



1 Timothy 3:14-16

The Gospel: Grounds for Godly Living Part 1

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April 7, 2019

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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The True Source of Godliness

1 Timothy 3:16a

By common confession, great is the mystery of godliness...

Acts 19:28

When they heard this and were filled with rage, they began crying out, saying, "Great is Artemis of the Ephesians!"

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The Christ Hymn

1 Timothy 3:16

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.

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Flesh Versus Spirit

In the Flesh: old order of existence
In the Spirit: new order of existence

1 Corinthians 15:44,46

it is sown a **natural body**, it is raised a **spiritual body**. If there is a natural body, there is also a spiritual body...
45 However, the spiritual is not first, but the natural; then the spiritual.

The "Spiritual Body" Is Physical

Luke 24:39

See My hands and My feet, that it is I Myself; touch Me and see, **for a spirit does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.**"

Flesh Versus Spirit

1 Peter 3:18-19

For Christ also died for sins once for all, the just for the unjust, so that He might bring us to God, **having been put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit**; 19 in which also He went and made proclamation to the spirits now in prison...

Applications

1. We must understand that true faith yields godly living.
2. We should know that Christ's resurrection is a down payment that assures our future resurrection.

Godly Living Is Not an Option

1 Timothy 3:16a

By common confession, **great is the mystery of godliness:**

Matthew 5:20

For I say to you that **unless your righteousness surpasses that of the scribes and Pharisees**, you will not enter the kingdom of heaven.

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Godly Living Is Not an Option

Hebrews 3:17-19

And with whom was He angry for forty years? Was it not with those who **sinned** whose bodies fell in the wilderness? 18 And to whom did He swear that they would not enter His rest, but to those who were disobedient? 19 So we see that they were not able to enter because of **unbelief**.

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Christ Raised: Basis for Hope

1 Timothy 3:16b

He who was revealed in the flesh, **Was vindicated in the Spirit...**

1 Corinthians 15:20

But now Christ has been raised from the dead, **the first fruits** of those who are asleep.

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