUBJECT:
THE CRUCIAL POINTS OF THE TRUTH IN PAUL'S EPISTLES—
FIRST AND SECOND TIMOTHY AND TITUS**

Message Six

A Man of God Laying Hold on the Eternal Life

Scripture Reading: 1 Tim. 6:11, 19;
Matt. 5:5; John 1:4, 13; 3:16, 36; 2 Pet. 1:4; Rev. 2:10

I. A man of God laying hold:

- A. "O man of God...pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance, meekness"—1 Tim. 6:11:
 - 1. A man of God partakes of God's life and nature (John 1:13; 2 Pet. 1:4), thus being one with God in His life and nature (1 Cor. 6:17) and thereby expressing Him.
 - 2. This corresponds with the mystery of godliness, which is God manifested in the flesh—1 Tim. 3:16.
 - 3. Righteousness is to be right with people before God according to His righteous and strict requirements.
 - 4. Godliness is to live a daily life that manifests God—v. 16, footnote 2.
 - 5. Faith is to believe in God and in His word and to trust in Him and His word.
 - 6. Love is to love others by the love of God—1 John 4:7-8, 19-21.
 - 7. Endurance is to endure sufferings and persecutions.
 - 8. Meekness is a proper attitude in facing opposition:
 - a. "Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth"—Matt. 5:5.
 - b. To be meek means not to resist the world's opposition but to suffer it willingly.
 - c. If we are meek, willing to suffer the world's opposition in this age, we will inherit the earth in the coming age, as revealed in Hebrews 2:5-8 and Luke 19:17, 19.
- B. Laying hold—"Laying away for themselves a good foundation as a treasure for the future, that they may lay hold on that which is really life"—1 Tim. 6:19:
 - 1. We all need to lay a good foundation in the present age as a treasure for us to enjoy in the future.
 - 2. We lay hold on God's eternal life, which is the real life.
 - 3. Otherwise, we will lay hold on our human natural life in laying away a treasure of material riches in this age for a life that is not real.
 - 4. We should care for the eternal life rather than the natural life.
 - 5. This indicates that the divine life is a factor that is crucial and vital to our Christian life.

II. The eternal life:

- A. Eternal life is the life of God:
 - 1. This eternal life was from the beginning—"That which was from the beginning"—1 John 1:1.
 - 2. In the Bible *eternal* means without beginning and without end; God is eternal, without beginning and without end, so His life is also eternal.

3. The life of God, which has no beginning and end, is the eternal life—"The eternal life, which was with the Father and was manifested to us"—v. 2.
- B. Eternal life is in the Lord Jesus:
1. The Son of God is God incarnated, God Himself embodied in His Son; therefore, the life of God is also in His Son—"God gave to us eternal life and this life is in His Son. He who has the Son has the life"—5:11-12.
 2. The incarnated Lord Jesus is the Son of God, so God's life, the eternal life, is in Him—"In Him was life"—John 1:4.
- C. Eternal life is given freely by God:
1. God considers His life, the eternal life, to be a gift freely given to us in the Lord Jesus; we do not need to pay for it; as long as we receive it, we obtain it—"The gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord"—Rom. 6:23.
 2. Since the eternal life, the life of God, was given to us by God, it is God's gift, not God's reward, to us; it is freely given, not sold to us—"God gave to us eternal life"—1 John 5:11.
- D. Eternal life is obtained at the time of believing:
1. God loves us and gives us His life, the eternal life, which is in His Son for us to receive; the way to receive eternal life is to believe into His Son—"God so loved...that He gave...that everyone who believes into Him would not perish, but would have eternal life"—John 3:16.
 2. Since the eternal life of God that is in His Son is a gift, as soon as we believe into His Son, we spontaneously obtain the eternal life within His Son—"He who believes into the Son has eternal life"—v. 36.
 3. When we hear the Lord's word, the gospel, and believe into Him, we immediately have eternal life—"He who hears My word and believes...has eternal life"—5:24.
- E. Eternal life is known in the present age:
1. First John 5:13 clearly says that the Word of God, the Bible, enables us to know that we have eternal life—"I have written these things to you that you may know that you have eternal life, to you who believe."
 2. By the Word of God, the Bible, we can know that we have eternal life now.
- F. Eternal life is obtained in the coming age:
1. The Lord promises to give the crown of the life to those who are faithful unto death—"Be faithful unto death, and I will give you the crown of life"—Rev. 2:10.
 2. "To him who overcomes, to him I will give to eat of the tree of life, which is in the Paradise of God" (v. 7); the Paradise of God spoken of here has the tree of life; therefore, this Paradise must be the New Jerusalem because the coming New Jerusalem has the tree of life—22:2.
- G. Eternal life is enjoyed in eternity:
1. The enjoyment of eternal life in eternity in the new heaven and new earth is the full enjoyment of God's salvation, which all the saved ones will share in eternity—"The water that I will give him will become in him a fountain of water springing up into eternal life"—John 4:14.
 2. The full blessing of God's salvation is the coming New Jerusalem, which is given to all the saved ones for their enjoyment in eternity—"Enter into it, but only those who are written in the Lamb's book of life"—Rev. 21:27.
 3. All the saved ones will enjoy the blessing—the tree of life—"They may have right to the tree of life"—22:14.