

I. Know That Difficult Times Will Come (3:1; Matt 24:9-13; John 16:33; 2 Peter 3:3; 1 Tim 4:1-3)

II. Watch Out for the Lives of False Teachers (3:2-5)

A. Their Misdirected Love (Matt 22:37-39)

B. Their Relationship Destroying Sins (Col 3:12-14)

C. Their Appearance of Godliness (Isaiah 5:3-4)

III. Watch Out for the Tactics of False Teachers (3:6-9)

A. Their Unfruitful "Ministry"

B. Their Folly Will Be Exposed (Exo 7:10-12; 8:18; 9:11)

Reflection Questions (for personal reflection and family conversation):

1. Why did Paul remind Timothy that "in the last days there will come times of difficulty"?
2. What is the difference between those Timothy is called to gently correct, hoping that God would grant repentance (2:25) and those he is called to avoid (3:5)?
3. In what way does the vice list in 3:2-5 serve as a warning for the church today?