

DISCIPLINE FOR GODLINESS

In 1 Tim.4:7-8, Paul made a statement that I do not think many Christians have considered as a doctrine of the Church age. Paul referred to godliness as a great mystery doctrine of the church revealed with the incarnation of Jesus Christ in 1 Tim.3:16.

It is my prayer that after this lesson we will understand how serious Paul felt about the **DISCIPLINE FOR GODLINESS**.

Today's lesson will study four aspects of the Discipline for Godliness.

1. The English translation of the Greek word (eusebeia) is interesting. Eusebeia is a compound word (eu/well) and (sebeia) [sacred, reverent awe, or devout].

Cornelius, the Roman centurion, was described as a devout Jewish unbeliever (Acts 10:2) (eusebes), (Acts 10:22, 30-32) He was a God Conscious unbeliever, saved (Acts 11:14-18).

The truth is that Cornelius as an unbeliever is under [the 13 judicial charges of Adam's Original Sin](#) (AOS). One of these thirteen charges is **ungodly** (asebeia) (Rom.1:18; 4:5-6; 5:6-8; 1 Tim.1:9- 15; 2 Pet.2:5-6).

(Rom.4:5-6) "But to the one who does not work, but believes in Him who justifies the **ungodly**, his faith is credited as righteousness (apart from works)." (1 Pet.4:18)

(Rom.5:6) "For while we were still helpless, at the right time Christ died for the **ungodly**." (Rom.5:6-11; Titus 2:11-14)

2. The blind man used the theological Greek word for godly (theosebeia) correctly in response to the attack against Jesus and his healing by the Jewish religious leaders (John 9:24-31).

(John 9:31) "We know that God does not hear sinners; but if anyone is God-fearing and does His will, He hears him."

Paul used **theosebeia** in addressing Christian women's ministry in the church (1 Tim.2:9-15).

(1 Tim.2:10) "But rather by means of good works, as befits women making a claim to godliness."

Theosebeia is used to describe a person who has a born again and has a relationship with God through the gospel of Jesus Christ ([Positional Truth](#)) (1 Cor.15:3-4; Rom.1:16; Eph.2:8-9; 2 Cor.5:17).

- The saved person's status is changed from ungodly to godly by grace and not by works the moment he believes the gospel of Jesus Christ (Rom.4:5-6; Rom.5:6; Titus 2:11-15; 3:5).

3. In the Pastoral Epistles, Paul used eusebeia to describe experiential truth regarding godliness in the Christian way of life (CWL) (1 Tim.6:5-6).

In the Christian way of life (CWL), **Godliness** is the result of spiritual growth maturity.

(Titus 2:12) "Instructing us **to deny** ungodliness (asebeia) and worldly desires **and to live** sensibly, righteously and godly (eusebos) in the present age."

(Titus 1:1) “Paul, a bond-servant of God, and an apostle of Jesus Christ, for the faith of those chosen of God and the knowledge of the truth which is according to **godliness.**”

Godliness requires discipline like exercise in the Christian way of life (CWL).

(1 Tim.4:7b-8) “On the other hand, discipline (gumnazo) yourselves **for the purpose of godliness**; for bodily discipline is only of little profit, but godliness is profitable for all things, since it holds promise for the present life and also for the life to come.”

Godliness ministry is connected to prayer on behalf of government leaders.

(1 Tim.2:2-4) “For kings and all who are in authority, in order that we may lead a tranquil and quiet life in all godliness and dignity.”

4. In (2 Pet.1:5-11), godliness is one of eight virtues of reaching and maintaining spiritual growth maturity until dying grace.

We will illustrate these eight virtues using an eight floor building. We will start at the bottom foundation of the Faith Cycle. Paul saw this in (1 Cor.13:13).

8 th floor	(ten agape)	Love
7 th floor	(ten Philadelphia)	_____
6 th floor	(ten godliness)	_____
5 th floor	(ten hupomone)	_____
4 th floor	(ten enkrateia)	_____
3 rd floor	(ten gnosis)	_____
2 nd floor	(ten arête)	_____
1 st floor	(te pistis)	Faith Cycle

(2 Pet.1:5) “Now for this very reason also (2 Pet.1:3-4), in your faith supplying (epichoregeo/ a.a. impv.2pl).” (2 Cor.9:10-11; Gal.3:5; Eph.4:15-16; Phil.1:19-20; Col.2:16-19)

The building is built by the cycling of the word of God (2 Tim.3:16-17). **The occupation of the building** is by application of the word of God through-out all of the floors in your Christian walk, every area of your life.

(1 Tim.6:11) “But **flee from** these things, you man of God; **and pursue** righteousness, godliness, faith, love, perseverance and gentleness.”