

First Timothy 3:13-16

First Timothy 3:13 – **For those who serve well as deacons gain a good standing for themselves and also great confidence in the faith that is in Christ Jesus.**

3588 [e]	1063 [e]	2573 [e]	1247 [e]		898 [e]	1438 [e]	2570 [e]	4046 [e]	2532 [e]
hoi	gar	kalōs	diakonēsantes		bathmon	heautois	kalon	peripoiontai	kai
13 οἱ	γὰρ	καλῶς	διακονήσαντες	,	βαθμὸν	ἑαυτοῖς	καλὸν	περιποιοῦνται	, καὶ
Those	for	well	having served		a standing	for themselves	good	acquire	and
Art-NMP	Conj	Adv	V-APA-NMP		N-AMS	RefPro-DM3P	Adj-AMS	V-PIM-3P	Conj

4183 [e]	3954 [e]	1722 [e]	4102 [e]	3588 [e]	1722 [e]	5547 [e]	2424 [e]
pollēn	parrēsian	en	pistei	tē	en	Christō	Iēsou
πολλὴν	παρρησίαν	ἐν	πίστει	τῇ	ἐν	Χριστῷ	Ἰησοῦ
great	confidence	in	[the] faith	that [is]	in	Christ	Jesus
Adj-AFS	N-AFS	Prep	N-DFS	Art-DFS	Prep	N-DMS	N-DMS

1. “well” – *kalos* – meaning “well, nobly, honorably, rightly”
2. “having served” – is from *diakoneo* – meaning “to serve”, “minister”, “wait on a table like a slave waiting on guests”
3. “acquire” – *peripoieo* – “to preserve”, “get possession of”
4. “a standing” – *bathmon* – “a step”, “a degree”,
 - a. referring to:
 - i. a step in a stairway
 - ii. a stage in a career
 - iii. a position
 - iv. “excellent standing” or highly esteemed or held in high regard in the church
 - b. called “good”
 - c. “for themselves”
5. “confidence” – *parresia* – “freedom of speech,” “confidence”. Usually considered “boldness”, “assurance” in speaking, particularly proclaiming a message or decree.
 - a. Called “great” – *pollen* – meaning “much”, “many”, “often”
 - b. Area:
 - i. “in the faith”
 - ii. “in Christ Jesus”
 - c. This could refer to:
 - i. Confidence in proclaiming the message of faith in Christ
 - ii. Confidence in various situations and discussions in the church concerning the faith in Christ.

3:14 – **I hope to come to you soon, but I am writing these things to you so that,**

3778 [e]	4771 [e]	1125 [e]	1679 [e]	2064 [e]	4314 [e]	4771 [e]	1722 [e]	5034 [e]
Tauta	soi	graphō	elpizōn	elthein	pros	se	en	tachei
14 Ταῦτά	σοι	γράφω ,	ἐλπίζων	ἔλθειν	πρὸς	σέ	ἐν	τάχει ,
These things	to you	I am writing	hoping	to come	to	you	in	a short time
DPro-ANP	PPro-D2S	V-PIA-1S	V-PPA-NMS	V-ANA	Prep	PPro-A2S	Prep	N-DNS

1. Paul sums up what has been said (2:1-3:13), but is preparing for what is coming in the letter after the statement of the Christ Creed that repeats many of the themes.
 - a. Universal salvation available (4:10)
 - b. Godliness which is seen in 2;2, 10, but is the focus of 3:16 and repeated in 4:7, 8; 5:4; 6:3, 5, 6, 11)

3:15 – if I delay, you may know how one ought to behave in the household of God, which is the church of the living God, a pillar and buttress of the truth.

