



Epistles III

ANSWER KEY

International Alpha Bible Course
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EPISTLES

Part III

CONTENTS

Lesson One	Paul's First Letter To Timothy – Part I
Lesson Two	Paul's First Letter To Timothy – Part II
Lesson Three	Paul's First Letter To Timothy – Part III
Lesson Four	Paul's Second Letter To Timothy – Part I
Lesson Five	Paul's Second Letter To Timothy – Part II
Lesson Six	Paul's Letter To Titus
Lesson Seven	Paul's Letter To Philemon
Lesson Eight	The Letter To The Hebrews – Part I
Lesson Nine	The Letter To The Hebrews – Part II
Lesson Ten	The Letter To The Hebrews – Part III
Lesson Eleven	The Letter To The Hebrews – Part IV
Lesson Twelve	The Letter To The Hebrews – Part V

Name: _____ Date: _____

Self Help Test: Epistles III

Lesson One

1. Describe Timothy's background.

Timothy was born in Lystra (Acts 16:1-2) and converted under Paul's ministry during the apostle's first visit to Derbe and Lystra (Acts 14:6-22). Although Timothy's mother, Eunice, was a Jewess, his father was a Greek. Since there is no mention of his father, it is possible that he died when Timothy was very young. Timothy was raised by his mother, Eunice, and his grandmother, Lois, who daily taught him the Holy Scriptures (II Timothy 1:5; 3:15).

2. What is a "Pastoral Epistle"?

A "Pastoral Epistle" is known by this name because it is addressed to a young minister.

3. What is the outline for I Timothy?

- I. Doctrine and Prayer – Chapters 1 and 2
- II. Ministry and Apostasy – Chapters 3 and 4
- III. Pastoral Responsibility – Chapters 5 and 6

4. What is sound doctrine? What will it lead to?

Sound doctrine is teaching doctrine according to scripture and avoiding subjects that only cause questions. Heretical teaching and attention to myths and genealogies produced speculations and controversies instead of godly living.

Sound doctrine will lead to love, a pure heart, a good conscience, and true faith.

5. What is the purpose of the law?

Paul declared that the Law was not for the righteous man but for the lawless and disobedient. He made a list of men for whom the Law was made: men who were rebellious and lawless, men who are irreverent and profane, those who attack and kill their parents, murderers, homosexuals, kidnappers, liars, perjurers, and everyone who oppose wholesome teaching.

Paul confessed that before his conversion, he had been a blasphemer and a persecutor. He found mercy, however, because he did it in ignorance and unbelief. The purpose of the law is to bring under judgment the lawless and disobedient.

6. Why did Christ come into the world?

"Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners" (1 Timothy 1:15). Jesus ministered

to the sick and suffering, but the main reason for being born in Bethlehem's manger was to save sinners.

7. Quote I Timothy 1:17.

Now unto the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only wise God, be honor and glory for ever and ever. Amen

8. Explain Paul's teaching regarding worship and praise.

Paul wrote that men should pray everywhere, lifting up holy hands without anger and unbelief. It is God's will that all men should be saved. Therefore, it is His will that prayers should be made for all men which will include both sinners and saints. The church is instructed to pray for our governments and those who are in authority.

Not only did Paul instruct Timothy regarding those for whom Christians should pray, but he defined the kind of prayers: supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks. He also described how men ought to pray. They should pray without anger, resentment, or division among them, lifting up hands which are clean and holy.

We are given the foundation for all prayer and worship: one God and one Me-diator, the man Christ Jesus. Jesus, in His humanity, has become our Mediator. Because of this, we know that God will hear and accept our prayer and thanksgiving.

9. Explain Paul's position on the role of women in worship.

Timothy was given instruction regarding a godly woman's appearance and manner of dress. Women who profess godliness do not need adornment. Their good works will be their adorning. They are to dress modestly and sensibly with appropriate apparel. They are not to dress with elaborate hair arrangement, with jewelry or expensive clothing.

Not only is the outward appearance to be holy, but the spirit and attitude must be right. Women are to be in subjection to men. They do not have the authority to tell men what is right and wrong. They are to learn in quietness and submissiveness.

"Women should listen and learn quietly and humbly. I never let women teach men or lord it over them. Let them be silent in your church meetings" (I Timothy 2:11, 12, The Living New Testament). The thought here is not to rob women of the right to worship or be used by God in soul winning. It means that they must know their proper place and never usurp authority over men.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Self Help Test: Epistles III

Lesson Two

Fill in the blanks.

