

1 Timothy 6:13

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

I give thee charge in the sight of God, who quickeneth all things, and before Christ Jesus, who before Pontius Pilate witnessed a good confession;

Analysis

I give thee charge in the sight of God, who quickeneth all things (Παραγγέλλω σοι ἐνώπιον τοῦ θεοῦ τοῦ ζωοποιούντος τὰ πάντα, Parangellō soi enōpion tou theou tou zōopoiontos ta panta)—'I charge you before God who gives life to all things.' Parangellō is military command language. Zōopoieō means to make alive, give life. God is the life-giver and sustainer.

And before Christ Jesus, who before Pontius Pilate witnessed a good confession (καὶ Χριστοῦ Ἰησοῦ τοῦ μαρτυρήσαντος ἐπὶ Ποντίου Πιλάτου τὴν καλὴν ὁμολογίαν, kai Christou Iēsou tou martyrēsantos epi Pontiou Pilatou tēn kalēn homologian)—'and before Christ Jesus who testified the good confession before Pontius Pilate.' Martyreō means to witness, testify. Jesus' confession before Pilate (John 18:33-37) demonstrated faithful testimony under threat.

Paul charges Timothy with solemn authority: before God the life-giver and Christ the faithful witness. Jesus' example before Pilate—standing firm for truth despite danger—models the faithfulness Paul requires of Timothy. Remain faithful to your charge even when threatened.

Historical Context

Pontius Pilate governed Judea AD 26-36. Jesus' trial before Pilate is recorded in all four Gospels—He confessed He was King and witnessed to truth (John 18:37), even

knowing it would lead to crucifixion. Paul holds up Jesus' fearless testimony as the model: Timothy must confess Christ faithfully regardless of consequences, following his Lord's example of costly obedience.

Related Passages

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Psalms 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Study Questions

1. Why does Paul invoke both God the life-giver and Christ the faithful witness?
2. How does Jesus' confession before Pilate model faithful testimony under persecution?
3. What 'good confession' might cost you in your current context?

Interlinear Text

παραγγέλλω	σοι	ἐνώπιον	τὴν	θεοῦ	τὴν	ζωοποιοῦντος
I give	thee	in the sight	who	of God	who	quickeneth
G3853	G4671	G1799	G3588	G2316	G3588	G2227
τὴν	πάντα	καὶ	Χριστοῦ	Ἰησοῦ	τὴν	μαρτυρήσαντος
who	all things	and	before Christ	Jesus	who	witnessed
G3588	G3956	G2532	G5547	G2424	G3588	G3140
ἐπὶ	Ποντίου	Πιλάτου	τὴν	καλὴν	ὁμολογίαν	
before	Pontius	Pilate	who	a good	confession	
G1909	G4194	G4091	G3588	G2570	G3671	

Additional Cross-References

Matthew 27:11 (References Jesus): And Jesus stood before the governor: and the governor asked him, saying, Art thou the King of the Jews? And Jesus said unto him, Thou sayest.

1 Timothy 5:21 (References Jesus): I charge thee before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, and the elect angels, that thou observe these things without preferring one before another, doing nothing by partiality.

Revelation 3:14 (Witness): And unto the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write; These things saith the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of the creation of God;

Revelation 1:5 (Witness): And from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, and the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood,

John 5:21 (Parallel theme): For as the Father raiseth up the dead, and quickeneth them; even so the Son quickeneth whom he will.