

# CONDUCT AND CONFESSION IN THE CHURCH

## 1 Timothy 3:14-16

Paul wrote the letter we call 1 Timothy to his protégé when Timothy was pastoring the church at \_\_\_\_\_  
1 Timothy is the inspired equivalent of the first church \_\_\_\_\_ manual, the basis for church constitutions

### I. OUR CHURCH

A. "The \_\_\_\_\_ of God"

- 1) 2 definitions: a) a building—a house or home; or b) the people who live in a home, a \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) "Family" = people we are tied to, no matter what happens—people we don't get to \_\_\_\_\_

B. "The Church of the \_\_\_\_\_ God"

- 1) God lives in the church as the \_\_\_\_\_ of God in a way that He does not live in each of us
- 2) We experience the life of God when we \_\_\_\_\_ to worship and hear God's Word; it is essential

C. "The \_\_\_\_\_ and Ground of Truth"

- 1) The church is not the \_\_\_\_\_ of the truth; Eph.2 teaches the NT is the foundation of the church
- 2) A primary function of the church is to uphold & support the \_\_\_\_\_ —to promote it & make it known

### II. OUR CONDUCT

The Principle: conduct is tied to \_\_\_\_\_; behavior is tied to \_\_\_\_\_; orthopraxy is tied to orthodoxy

- 1) If a person truly believes an idea, it will determine how he \_\_\_\_\_, even if he believes he can fly
- 2) Often if a person determines to behave \_\_\_\_\_, it will cause him to abandon sound doctrine

### III. OUR CONFESSION

A. Its Form: it is a creed or a \_\_\_\_\_ written in poetry: each line has a passive verb & ends with a noun

B. Its Title: "The Mystery of Godliness"

- 1) "Mystery" = a truth only \_\_\_\_\_ knew and He chose to reveal it in the NT thru Jesus & His apostles
- 2) This creed is about \_\_\_\_\_; no human being can be godly except by trusting & following Him

C. Its Lines

- 1) Manifested in \_\_\_\_\_
  - a) Emphasizes the two-fold nature of Jesus—100% God & 100% man
  - b) The Son pre-existed before He was revealed in flesh
  - c) "Flesh" → Jesus had a human \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) Justified in \_\_\_\_\_
  - a) "Justified" = declared righteous: points to the \_\_\_\_\_ of Jesus
  - b) The ultimate vindication of Jesus' sinlessness was His \_\_\_\_\_ which involved the Holy Spirit
- 3) Seen by \_\_\_\_\_: they announced & proclaimed His birth; ministered to Him after His temptation rolled the stone away; appeared to the women after He arose; 2 attended Him as He \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) Proclaimed in \_\_\_\_\_
  - a) Points to the Great \_\_\_\_\_ given after Jesus' resurrection
  - b) Points to our \_\_\_\_\_: if we truly believe the facts about Jesus we will proclaim the gospel
- 5) Believed in \_\_\_\_\_
  - a) Breaks the pattern because the 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> lines seem to form a couplet
  - b) A confession that we believe that the gospel is \_\_\_\_\_, the power of God unto salvation
- 6) Received in \_\_\_\_\_
  - a) This verb, "taken up" is used in 3 other NT texts of His \_\_\_\_\_
  - b) The creed is chronological, beginning with His \_\_\_\_\_, ending with Jesus at the right hand of God