

1. ***The Ministry of Lois and Eunice (2 Tim 1:5)***
2. ***How Did God Love the World? (John 3:10-21)***

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MOTHERS' DAY MESSAGE

The Ministry of Lois and Eunice to Timothy (2 Tim 1:5)

2 Tim 1³ I thank God, whom I serve with a pure conscience, as my forefathers did, as without ceasing I remember you in my prayers night and day, ⁴ greatly desiring to see you, being mindful of your tears, that I may be filled with joy, ⁵ when I call to remembrance the genuine faith that is in you, which dwelt first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice, and I am persuaded is in you also.

Where is it that Eunice, Lois, and Timothy believed in Christ?
Derbe and Lystra (Acts 16:1) are in the Roman province of Galatia (not the ethnic region of Galatia).

Why does Paul highlight Timothy's grandmother and mother?

What about Timothy's father? (Acts 16:1)

Lois and Eunice: role models for mothers and grandmothers

MAIN MESSAGE: *How Did God Love the World?*

2

INTRODUCTION:

REVIEW

Nicodemus came (with disciples) to Jesus. *But* (or *Now*) in 3:1 introduces events of a night *during* the feast (April A.D. 30). In rural Judea (3:22), Jesus' disciples baptized many new believers like Nicodemus—even more than did John (4:1-2).

AMPLIFICATION ON A FEW POINTS FROM LAST WEEK

As a teacher of Israel, Nicodemus should know about the new birth [cf. Isaiah 44 & Ezekiel 37 from last week] (3:10)

Jesus gave an ordination exam: The One who ascended to heaven already descended from heaven (3:13)

Prov 30¹ The words of Agur the son of Jakeh, his utterance. This man declared to Ithiel—to Ithiel and Ucal: ² Surely I am more stupid than any man, And do not have the understanding of a man. ³ I neither learned wisdom Nor have knowledge of the Holy One. ⁴ Who has ascended into heaven, or descended? Who has gathered the wind in His fists? Who has bound the waters in a garment? Who has established all the ends of the earth? What is His name, and what is His Son's name, If you know?

As those who looked at the serpent on the pole [lived], those who believe in Christ live eternally (3:14-15)

3

NEW MATERIAL:

The way that God loved the world was by sending His Son, so believers would not perish, but have everlasting life (3:16)

So (houtōs) means thus, in this way, an adverb of manner.

Unbelievers will exist forever, but only believers have life (cf. Rev 20:14: *the second death*, not “the second life”)

God did not send His Son [the first time] to condemn the world, but to save it [by giving everlasting life] (3:17)

Next time He will come to judge unbelievers, not to give life.

Believers escape [the Great White Throne] judgment, but unbelievers already are in condemned state (3:18)

4

Unbelievers are dead. No unbeliever will merit life at the Great White Throne: No reversal of their present condemnation. Thus, unbelievers are already condemned.

The judgment is this: condemned people tend to avoid Jesus Christ, the life-giving Light (3:19)

Fear of rejection causes condemned people to reject Life-giver.

Those doing evil (both believers and unbelievers) avoid the Light, so their deeds will not be exposed (3:20)

It is when believers come to the Light that others can see that their good works are done in God (3:21)

CONCLUSION