Psalter: 17:1,2,4 - 402:6 - 89:1,2,3,4 - 224:1,2,3,4 - 356:1,3 - 428:1,2,4

Scripture: 1 Timothy 1

Text: 2 Timothy 2:14-26

**PAUL’S EXHORTATIONS TO TIMOTHY (V) – The resurrection gospel (3)**

1. **The false resurrection doctrine of Hymenaeus and Philetus**

* Many warnings in the Bible relating to the preaching (Ezek. 3:18-19; Mat. 7:15; Acts 20:29-31)
* Hymenaeus and Philetus bring a false doctrine:
  + Say that the resurrection is past already, i.e. when you have become a believer, you have been raised from spiritual death.
  + Sounds scriptural (*cf.* Col. 2:13), but it is not.
    - Something was *missing*.
    - Appl: We need a true faith otherwise we cannot be saved.
  + One error comes from, or leads to, another error (*cf.* 1 Tim 1:3,4,6,7,20)
* Paul addresses this error in detail in 1 Cor. 15.
* Is a grievous error: spreads like gangrene.
* The church may not be tolerant to erroneous teachings either by perverting or omitting essential doctrines (*cf.* Jn. 14:6; Gal. 1:6-9)
* Appl:
  + By nature we are as described in Rom. 8:5
  + We need to be as described in Rom. 12:2
  + Solemn duty of the church (1 Tim 1:20).

1. **Paul’s exhortation to Timothy to shew himself approved unto God**

*(A) Timothy must not argue about vain things, but rightly divide the word of truth (14-16, 23-26)*

* He is to charge them before the Lord; solemn exhortation.
* We need to be spared from causing division in the church by striving about words to no profit (*cf.* 1 Tim 1:4; Tit. 3:9)
* To rightly divide the word of truth:
  + Like a father who divides the food according to everyone’s needs.
  + Not being fearful of preaching the word of God aright in the face of the opposition of false teachers.
  + Comfort of election (v19).
  + Keep away from their polluting principles.

*(B) Timothy must pursue personal holiness (19, 21-22)*

* Have to flee youthful lusts (*cf.* Mat. 26:41)
  + Not referring to sexual impurity and a worldly lifestyle.
  + Not to strive (*cf.* Prov. 20:3; 29:11)
* Have to follow after righteousness (Mat. 11:29, 23:37; Lk 13:34)
  + We are not like that by nature (*cf.* Rom. 1:22; Eph. 4:18)
  + Supplicate the Lord for it (Ps. 139:23-24)
* This *duty* becomes the *joy* of all God’s people through merits of Jesus Christ (Jn 11:25).