“Introduction to the Pastoral Epistles”

Intro: In 1726 the scholar Paul Anton titled a lecture concerning I & II Timothy & Titus as “The __________ Epistles”. It was then that the title was popularized. Due to the content and __________ of the letters it is a good title by which to group these three books.

A. The Pastoral Letters were recorded by _______ as the __________ breathed-out God’s Word for the instruction of the church.

B. This was the God-ordained time, in the early establishment of the church, to give absolute and permanent written instruction to pastors, plainly ___________ what kind of men church leaders are to be, how the church is to be lead, and what duties the pastors are to give their foremost devotion. Summed up __________ are to defend sound doctrine and maintain sound discipline, personally and corporately.

I. __ ____________

A. Paul was an _____________ __ ___________ Jesus.

B. Paul immediately reminded the believing reader that ______ ____ our salvation and ______ ____ our hope. No matter the difficulties that come as the instruction of this letter is obeyed, no matter the hardships of life, the trials of persecution, still God is our Savior and Jesus is our hope – and this will never be undone! ________ then ________ ____ ______?

C. Paul spoke of Timothy with great words of ________________. (How tender is the true ______________ of true believers! Behold how good and how pleasant it is, when brethren dwell together in _________! How precious is the relationship between the disciple-maker and the disciple!)

D. And to Timothy Paul wrote pronouncing, “__________, __________ and __________ from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.”

1. Here grace refers to God’s ________________ ________.
2. Mercy refers to the tender _______________ and __________ pity God.

3. Peace is that which results from the grace and mercy of God. It is an ______________ calm that is conditioned not upon the surrounding circumstance but results from being at ______________ ____ ____ __________, knowing you are the recipient of His divine grace, living under the constant active care of His divine mercy.

4. Grace, mercy and peace are _______ ______ the Father and Christ ________ our Lord, and them alone.

In closing: Let us _______________ a few things:

A. Can it be said of you that you are a true child in the faith____ Is God your Savior and Father____ One may only answer in the affirmative if Jesus is their hope and Lord!

1. Will you now ______________ the grace and mercy of _____? Will you live in true and lasting peace? Then hope in Jesus. __________ in the Lord God. Believe upon the Lord ________ Christ and you will be saved by grace, kept by mercy, and divine inward peace, which surpasses all understanding, will keep your heart and mind.

B. As Paul was an Apostle sent by Christ, and as Timothy was also sent as an apostolic delegate, so are we this very day sent by Christ to carry out His mission. ______, my dear sister or brother, are gifted by God and sent by Christ in the authority of Christ to ________________ His __________ wherever you go. This calling comes to every believer.

1. Now then, what prevents you from being a true ambassador of Christ Jesus, especially _________ that ______ your Savior and Father through __________ your hope and Lord has granted you His grace, mercy and peace?

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