1. **Bishop** means “overseer.”
2. **Deacon** means “one who ministers.”
3. Six qualifications for a bishop are:
 1. Blameless – above reproach
 2. Husband of one wife – faithful to one (living) wife
 3. Vigilant – hard working
 4. Sober – thoughtful and orderly
 5. Good behavior – courteous
 6. Given to hospitality – hospitable
 7. Apt to teach – a good teacher
 8. Not given to wine – Does not drink intoxicating beverages
 9. No striker – not a brawler
 10. Not greedy of filthy lucre – not a lover of money
 11. Patient – forbearing disposition
 12. Not a brawler – not quarrelsome
 13. Not covetous – not greedy of wealth
 14. Rules well – his own house
 15. Not a novice – not a young convert
4. The wife of a deacon must be **sober**,
faithful, and not **slandorous**.

5. “God was **manifest** in the flesh, **justified** in the Spirit, **seen** of angels, **preached** unto the Gentiles, **believed** on in the world, **received** up into glory” (I Timothy 3:16).

6. Paul instructed Timothy be an example in **word** (speech), **manner of life** (conversation), **charity** (love), **faith** (faithfulness), and **purity** (chastity).

Name: _____ Date: _____

Self Help Test: Epistles III

Lesson Three

1. What were Timothy's instructions regarding:

- a. Older men **were never to be spoken to sharply but respectfully as if they were a father.**
- b. Younger men **were to be treated as brothers.**
- c. Older women **were to be treated as mothers.**
- d. Younger women **were to be sisters, and one was to have only pure thoughts regarding them.**

2. What did Paul teaching regarding widows?

In this passage, Paul divided the widows into four groups:

- 1. Widows who have children or grandchildren who should take the responsibility of providing for their family
- 2. Widows who sought only pleasure and spent their time running around gossiping
- 3. Young widows who should marry again and have children
- 4. "Widows indeed" who were poor and alone in the world

The church was to be responsible for this last group of widows who were entirely alone and desolate. These widows looked to God for their help and spent much time in prayer. These widows who were going to be supported by the church had to meet certain conditions:

- 1. She had to be at least sixty years of age.
- 2. She had had only one husband in her life.
- 3. She must have had a good reputation for her good deeds.
- 4. She must have been a good mother.
- 5. She must have been hospitable.
- 6. She must have had ministered to the saints and helped the sick.
- 7. She must have shown kindness to all.

3. How should the discipline of an elder be handled?

Paul gave instructions that no accusation should be considered against a minister unless it is confirmed with the testimony of two or three witnesses. The testimony

of just one person should never be accepted against a minister. However, when one is proven guilty and persists to continue in sin, he should be rebuked in front of the whole church so that all will fear and not follow his example.

4. Why is covetousness dangerous?

Covetousness leads men astray and plunges them into ruin and destruction. Timothy was exhorted to run from all these evil things but pursue righteousness and godliness. He was to hold fast to eternal life and fight on for God.

5. What final instruction did Paul give Timothy?

Timothy was to give a deaf ear to foolish arguments and to keep that which is committed to his trust.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Self Help Test: Epistles III

Lesson Four

Mark true or false

- True** 1. Paul's second letter to Timothy was the last New Testament epistle that he wrote.
- False** 2. Paul wrote the letter while exiled on the Isle of Patmos.
- True** 3. Many Christians were persecuted under the Roman emperors.
- False** 4. Timothy was Paul's grandson.
- True** 5. The faith of a parent can be passed on to the next generation.
- True** 6. Paul was not ashamed because he knew whom he believed and was persuaded that God was able to keep that which Paul had committed unto him.
- True** 7. Paul was thankful for Onesiphorus who often visited him.
- True** 8. Paul likened Timothy's role of a minister to that of a steward, soldier, athlete, husbandman, and a student.
- True** 9. Timothy was instructed to avoid ignorant questions which bred arguments.
- True** 10. Timothy was exhorted to run away from evil desires and to follow after righteousness.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Self Help Test: Epistles III

Lesson Five

1. How did Paul describe the conditions of man in the closing days of the church age?

The conditions of man in the closing days of the church age is that men will be in such a depraved and wicked condition that they will be lovers of their own selves and lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God. They will maintain a profession of being Christians. They will have the outward form of salvation, but the power will be denied.

The apostate church members of the last days are described as:

1. Covetousness—loving money, which is the root of all evil
2. Blasphemous—evil speakers, revilers
3. Disobedient to parents—rebellious and not respectful of parents
4. Unthankful—ingratitude will be a common sin
5. Without natural affection—natural love will be perverted; men will be lower than animals in their affections
6. Incontinent—without self-control, no self-discipline
7. Heady—head-strong
8. High-minded—puffed up

These men are the sort who seduce women burdened with sin. They are always studying but never receive the truth. In fact, they resist the truth like the Egyptian magicians, Jannes and Jambres, who opposed Moses. "They have dirty minds, warped and twisted and have turned against the Christian faith" (II Timothy 3:8, The Living New Testament). Timothy was instructed to avoid such people and turn from them.

