

## *Valley Bible Church – Sermon Notes*

**Sermon Notes for September 11-12, 2004**

**"The Confession of Church Doctrine"**

**1 Timothy 3:14-16**

### **1. The Design for God's Word (3:14-15a)**

a. The occasion of the writing

A few years before his death, Paul wrote this letter from Macedonia to Timothy, who was in Ephesus (1 Timothy 1:3).

b. The objective for the writing

This objective assumes we are in the church.

### **2. The Description of God's Church (3:15b)**

a. The church is the household of God

- The church is not a place, it is a family.

b. The church belongs to the living God

- The church is not a human institution.

c. The church is the pillar and foundation of truth

- The church does not determine the truth, it supports the truth.
- The church supports the truth, not only a few church leaders.

### **3. The Detail of God's Doctrine (3:16)**

a. The consent to the confession

- A confession in common
- A confession for godliness

b. The content of the confession

- The Revelation of Christ: Incarnation (John 1:14)
- The Righteousness of Christ: Perfection (Mt. 3:16)

## *Valley Bible Church – Sermon Notes*

- The Witness of Christ: Testimony (Luke 24:4-7)
- The Body of Christ: Inclusiveness (Acts 1:8)
- The Gospel of Christ: Salvation (John 3:16)
- The Ascension of Christ: Glorification (Acts 1:9-11)

### c. The construction of the confession

- His arrival: The incarnation
- His consideration: Deemed righteous by God
- His revelation: To angels
- His revelation: To Gentiles
- His consideration: Deemed righteous by men
- His departure: The ascension

The structure of this passage emphasizes the point that Christ came to reveal God to the Gentiles.