***"A Good Fight, A Good Foundation & A Gospel Guard"***

**1 Timothy 6:11-21 - April 28, 2019**

*How are God's final thoughts (in 1 Timothy), to be fleshed-out*?

**1 Timothy 6:11+12**

1) By Fighting The Good Fight Of Faith

The person who values this faith fight learns how to 'scrap' for these faith features. **(Vs.11*b*)**

Some things are worth fighting for... & Christian warfare isn't easy.

*"This business of the Christian life is warfare at times; it's no holiday, vacation or a relaxing time that we're in - it's a battle, as the Scripture repeatedly teaches... And it's often a hard fight!"* **\*Vs.12 *a+b***

**1 Timothy 6:13-16**

2) By Focusing On Jesus' Return

Jesus' return is to be the impetus for our service and perseverance.

"*Christians inherit the destiny that fairy tales proclaimed, as we (the silly saved sinners), will live happily (and by God's endless mercy) - happily ever after*!" - J.I. Packer

"*What shall we do in heaven?... Not lounge around - but worship, work, think and communicate, enjoy activity, beauty, people and God! First and foremost, however, we shall see and love Jesus - our Savior, Master and Friend.*" - J.I. Packer

Knowing this, should give us perseverance as we seek to "keep the commandment" (Vs.14), and as we press-on for Jesus in *whatever* He calls us to.

The thing that counts, isn't how many times you're 'throwed', but whether you're willing to 'stay throwed'.

The battle is the Lord's; so there's no excuse for us to 'stay throwed'.

**1 Timothy 6:17-19**

3) By Making Generosity A Goal

When considering the generosity of God, it *begs* the question - "*How can I as a follower of Jesus, not become more generous?!*"

For those of us who have means, you're to give accordingly. **(Vs.18*b*)**

Our generosity is a faith issue... Maybe we want more for ourselves, or we might feel like if we give too much, we won't have enough - But we forget Who it came from!

Jesus was quoted as saying*, "It is more blessed to give than to receive."* **(Acts 20:35)**

**Philippians 4:19** - "*And my God will supply all your needs, according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus"*.

**1 Timothy 6:20+21**

4) By Centering On The Gospel

"Worldly, empty chatter" and "opposing arguments", by those who falsely claim or *seem* to have "knowledge", are to be avoided.

*"Timothy must not be entangled in speculation, when he has the responsibility and the joy of positively preaching and teaching the unsearchable riches of Christ. This is ample; avoid all else."*

We are to feel and receive the impact of Vs.20*a* - *"Guard what has been entrusted to you"*... The Word of God, The Gospel!