

**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

1 Tim. 6:11—But you, O man of God, flee these things, and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance, meekness.

1 Tim. 6:19—Laying away for themselves a good foundation as a treasure for the future, that they may lay hold on that which is really life.

Matt. 5:5—Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

John 1:4—In Him was life, and the life was the light of men.

John 1:13—Who were begotten not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.

John 3:16—For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that everyone who believes into Him would not perish, but would have eternal life.

John 3:36—He who believes into the Son has eternal life; but he who disobeys the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abides upon him.

2 Pet. 1:4—Through which He has granted to us precious and exceedingly great promises that through these you might become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption which is in the world by lust.

Rev. 2:10—Do not fear the things that you are about to suffer. Behold, the devil is about to cast some of you into prison that you may be tried, and you will have tribulation for ten days. Be faithful unto death, and I will give you the crown of life.

I. A man of God laying hold:

A. “O man of God...pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance, meekness”—1 Tim. 6:11:

1 Tim. 6:11—But you, O man of God, flee these things, and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance, meekness.

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.

John 1:13—Who were begotten not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.

2 Pet. 1:4—Through which He has granted to us precious and exceedingly great promises that through these you might become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption which is in the world by lust.

1 Cor. 6:17—But he who is joined to the Lord is one spirit.

2. This corresponds with the mystery of godliness, which is God manifested in the flesh—1 Tim. 3:16.

1 Tim. 3:16—And confessedly, great is the mystery of godliness: He who was manifested in the flesh, Justified in the Spirit, Seen by angels, Preached among the nations, Believed on in the world, Taken up in glory.

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.

1 Tim. 3:16—And confessedly, great is the mystery of godliness: He who was manifested in the flesh, Justified in the Spirit, Seen by angels, Preached among the nations, Believed on in the world, Taken up in glory.

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.

1 John 4:7-8—Beloved, let us love one another, because love is of God, and everyone who loves has been begotten of God and knows God. ⁸He who does not love has not known God, because God is love.

1 John 4:19-21—We love because He first loved us. ²⁰If anyone says, I love God, and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother, whom he has seen, cannot love God, whom he has not seen. ²¹And this commandment we have from Him, that he who loves God love his brother also.

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.

Heb. 2:5-8—For *it was* not to angels *that* He subjected the coming inhabited earth, concerning which we speak. ⁶But one has solemnly testified somewhere, saying, “What is man, that You bring him to mind? Or the son of man, that You care for him? ⁷You have made Him a little inferior to the angels; You have crowned Him with glory and honor and have set Him over the works of Your hands; ⁸You have subjected all things under His feet.” For in subjecting all things to Him, He left nothing unsubject to Him. But now we do not yet see all things subjected to Him,

Luke 19:17—And he said to him, Well *done*, good slave. Because you have become faithful in the least, have authority over ten cities.

Luke 19:19—And he said to this one as well, And you, be over five cities.

- 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.
1 John 1:1—That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we beheld and our hands handled, concerning the Word of life
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.
1 John 1:2—(And the life was manifested, and we have seen and testify and report to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was manifested to us);

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.
1 John 5:11-12—And this is the testimony, that God gave to us eternal life and this life is in His Son. ¹²He who has the Son has the life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have the life.
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.
John 1:4—In Him was life, and the life was the light of men.

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.
Rom. 6:23—For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

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.

1 John 5:11—And this is the testimony, that God gave to us eternal life and this life is in His Son.

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.

John 3:16—For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that everyone who believes into Him would not perish, but would have eternal life.

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.

John 3:36—He who believes into the Son has eternal life; but he who disobeys the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abides upon him.

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.

John 5:24—Truly, truly, I say to you, He who hears My word and believes Him who sent Me has eternal life, and does not come into judgment but has passed out of death into life.

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."

1 John 5:13—I have written these things to you that you may know that you have eternal life, to you who believe into the name of the Son of God.

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.

Rev. 2:10—Do not fear the things that you are about to suffer. Behold, the devil is about to cast some of you into prison that you may be tried, and you will have tribulation for ten days. Be faithful unto death, and I will give you the crown of life.

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.

Rev. 2:7—He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes, to him I will give to eat of the tree of life, which is in the Paradise of God.

Rev. 22:2—And on this side and on that side of the river was the tree of life, producing twelve fruits, yielding its fruit each month; and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations.

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.

John 4:14—But whoever drinks of the water that I will give him shall by no means thirst forever; but the water that I will give him will become in him a fountain of water springing up into eternal life.

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.

Rev. 21:27—And anything common and he who makes an abomination and a lie shall by no means enter into it, but only those who are written in the Lamb's book of life.

3. All the saved ones will enjoy the blessing—the tree of life—"They may have right to the tree of life"—22:14.

Rev. 22:14—Blessed are those who wash their robes that they may have right to the tree of life and may enter by the gates into the city.