

The Church's Identity and Purpose 1 Timothy 3:14-16

The purpose of his letter

- I am writing these things to you... FOR HIS CHURCH
 - I hope to come to you shortly
 - But if I am delayed
 - I write so you may know how you ought to conduct yourself in the house of God

(personal note to Timothy)



The purpose of his letter 14-15a

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The identity of the church 15

...how you may conduct yourself in FOR HIS CHURCH

- The house of God (household)
- The church of the living God
- The pillar and ground of the truth



The house of God

House (oikos) house or household (vs 4-5 elder's household)
We are part of God's family

(God is our father, we are brethren)
How to conduct ourselves in the family

The church of the living God

Church (assembly – ekklesia)
God's people assembled together (as at Mt Sinai Acts 7:38)
Church of the living God (Josh 3:10 1 Sam 17:26 Psa 42:2 Dan 6:26)

The pillar and ground of the truth

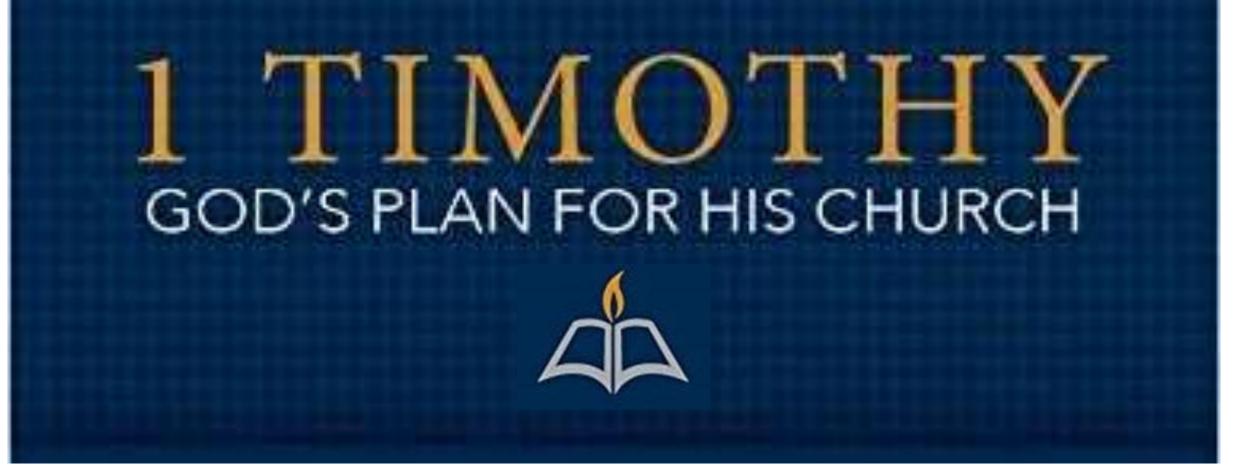
- Ephesus worshipped the temple of Diana
 The Ephesus church was the pillar of God's truth (foundation, mainstay, bulwark, buttress)
 The truth is found in God's revealed word (Bible)
- (Luke 24:27,44 1 Cor 3:11, Eph 2:20, 3:1-11)

The great message 16

Great is the mystery of godliness..

- He who was manifested in the flesh John 1:1,14
- Justified in the Spirit Romans 1:3
- Seen by angels Luke 24:23
- Preached among the nations Acts 2:5-11
- Believed on in the world John 1:12
- Received up in glory Acts 1:9-11





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