

The Church

1 Timothy 3: 14 – 16

28 August 2022 A.M.

Series: Conduct in God's House

1 Timothy 3: 14 - 16

¹⁴ I am writing these things to you, hoping to come to you before long; ¹⁵ but in case I am delayed, *I write* so that you will know how one ought to conduct himself in the household of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and support of the truth. ¹⁶ By common confession, great is the mystery of godliness: He who was revealed in the flesh, Was vindicated in the Spirit, Seen by angels, Proclaimed among the nations, Believed on in the world, Taken up in glory.

Reason for this Letter. Vv. 14 – 15a

- Paul wanted to make a personal visit.
 - Paul had learned that his plans were not always God's plans.
 - We don't know if Paul ever made it back to Ephesus.
- Paul wrote this letter so that we would know how we are to conduct ourselves in/as church.
 - The first three chapters have been instructions for the church on this purpose.
 - The last three chapters will also continue to teach us how we are to conduct ourselves in/as the church.

What is the Church? Vv. 15.

- The household of God.
 - It's never been about the church building.
 - The point is that we, as the church are God's household.
 - We are the family of God and are to conduct ourselves accordingly to heaven's mandates given here.
- The Church of the Living God.
 - Our God is the only Living God.
- The Church is the pillar and support of truth.
 - The church does not make the truth, we support what is really truth.

The Truth Message. V. 16.

- This was the common confession, an early church hymn.
 - The mystery of godliness is reflected in the incarnation, and in those who are saved.
- The message is about salvation only through Christ.
 - He was revealed in flesh- the incarnation.
 - He was vindicated by the spirit.
 - He was beheld by angels.
 - Proclaimed among the nations.
 - Many have believed because of this proclamation.
 - Finally Jesus has ascended to glory.

Conclusion

- Church is the most important institution on earth as the family of God the only living God.
- Church is the most important institution on earth as the family of God because it holds the truth of Scripture and the gospel.
- We must always proclaim the gospel truth of salvation that Jesus came from heaven, lived perfectly sinless, but died for our sins, then rose from the dead so that we may be saved.