

His Life Determines Our Rules

I Tim. 3:14-16

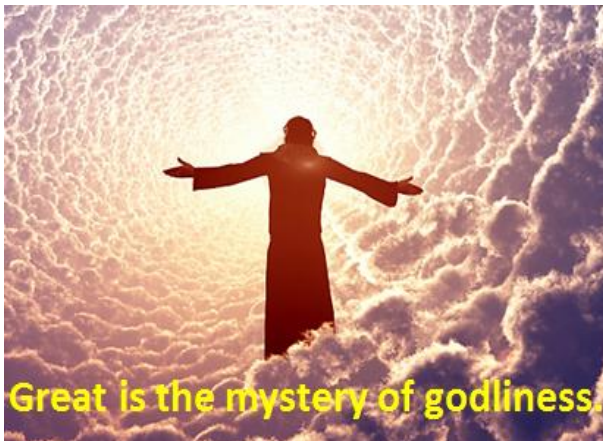
God has household rules for our conduct. 14,15

- Believers are part of God's family/household, Gal. 6:10, Eph. 2:19, I Pt. 4:17, thus family terminology, 5:1,2, I Thess. 5:27, Js. 2:15,16.
- What are some of these rules of conduct so far? And later on?

- The church's crucial role is supporting/protecting/proclaiming the truth-- not determining it. Note how Paul uses *truth* in 2:4, II Tim. 2:25, cf. how the apostle were similarly referred to as *pillars* of the church in Gal. 2:9.
- What happens if we blow off or seek to change God's household rules?

God's household rules are based on Jesus' own life. 16

- This verse appears to be part of an early hymn, cf.1:17 and 6:15b-16.
Hymn = six passive verbs that focus on Christ's humiliation/exaltation and how He was received both in heaven and earth.
- Mystery* = gospel of Christ revealed, 3,9, Eph. 3:4,5, 6:19, Col. 1:26,27.
of godliness = Christian faith lived out in conduct, 2:2, 4:7,8, 6:6.
- Unlike the myths (1:4) or fables (4:7) the church's existence is based on the *Living God* (3:15) entering into human history in the *flesh*, thus God's household rules must be fully lived out



HYMN:

- *Incarnation
- *Spirit at baptism
and resurrection
- *Angelic witness
- *Gospel preached
- *People responded
- *Ascension