

Introduction to Timothy:

Author: The Apostle Paul

Biblical Timeline of Peter's Life:

- AD 47-49 – Paul's first missionary journey
- AD 50 – The Jerusalem Council
- AD 50-53 – Paul's second missionary journey
- AD 50 – Timothy joins Paul and Silas in Lystra
- AD 53-57 – Paul's third missionary journey
- AD 54 – Timothy again joins Paul's entourage
- AD 58 – Paul is arrested in Jerusalem
- AD 60-62 – Paul is imprisoned in Rome
- AD 62 – Paul is released; 1 Timothy is written
- AD 67 – Paul is imprisoned again in Rome; 2 Timothy is written
- AD 67 – Paul and Peter are executed

Disputes to Peter's Authorship:

Early church tradition affirms Peter as the author.

- Paul names himself as author
- Early church leaders recognize Paul as author
 - Clement of Rome, Polycarp, Irenaeus, Tertullian, and Clement of Alexandria.

Early 19th century scholars dispute the letters as fraudulent imposters wrote in the 2nd century on the following claims:

- Historical – Events in the Timothy do not correspond to the Book of Acts. Argument is these were events in the 2nd century and wrote about them. This is refuted in that these event happened shortly after Acts and are in the correct time frame.
- Writing Style – Some argue the letters don't match Paul's style. The writing contain several words that are not used anywhere else in the NT, but are common in the 2nd century. This is refuted in that there is too small amount of literary material form the 2nd century to make this claim.
- Structural – Some argue that the structure given for the church is too advanced for such an early writing. This is refuted by evidence in Philippians of bishops and deacons already being in place.

- Heresy – Some argue that the heresy describe is that of Gnosticism, which wasn't fully developed until 2nd century. However, Gnosticism developed slowly and evolved. Therefore, it is fully likely that Paul was dealing with its beginnings, even though not fully developed until the 2nd century.

There is no valid reason to dispute Paul authorship, or the C AD 62 date. The letter was most likely written in Macedonia after his release from prison in Rome.

Historical setting:

- Timothy's father is Greek (gentile). His mother and grandmother are Jewish, which is where his Faith and education in Scripture came from.
- Paul circumcised Timothy in order for him to be more effective in ministry to the Jews.
- Timothy served as Paul's liaison (leader) in the following churches:
 - Thessalonica, Corinth, Ephesus
 - Messenger for letters to Colossians, Philemon, and Philippians
- Timothy combated false teachers in Ephesus while Paul went on to Macedonia. This is where Paul implored Timothy to come quickly from in 2Tim.
- Timothy spent 17 years under the teaching and service of Paul.

Theological Themes:

- Central purpose of 1Tim is to cement Timothy in Paul's teachings to ensure the Church was maintained as ordained by God to be the primary vehicle for His Work on earth.
- Developing and recognizing godly leadership
 - Christian maturity must be EXPECTED in leaders and developed in ALL Believers. (Maturity IS NOT developed in leaders. This is an error in the present church.)
- Interaction and function of mature believers inside the church
- How to avoid false doctrine

Broad Outline:

1. Reminders in ministry
 - a. Warns concerning false doctrine (v. 1:1-17)
 - b. Warnings concerning good warfare (v. 1:18-20)

2. Regulations in Ministry
 - a. Women in worship (v. 2:1-15)
 - b. Leadership in the house of the God (v. 3:1-16)
3. Responsibilities in ministry
 - a. Personal responsibility (v. 4:1-16)
 - b. Responsibilities to various groups in the church (v. 5:1-15)
 - c. Final responsibilities of Timothy (6:1-21)