1437 [e]	1161 [e]	1019 [e]	2443 [e]	1492 [e]	4459 [e]	1163 [e]	1722 [e]	3624 [e]	2316 [e]	390 [e]	3748 [e]
ean	de	bradynō	hina	eidēs	pōs	dei	en	oikō	Theou	anastrephesthai	hētis
15 ἐάν	δὲ	βραδύνω	ἵνα	εἰδῆς	πῶς	δεῖ	ἐν	οἴκῳ	Θεοῦ	ἀναστρέφεται	, ἥτις
if	however	I should delay	so that	you may know	how	it behooves [one]	in	[the] household	of God	to conduct oneself	which
Conj	Conj	V-PSA-1S	Conj	V-RSA-2S	Adv	V-PIA-3S	Prep	N-DMS	N-GMS	V-PNMP	RelPro-NFS

"hina" is the purpose clause

1510 [e]	1577 [e]	2316 [e]	2198 [e]	4769 [e]	2532 [e]	1477 [e]	3588 [e]	225 [e]
estin	ekklesia	Theou	zōntos	stylos	kai	hedraïōma	tēs	alētheias
ἐστὶν	ἐκκλησία	Θεοῦ	ζώντος	στῦλος	καὶ	ἐδραῖωμα	τῆς	ἀληθείας
is	[the] church	of God	[the] living	[the] pillar	and	base	of the	truth
V-PIA-3S	N-NFS	N-GMS	V-PPA-GMS	N-NMS	Conj	N-NNS	Art-GFS	N-GFS

1. Paul switches to the second-person singular pronoun “you” (2x) making it clear here Paul is addressing Timothy personally. This is seen in
 - a. 1 Thessalonians 3:1-6 – “Therefore when we could bear it no longer, we were willing to be left behind at Athens alone, and we sent Timothy, our brother and God’s coworker in the gospel of Christ, to establish and exhort you in your faith... now that Timothy has come to us from you, and has brought us the good news of your faith and love and reported that you always remember us kindly and long to see us, as we long to see you.”
 - b. 1 Corinthians 4:19 – “That is why I sent you Timothy, my beloved and faithful child in the Lord, to remind you of my ways in Christ, as I teach them everywhere in every church.”
 - c. 1 Corinthians 16:10-11 – “When Timothy comes, see that you put him at ease among you, for he is doing the work of the Lord, as I am. So let no one despise him. Help him on his way in peace, that he may return to me, for I am expecting him with the brothers.”
2. “so that” – *hina* – the purpose clause, the reason for these instructions
3. “Ought to behave” – *anastrepho* – “to overturn”, “turn back”
 - a. It is used here of more than “behavior” or “obedience” to rules, but to the appropriate style of life that meets the expectations or standards of a community or group.
 - b. It is the manner of how you conduct your life.
 - c. 1 Peter 1:17 – “And if you call on him as Father who judges impartially according to each one’s deeds, **conduct** yourselves with fear throughout the time of your exile.”
4. “Household of God” –
 - a. The concept of the “household” is used often in this letter:
 - i. 3:4, 5, 12

- ii. 5:4, 8, 13, 14,
- 5. “Church” – ekklesia -
- 6. “of the living God” –
 - a. in contrast to the dead idols
 - b. A living God who is alive and present among his called-out ones. The reality of God with his people.
 - c. Not a lifeless religious system that can be reduced to rules and regulations
- 7. “Pillar” – *stulos* – “a pillar”, “support”, “column”
 - a. This pillar is supporting, but also is on a foundation
- 8. “Buttress” – *hedraioma* – “a support”, “a basis”, “a foundation”
 - a. These are architectural terms referring to the church as a structure
- 9. “Truth” –
 - a. The truth is the gospel
 - b. The revelation of God
 - c. The church is the structure that supports this Gospel

3:16 - Great indeed, we confess, is the mystery of godliness:

**He was manifested in the flesh,
vindicated by the Spirit,
seen by angels,
proclaimed among the nations,
believed on in the world,
taken up in glory.**

2532 [e]	3672 [e]	3173 [e]	1510 [e]	3588 [e]	3588 [e]	2150 [e]	3466 [e]	3739 [e]	5319 [e]	1722 [e]	4561 [e]	1344 [e]	
Kai	homologoumenōs	mega	estin	to	tēs	eusebeias	mysterion	Hos	ephanerōthē	en	sarki	edikaiōthē	
16 Καὶ	ὁμολογουμένως	, μέγα	ἐστὶν	τὸ	τῆς	εὐσεβείας	μυστήριον	:	Ὃς	ἐφανερώθη	ἐν	σαρκί	, ἐδικαιώθη
And	confessedly	great	is	the	-	of godliness	mystery	Who	was revealed	in	[the] flesh	was justified	
Conj	Adv	Adj-NNS	V-PIA-3S	Art-NNS	Art-GFS	N-GFS	N-NNS	RelPro-NMS	V-AIP-3S	Prep	N-DFS	V-AIP-3S	

