

What are you expecting that your ministry life will be like over the next few years?

Structure

- In (1-5) Paul provides a general description of the kind of ungodly person that characterises the last days
- In (6-9) Paul provides a specific description of those who seek to exercise influence over others to lead them astray

He makes, I think, two points. One is an explicit command that comes in (5) and the other is implicit from (9).

1. Don't associate with those who profess to love God, but don't (1-5)

^{3:1} But mark this: there will be terrible times in the last days. ² People will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boastful, proud, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, ³ without love, unforgiving, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not lovers of the good, ⁴ treacherous, rash, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God – ⁵ having a form of godliness but denying its power.

People will be

- *boastful:*
- *proud:*
- *abusive:*
- *disobedient to their parents:*
- *ungrateful:*
- *unholy:*
- *without love:*
- *unforgiving:*
- *slanderous:*
- *without self-control:*
- *brutal:*
- *not lovers of the good:*
- *treacherous:*
- *rash:*
- *conceited:*

But they're characterised by three false overwhelming desires

They love themselves:

They love money:

They love pleasure:

Implications

Could you be a terrible person?

Are you expecting to have to deal with terrible people?

Are you dealing with terrible people?

2. Don't be anxious about those who appear to make progress, but won't (6-9)

⁶ They are the kind who worm their way into homes and gain control over gullible women, who are loaded down with sins and are swayed by all kinds of evil desires, ⁷ always learning but never able to come to a knowledge of the truth. ⁸ Just as Jannes and Jambres opposed Moses, so also these teachers oppose the truth. They are men of depraved minds, who, as far as the faith is concerned, are rejected. ⁹ But they will not get very far because, as in the case of those men, their folly will be clear to everyone.

1. They were burdened with their sins
2. They were ruled by their desires
3. They were unable to settle their convictions

Implication

Could you be a vulnerable person?

Are you protecting your people?

Do you need the encouragement of (9)?

Conclusion

Don't associate with those who profess to love God, but don't
Don't be anxious about those who seem to make progress, but won't