

Chapter: 1 Timothy 3

1 Timothy 3:16 TPT

*For the mystery of righteousness is beyond all question!
He was revealed as a human being,
and as our great High Priest in the Spirit!
Angels gazed upon him as a man
and the glorious message of his kingly rulership
is being preached to the nations!
Many have believed in him
and he has been taken back to heaven,
and has ascended into the place of exalted glory
in the heavenly realm.
Yes, great is this mystery of righteousness!*

Because of the glorious gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, we can all become active in His kingdom work. If we surrender to Him and allow His word to work in us; if we apply ourselves to His teachings and let His Spirit lead and shape our lives, we can all be fit to be servant-leaders in Jesus' church.

Being useful in God's kingdom is not reserved for an exclusive club; we can all participate in His work. Only, let us represent Him well, especially if we are leading and teaching others. Let us not be a cause for others to stumble in their faith because of our conduct. It is a high and noble calling to lead in God's church and it carries a great responsibility.

Thankfully, the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ is available to us all, to enable us to do what He's called us to do. The goal is not "perfection," but Christ. The indwelling Holy Spirit is ever transforming us more into the image of Christ, if we remain yielded to Him. It is a daily walk with Jesus to become more like Him.

In this chapter, Paul highlights some important character traits that should be found in those to be appointed as leaders in the church. In his second letter to Timothy, he gives further guidance on this matter, telling him,

Therefore, if anyone cleanses himself from what is dishonorable, he will be a vessel for honorable use, set apart as holy, useful to the master of the house, ready for every good work. (2 Timothy 2:21)

We may not all be preachers or elders in the church, but we can all serve Jesus and His body and become 'vessels of honour' that are useful to our Master in whatever sphere He has placed us, leading those in our families and communities. Where has He placed you and who are those He's called you to be an example to by your conduct and speech?

Prayer:

Dear heavenly Father, thank you for choosing me and making me worthy of your kingdom, because of your Son Jesus. I am your workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works which you prepared beforehand for me to walk in. I want to apply myself to your word and cleanse myself from what is dishonourable that I may become useful to you and participate in your kingdom work. I surrender myself afresh to you today and ask that you teach and guide me by your Holy Spirit, **in Jesus' name**. Amen.