

Sunday, July 10th

Title: “The Church’s Confession: The Saving Work of Jesus”

Text: 1 Timothy 3:8–15

Series: *1 Timothy: How to Church*

I. The Church’s Confession: Faith in the Work of Jesus the Christ (1 Timothy 3:14–16).

1 Timothy 3:14–16

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

II. The Church’s Trust: God’s Grace not Human Merit (1 Timothy 4:1–10).

Contrasting Religion (i.e. Human Merit) with Gospel Grace (i.e. the Work of Christ)

(1) Religion – Departs from the Faith and Relies on Man-Made Regulations (vv. 1–5)

1 Timothy 4:1–10

⁴ Now the Spirit expressly says that in later times some will depart from the faith by devoting themselves to deceitful spirits and teachings of demons, ² through the insincerity of liars whose consciences are seared, ³ who forbid marriage and require abstinence from foods that God created to be received with thanksgiving by those who believe and know the truth. ⁴ For everything created by God is good, and nothing is to be rejected if it is received with thanksgiving, ⁵ for it is made holy by the word of God and prayer.

(2) Gospel Grace – Striving for Growth in Godliness springs from Confidence in our Salvation (vv. 6–10)

⁶ If you put these things before the brothers, you will be a good servant of Christ Jesus, being trained in the words of the faith and of the good doctrine that you have followed. ⁷ Have nothing to do with irreverent, silly myths. Rather train yourself for godliness; ⁸ for while bodily training is of some value, godliness is of value in every way, as it holds promise for the present life and also for the life to come. ⁹ The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance. ¹⁰ For to this end we toil and strive, because we have our hope set on the living God, who is the Savior of all people, especially of those who believe.