

2 Timothy 1:1-12

“I Know Whom
I Have Believed”

Introduction

*American Worldview Inventory 2022 of Pastors
by Cultural Research Center at Arizona Christian University*

37% of all pastors possess a biblical worldview

62% hold a hybrid worldview known as Syncretism (fusion of diverse religious practices and beliefs)

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“It’s just further evidence that the culture is influencing the American church much more than Christian churches are influencing the culture.” – George Barna

“It is not the ship in the water but the water in the ship that sinks it. So it is not the Christian in the world but the world in the Christian that constitutes the danger. – J Wilbur Chapman

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Senior Pastors – 41%

Associate Pastors – 28%

Teaching Pastors – 13%

Children's and Youth Pastors – 12%

2021 Survey – 88% of US adults embrace syncretism

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A minority of all Christian pastors thinks and acts biblically in each of the other seven categories of worldview measurement.

- 47% - biblical worldview regarding family and the value of life
- 44% - concerning issues related to God, creation, and history
- 43% - in relation to personal faith practices
- 43% - matters of sin, salvation, and one's relationship with God
- 40% - pertaining to human character and human nature
- 40% - measures of lifestyle, personal behavior, and relationships.

Lowest of all: 39% of all pastors have a biblical worldview regarding beliefs and behaviors related to the Bible, truth, and morality.

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“Some critics have said that megachurches attract people by compromising the gospel, teaching what people want to hear rather than the hard truths stated within the Bible. While this research does not directly touch on that argument, the data do show that larger churches are less likely to have pastors who maintain a biblical worldview.”

Barna explained, “You cannot give what you do not have, so it is plausible that pastors of some large churches attract people by teaching a cultural standard rather than a biblical standard. There are obviously some great Bible teaching churches and pastors among the nation’s largest congregations, but the data suggest it is more common to find pastors with a biblical worldview in smaller churches.”

Introduction

Key Verse

1:12-13 For this reason I also suffer these things; nevertheless, I am not ashamed, for I know whom I have believed and am persuaded that He is able to keep what I have committed to Him until that Day. Hold fast the pattern of sound words which you have heard from me, in faith and love which are in Christ Jesus.

Introduction

Quick outline of 2 Timothy

- Guard and maintain the gospel (1)
- Fight and suffer for the gospel (2:1–13)
- Pursue godliness 2:14–26)
- Continue in sound teaching (3)
- Preach the word (4)

Vv 1-5

Greeting and Introduction

Vv 1-5: Greeting and Introduction

So I shall take those three things to myself: ‘Grace, mercy, and peace.’ You may have the two, ‘Grace and peace,’ but I need mercy more than any of you; so I take it from my Lord’s loving hand, and I will trust, and not be afraid, despite all my shortcomings, and feebleness, and blunders, and mistakes, in the course of my whole ministry.” (Spurgeon – as quoted by Guzik)

V 6

Stir Up the Gift of God Within You

V 7

The Substance of Boldness in Stirring Up the Gifts

V 8

The Result of A Spirit of Power,
Love and A Strong Mind

V 8: The Result of a Spirit of Power, Love and a Strong Mind.

2 Peter 3:3-4

knowing this first: that scoffers will come in the last days, walking according to their own lusts, and saying, "Where is the promise of His coming? For since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as [they were] from the beginning of creation."

Vv 9-10

If You Are Ashamed of the Gospel,
You Don't Understand the Gospel

Vv9-10: If You Are Ashamed of the Gospel, You Don't Understand the Gospel

Ephesians 2:8-10

*For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; [it is] the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast. For we are His workmanship (Gr: *poiema* – masterpiece), created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.*

Vv 9-10: If You Are Ashamed of the Gospel,
You Don't Understand the Gospel

It is good news that God thought of you and loved you before you even existed; good news that Jesus came to perfectly show us God; good news that He called us and saved us; good news that He gives us a holy calling; and good news that He shows us and gives us eternal life. - Guzik

Vv 11-12

I Know Whom I Have Believed

Vv 11-12: I Know Whom I Have Believed

Flashing through his mind were the sermons he preached (a preacher), the churches he founded and led (an apostle), and the diverse nations he brought to Jesus Christ (a teacher of the Gentiles). He no doubt thanked Jesus as he considered each one. - Guzik

Take It Home

Stir up the gift of God in you, and use it for His glory

Walk in bold confidence, having the spirit of power, love and a sound mind.

Believe that God will preserve you for That Day.

John 10:27-29

"My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me. "And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand. "My Father, who has given [them] to Me, is greater than all; and no one is able to snatch [them] out of My Father's hand.

MEDITATION VERSE

2 Timothy 1:6-7

*Therefore, I remind you to stir up the
gift of God which is in you... For God
has not given us a spirit of fear, but of
power and of love and of a sound mind.*

BENEDICTION

Psalm 121:7-8

*The LORD shall preserve you from all evil;
He shall preserve your soul. The LORD shall
preserve your going out and your coming in
from this time forth, and even forevermore.*