2. Will those who oppose the gospel succeed? Why?

Those who opposed the gospel will not succeed. The Lord will expose their deceit until it becomes well known. This will be fully manifested at the return of Christ.

3. What is the purpose of the Scriptures?

Every Scripture is given by inspiration of God. This phrase "inspiration of God" means "God-breathed." Since every Scripture is God-breathed, it is profitable in several ways:

1. Doctrine – this is teaching.
2. Reproof – the Scriptures will bring conviction
3. Correction – improvement
4. Instruction in righteousness – training in righteousness
5. Perfect, thoroughly furnished in good works – completely perfected in doing good

4. What charge did Paul give Timothy?

Timothy was charged to be faithful and constant in his Christian life. Many will be turned away from the truth; Timothy must prove himself faithful and make full proof of his ministry. When Jesus returns to set up His kingdom upon earth, He shall judge both the dead and the living. This was a great incentive for Timothy to be faithful.

1. Preach the Word – There is a difference between preaching the Word and preaching about the Word.
2. Be instant – Be ready when it is convenient and when it is not.
3. Reprove – Convict.
4. Rebuke – Charge.
5. Exhort – Earnestly beseech or entreat.
6. Watch – Be alert and sober.
7. Endure afflictions – Suffer hardships.
8. Do the work of an evangelist – Preach the gospel to the lost.
9. Make full proof of thy ministry – Completely fulfill your ministry.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Self Help Test: Epistles III

Lesson Six

Mark true or false.

- True** 1. Titus was one of Paul's converts and became one of Paul's trusted and devoted companions.
- True** 2. Crete is the largest island in the Mediterranean Sea and the home of people known for loose morals.
- False** 3. The letter to Titus was written at the same time as Paul's epistle to the Ephesians.
- True** 4. Titus was instructed to ordain elders in each city.
- False** 5. Paul stated that an elder could not be married.
- True** 6. The older women were to teach the younger women to be sober, to love their husbands, to love their children, to be discreet, chaste, keepers at home, good, obedient to their husbands, that the word of God be not blasphemed.
- True** 7. The Christian's blessed hope is the glorious appearing of the great God and our Savior Jesus Christ.
- False** 8. God's grace has appeared only to a select few.
- False** 9. Because they are citizens of a heavenly kingdom, Christians have no need to obey civil laws.
- False** 10. A man is saved by his works of righteousness.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Self Help Test: Epistles III

Lesson Seven

Short Answers

1. Describe Philemon's hometown.

Philemon's hometown was the city of Colosse located a few miles from Laodicea, on the trade route between Ephesus and the Euphrates.

2. What was the relationship between:

- a. Paul and Philemon were intimate friends and Philemon was converted to Christianity under Paul
- b. Paul and Onesimus – Onesimus was converted to Christianity under Paul
- c. Onesimus and Philemon – Onesimus was the slave of Philemon

3. What role did Paul assume in his appeal to Philemon?

Paul assumed the position of a supplicant. As the Lord's bondsman, he was going to plead for another bondsman.

4. On what bases did Paul make his appeal on Onesimus' behalf?

Paul appealed to Philemon that he would receive Onesimus just as he would receive Paul himself as a brother in Christ.

5. What pledge did Paul make to Philemon?

Paul pledged to repay any debt that Onesimus owed.

6. What lessons are taught in this epistle?

1. Paul brought the gospel to Onesimus and became the one who plead for Onesimus' reconciliation with his master. It is not enough just to preach the gospel and to win a convert; the minister is responsible to see that the convert is fully restored and does the right thing in every way.

2. The importance of restitution is taught here. Onesimus could have remained in Rome as a Christian and never returned to Colosse. By returning, he was making restitution. Certainly, restitution has a very important place in the plan of salvation!

Name: _____ Date: _____

Self Help Test: Epistles III

Lesson Eight

1. To whom was the Epistle to the Hebrews written?

To the Christian Jews in Jerusalem.

2. When was the epistle written?

The probable date of the writing is between AD 62 and AD 68.

3. What is the theme of Hebrews?

1. To exalt Jesus Christ as the full revelation of God and to hold Jesus up so that He might occupy our whole attention.

2. To warn the Hebrew Christians against apostasy. Because of the persecutions the church suffered and because the ancient religion of the Jews was right before their eyes in Jerusalem, there was the continual temptation to return to Judaism.