1722 [e]	4151 [e]	3708 [e]	32 [e]	2784 [e]	1722 [e]	1484 [e]	4100 [e]	1722 [e]	2889 [e]	353 [e]	1722 [e]	1391 [e]
en	pneumati	ōphthē	angelois	ekērychthē	en	ethnesin	episteuthē	en	kosmō	anelēmphthē	en	doxē
ἐν	πνεύματι	, ὠφθη	ἀγγέλοις	, ἐκηρύχθη	ἐν	ἔθνεσιν	, ἐπιστεύθη	ἐν	κόσμῳ	, ἀνελήμφθη	ἐν	δόξῃ
in	[the] Spirit	was seen	by angels	was proclaimed	among	[the] nations	was believed on	in	[the] world	was taken up	in	glory
Prep	N-DNS	V-AIP-3S	N-DMP	V-AIP-3S	Prep	N-DNP	V-AIP-3S	Prep	N-DMS	V-AIP-3S	Prep	N-DFS

1. This Christ Creed is the center of the letter and the theological high point
2. The focus of this is:
 - a. Outreach to the world with the message of Christ
 - b. Godliness in Christian living once converted
3. This stresses the humanity of Christ
4. Godliness in the mystery that God has become man and now man can become godly in the flesh.
 - a. Man does not become God or “a god”
 - b. Man does become godly
5. This is the mystery concerning how this happens
 - a. Mystery means this is information of the divine class
6. This creed is progressive, but not entirely chronological as we might think.

- Great indeed, we confess, is the mystery of godliness:

2532 [e]	3672 [e]	3173 [e]	1510 [e]	3588 [e]	3588 [e]	2150 [e]	3466 [e]
Kai	homologoumenōs	mega	estin	to	tēs	eusebeias	mystērion
Καὶ	ὁμολογουμένως	, μέγα	ἐστὶν	τὸ	τῆς	εὐσεβείας	μυστήριον
And	confessedly	great	is	the	-	of godliness	mystery
Conj	Adv	Adj-NNS	V-PIA-3S	Art-NNS	Art-GFS	N-GFS	N-NNS

1. He was manifested in the flesh,

3739 [e]	5319 [e]	1722 [e]	4561 [e]
Hos	ephanerōthē	en	sarki
Ὅς	ἐφανερώθη	ἐν	σαρκί
Who	was revealed	in	[the] flesh
RelPro-NMS	V-AIP-3S	Prep	N-DFS

2. vindicated by the Spirit,

1344 [e]	1722 [e]	4151 [e]
edikaiōthē	en	pneumati
ἐδικαιώθη	ἐν	πνεύματι
was justified	in	[the] Spirit
V-AIP-3S	Prep	N-DNS

3. seen by angels,

3708 [e]	32 [e]
ōphthē	angelois
ὠφθη	ἄγγελοις
was seen	by angels
V-AIP-3S	N-DMP

4. proclaimed among the nations,

2784 [e]	1722 [e]	1484 [e]
ekērychthē	en	ethnesin
ἐκηρύχθη	ἐν	ἔθνεσιν
was proclaimed	among	[the] nations
V-AIP-3S	Prep	N-DNP

5. believed on in the world,

4100 [e]	1722 [e]	2889 [e]
episteuthē	en	kosmō
ἐπιστεύθη	ἐν	κόσμῳ
was believed on	in	[the] world
V-AIP-3S	Prep	N-DMS

6. taken up in glory.

353 [e]	1722 [e]	1391 [e]
anelēmphthē	en	doxē
ἀνελήμφθη	ἐν	δόξῃ
was taken up	in	glory
V-AIP-3S	Prep	N-DFS