

## THE CHALLENGE OF A GOOD MINISTER

**Introduction:** In chapter three Paul warned Timothy about the certainty of apostasy coming into the churches (3:1). He told him its characteristics (3:2-5), its captives (3:6-7) and its conclusion (3:8-9). Then he challenged Timothy to combat it by following his example (3:10-11), by living a godly life (3:12) and by practicing the precepts in the Scriptures (3:14-17).

**Lesson aim:** Learn how to expose false doctrine with the Scriptures and a godly life.

**Verses:** "All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works" (3:16-17).

### Outline of the Lesson and Questions to Answer

#### I. Perceiving the Apostasy — 3:1-9

1. What did Paul say would happen in the last days (beginning with the church age)? 3:1
2. How many characteristics of apostates did Paul list? 3:2-5
3. What things do apostates love? 3:2-5 (KJV Bibles use a word without love in it.)
  - a. \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. \_\_\_\_\_
  - c. \_\_\_\_\_
4. What characteristics show that apostates are arrogant? 3:2-5
  - a. \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. \_\_\_\_\_
  - c. \_\_\_\_\_
  - d. \_\_\_\_\_
5. They have the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_, but \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ of it. 3:5
6. How was Timothy to treat these people? 3:5
7. What kind of people become captives of apostates? 3:6-7
  - a. \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. \_\_\_\_\_
  - c. \_\_\_\_\_

#### II. Practicing the Word — 3:10-17

8. What should believers who live godly lives expect? 3:12
9. What ironical statement describes the end result of apostates? 3:13
10. How could Timothy keep from falling into error? 3:14
11. What gives us wisdom for salvation? 3:15
12. Why is all Scripture profitable? 3:16
13. How is all Scripture profitable? 3:16
  - a. \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. \_\_\_\_\_
  - c. \_\_\_\_\_
  - d. \_\_\_\_\_
14. What is the purpose of the Scriptures? 3:17