4. List three things that the writer warned against.

- a. Hebrews 2:14 – Not to be careless nor negligent
- b. Hebrews 3:7-4:13 – Not to be unbelieving
- c. Hebrews 5:11-6:20 – Not to degenerate
- d. Hebrews 10:26-39 – Not to despise
- e. Hebrews 12:15-29 – Not to depart

5. List six things that the writer exhorted the Hebrews to:

- a. Hebrews 4:1 "Let us therefore fear."
- b. Hebrews 4:11 "Let us labor."
- c. Hebrews 4:16 "Let us therefore come boldly."
- d. Hebrews 6:1 "Let us go on unto perfection."
- e. Hebrews 10:22 "Let us draw near."
- f. Hebrews 10:23 "Let us hold fast."
- g. Hebrews 10:24 "Let us consider one another."
- h. Hebrews 12:1 "Let us lay aside every weight."
- i. Hebrews 12:1 "Let us run with patience."
- j. Hebrews 13:13 "Let us go forth."
- k. Hebrews 13:15 "Let us offer the sacrifice of praise."

6. List five proofs of the deity of Jesus.
 1. He is called the "Son of God" (Hebrews 1:2, 8).
 2. He is called "God" (Hebrews 1:8).
 3. He is called "Lord" (Hebrews 1:10).
 4. He created the worlds, the universe (Hebrews 1:2, 10).
 5. He sustains all things (Hebrews 1:3).
 6. He is the savior of sinners (Hebrews 1:3).
 7. He is the express image of God (Hebrews 1:3).
 8. He is heir of all things (Hebrews 1:2).
 9. He is seated in the place of power (Hebrews 1:3).
 10. He is greater than angels (Hebrews 1:4-8).

Name: _____ Date: _____

Self Help Test: Epistles III

Lesson Nine

1. Why did the writer of Hebrews describe our salvation as “so great”?

1. It is the only salvation. There is no other.
2. The price that was paid for it makes it great. Jesus gave His life on the cross for it.
3. It embraces the whole world. It is for all men regardless of class, color, or culture.
4. It saves to the uttermost. It just doesn't make a man religious, but it regenerates him.
5. There is power to save all men no matter how deep into sin they may have fallen.

2. How was Christ more worthy than Moses?

The Hebrews were requested to consider Jesus who is the Apostle and High Priest of our profession. Moses was considered the savior and leader of Israel, and as such, he had been the apostle of God to the Israelites. Next in importance was their high priest, Aaron, who acted as mediator between them and God. Moses saved the Israelites from physical death and bondage; Jesus saves believers from spiritual death. Aaron went once a year into the Holy of Holies, but he could not bring the people there. Jesus opened up the way to bring us into the presence of God.

Moses was a faithful servant in the house of God. Jesus is the Lord over the house. He is also the builder of the house and is worthy of more honor.

3. Why is unbelief a sin?

Unbelief is evil. It is sinful. Unbelief is equivalent of calling God a liar. Unbelief also robs believers of joy, peace, and power which are rightfully theirs.

4. What is the Christian's rest?

God has a rest for His people (Hebrews 4:9). This rest becomes a reality in the heart of the born-again child of God. It is the Holy Ghost rest.

5. How is the priesthood of Christ better than the Aaronic priesthood?

They were of the tribe of Levi; Jesus was of the tribe of Judah. They offered animal sacrifices; He offered Himself. They died; He lives!

Paul showed that Christ met the qualifications for the office of priesthood. He had

been divinely appointed or ordained. He was sympathetic and compassion-ate. His human nature was superior to that of the high priests of Judaism. He was sinless. The high priest of Judaism must belong to the Aaronic priestly order. Christ belonged to a higher order, that of Melchisedec. In every way He was superior to the Levitical priesthood.

6. List the six foundational doctrines:

1. Repentance from dead works
2. Faith toward God
3. Doctrine for baptisms (both water and Spirit)
4. Laying on of hands
5. Resurrection of the dead
6. Eternal judgment

Self Help Test: Epistles III

Lesson Ten

1. What is a theophany?

A theophany is an appearance of God in human form.

2. Why is the new covenant better?

The New Covenant is built upon better promises. The old promises related mainly to this present life, but the new promises pertain to the life to come. In the Old Covenant the promises were dependent upon God's Word, "I will." In the New Covenant the word if does not occur. The New Covenant depends upon what God does, not upon man's work.

1. I will make a new covenant.
2. I will put my laws into their mind and write them in their hearts.
3. I will be to them a God.
4. I will be merciful to their unrighteousness.
5. I will remember their sins no more.

