



1 Timothy 3:14-15

The Church Is God's Pillar of Truth

by Eric Douma

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Exhortation to Godly Living

1 Timothy 3:14-15

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.**

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How One Must Act

- 1:3** Refute false doctrines
- 1:18-19** Fight the good fight of faith
- 2:1-2; 8** Men pray for all (authorities)
- 2:9** Women dress modestly
- 2:12** Women don't usurp men
- 3:1-7** Elders + qualifications
- 3:8-13** Deacons + qualifications

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Applications

1. We must be convinced that truth exists and can be known.
2. The church must never depart from the truth and must always teach it.
3. The church must contend for the truth against all error.

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God's Truthful Character

Exodus 34:6

Then the LORD passed by in front of him and proclaimed, "The LORD, the LORD God, compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in **lovingkindness and truth...**

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What Is Truth?

Biblical

1. Truth corresponds to reality
2. Truth is revealed by God

Postmodern

1. Truth is socially constructed
2. Truth is invented by man

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Kant or Christ?

Immanuel Kant: Truth can't be known

Jesus Christ: Truth must be known

John 18:37

Therefore Pilate said to Him, "So You are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say correctly that I am a king. For this I have been born, and for this I have come into the world, to testify to the truth.

Everyone who is of the truth hears My voice."

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The Church Must Keep the Truth

Revelation 2:14-15

But I have a few things against you, because you have there some who hold the teaching of Balaam, who kept teaching Balak to put a stumbling block before the sons of Israel, to eat things sacrificed to idols and to commit acts of immorality. **15 'So you also have some who in the same way hold the teaching of the Nicolaitans.**

The Church Must Keep the Truth

Revelation 3:10

Because you have kept the word of My perseverance, I also will keep you from the hour of testing, that hour which is about to come upon the whole world, to test those who dwell on the earth.

We Must Contend for the Truth

Jude 3

Beloved, while I was making every effort to write you about our common salvation, I felt the necessity to write to you appealing that you **contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all handed down to the saints.**