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## Christ at the Center

**Matt 16:13-15: But who do you say that I am?**  
**1 Timothy 6:20-21 – Standing firm with Christ as God**

- Guard what has been entrusted to you.  
 Guard: (*phyllassō*) to guard or watch, have an eye upon: lest he escape  
 What has been entrusted to you: "the deposit"
  - What was deposited into Timothy?
  - The True Gospel (sound doctrine) – *Romans 1:16*

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"For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes."

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**1 Timothy 6:20-21 – Standing firm with Christ as God**

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 What has been entrusted to you: "the deposit"
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  - The True Gospel (sound doctrine) – *Romans 1:16*
 Orthopraxy – right living  
 Orthodoxy – right thinking  
 How? *1 Timothy 1:14* – "Guard, through the Holy Spirit who dwells in us"

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**1 Timothy 6:20-21 – Standing firm with Christ as God**

- Avoid worldly and empty chatter  
 Why are we to avoid this?
  - Colossians 2:8* – "See to it that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deception..."
  - Is Paul against philosophy?
  - Absolutely not.
  - Philosophy – *love of wisdom* is riddled throughout the OT.
    - Proverbs 1:7; 2:6; 3:5,6; 3:19,20*
    - He just demands that we start at the right place: In the beginning, God! (*Romans 1:18-23*)

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**1 Timothy 6:20-21 – Standing firm with Christ as God**

- Avoid worldly and empty chatter  
 Why are we to avoid this?
  - "opposing arguments of what is falsely called 'knowledge'"
    - Thomas Aquinas (1225-1274)
      - Dualistic Grace/Nature scheme failed to recognize man's fallen intellect along with his fallen will. He saw man's intellect as essentially undamaged by the Fall.
    - The Grace/Nature dualism eventually became the Faith/Rationality split and spread throughout the disciplines:
      - philosophy (Hegel), science (Darwin) art (post-impressionists), music (Debussy), general culture (early TS Eliot)...then lastly theology (Barth).

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## Christ at the Center

**1 Timothy 6:20-21 – Standing firm with Christ as God**

- Avoid worldly and empty chatter  
 Why are we to avoid this?
  - Why the history lesson?
  - Today, we are all products of the fact-reason/belief-faith dualism. (Unite the two...)
  - Harry Blamires (a student of C.S. Lewis) "there is no longer a Christian mind." (*The Christian Mind: How should a Christian Think?*)
    - There is very little thinking today, let alone, "Christian" thinking.
    - We must begin to construct a Christ-centered worldview.

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*1 Timothy 6:20-21* – Standing firm with Christ as God

3. What is a “worldview?”

- How we think, or see, or filter the world around us.
  - Socrates (fifth century, B.C.) thought that when it comes to the Ultimate Questions, we all start off as completely ignorant.
- We are told to have a Christ-centered worldview:
  - *Philippians 2:5* – “have this mind (attitude) in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus.”
  - *Romans 12:2* – “be transformed by the renewing of your mind”
- How do we develop a Christ-centered worldview?
- *Romans 11:36* – “For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things.”

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*1 Timothy 6:20-21* – Standing firm with Christ as God

4. Why? To avoid going astray from the faith.

- Ideas have consequences.
- “Therefore” (*Romans 12:1*)
- “then” (*Ezekiel 33:10,11*)
- Right thinking (orthodoxy) leads to Right living (orthopraxy)

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*1 Timothy 6:20-21* – Standing firm with Christ as God

“...everything God has done for us in salvation has bearing on everything we should think and do, that is, on all of life. We must think differently, and we must also be different, because God has saved us from our sins.” (Boice)

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