When Jesus forgives sins, He forgets. Under the New Covenant the sins of God's people are blotted out. It is as if they never had been committed. In the New Covenant there is mercy and compassion. The New Covenant is grace.

3. What is the significance of the phrase "One sacrifice for sins forever"?

The fact that the sacrifices of the Old Testament had to be repeated over and over proved that they failed to accomplish the purpose of the sacrifice, the putting away of sin. In this Scripture Paul emphasized the completeness and sufficiency of Christ's sacrifice. Note the emphasis on these expressions: one sacrifice (Hebrews 10:12); one offering (Hebrews 10:14); forever (Hebrews 10:12, 14). After He had offered this one sacrifice for sin, He sat down in the place of power. The expression "sat down" denotes that the work of redemption is finished for all eternity.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Self Help Test: Epistles III

Lesson Eleven

1. The writer of Hebrews stated, "Faith is the substance"

What is the meaning of *substance*.

The word substance is the "foundation" upon which our faith is based. It is not just a matter of whether we believe, but rather whom do we believe. Faith is placing trust in the foundation which is God's Word.

2. How was the faith of the following men shown:

- a. Abel Abel showed his faith in worship.
- b. Enoch Enoch showed his faith in close companionship with God.
- c. Moses Moses showed his faith best in the decisions he made.

3. Why is faith essential to salvation?

Without faith, we cannot please God.

4. How did Abraham react to his greatest test of faith?

He believed; therefore, he obeyed. Since God had promised him Isaac, he believed that God would raise him from the dead. This was a remarkable testimony of the patriarch's faith, for up to that time there was no example of a resurrection taking place.

5. How did Moses demonstrate his faith?

Moses showed his faith best in the decisions he made. He waited until he was forty years of age before he made his decisions known. He made the following choices:

- 1. He refused to be an Egyptian prince.
- 2. He chose to suffer affliction rather than enjoy the pleasures of sin.
- 3. He chose the reproach of Christ rather than the treasures of Egypt.
- 4. He forsook Egypt and did not fear the king's anger.

He was able to do this by faith as seeing Him who is invisible. Through faith he kept the Passover, recognizing the blood atonement, and crossed over the Red Sea as on dry land. Because of unbelief, the Egyptians were drowned.

6. List three other heroes of faith:

1. *Rahab* – saved the spies and then saved herself by placing the crimson cord in the window
2. *Gideon* – waxed valiant in fight.
3. *Barak* – subdued kingdoms.
4. *Samson* – from weakness was made strong.
5. *Jepthah* – defeated armies.
6. *David* – obtained promises.
7. *Daniel* – stopped the mouth of lions.
8. *Elijah* – raised the dead.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Self Help Test: Epistles III

Lesson Twelve

1. Who is the cloud of witnesses mentioned in Hebrews 12:1?

The heroes of faith listed in Hebrews 11 are described as a great cloud of witnesses.

2. What is the purpose of chastisement?

The chastisement here is expressive of discipline, not punishment. God's purpose is that we might be partaker of His holiness.

Discipline at the time it is administered is a matter of pain and must be endured. In this matter of discipline, we are exhorted not to forget (Hebrews 12:5), not to despise (Hebrews 12:5), not to faint (Hebrews 12:5) but rather to endure (Hebrews 12:7) and to be in subjection (Hebrews 12:9).

3. Compare Zion to Sinai.

The comparison between Sinai and Zion is a strong exhortation not to return to Judaism. The sight of Mount Sinai with its darkness, fire, and storm was terrifying—so much so that even Moses shook with fear. How different this was to Mount Zion, the heavenly Jerusalem, and a great company of angels, the church whose members are registered in Heaven and to Jesus Himself. The children of Israel did not escape when they refused to listen to Moses. How terrible it will be not to listen to the One who speaks from Heaven!

When God spoke the first time, the earth shook. Next time, He will shake also the heavens and sift out everything without solid foundation.

4. What did the writer teach the Hebrews concerning respect for the ministry?

Ministers watch over the souls of the saints. It is a very profitable thing when they can give an account of your soul with joy. For this reason, we are admonished to remember, consider, obey, and submit ourselves to our pastor.

5. What did the writer teach concerning hospitality, compassion, and chastity?

Hospitality (Hebrews 13:2): It was the duty of a Christian to show hospitality. There would seem to be a reference to Abraham entertaining the angels (Genesis 19).

Compassion for the Suffering (Hebrews 13:3): We are not to forget those in jail. We are to show compassion to all who suffer.

Chastity (Hebrews 13:4): Marriage is honorable in the sight of God. Marriage vows are to be kept, for God will punish those who commit adultery.