2 Tim. 2:14-22

What does it mean to *wrangle* about words? (literally, to “word fight”) (1 Tim. 6:1-5) Can you think of some examples:

Why do some people wrangle about words? What is the motivation?

Why does Paul say it is useless?

Paul tells Timothy to “solemnly charge them” not to wrangle about words because it leads to the ruin (literally, catastrophe) of the hearers. How so?

v. 15 – Why does the minister need to be diligent in order to accurately handle the Word of truth?

Whose approval should the minister, the Christian, be concerned about? (2 Cor. 5:9; 2 Cor. 10:18; Gal. 1:10; 1 Thes. 2:4)

What is empty and worldly chatter and why does it spread like gangrene? (1 Tim. 4:6-7; 1 Tim. 6:20-21; Titus 1:10-11)

How could Hymenaeus and Philetus argue that the resurrection had already taken place and how could they upset the faith of some? Wouldn’t it be obvious that the resurrection hadn’t taken place? (1 Cor. 15:12-19, 33)

Amidst many heresies and apostasies from the faith, how is verse 19 a continuing comfort? (John 10:14, 27-30; John 13:18)
What is Paul’s point in verse 20? (1 Cor. 3:9-15; Rom. 9:18-24)

v. 21 – If a Christian wants to be useful to the Master, what must he do? (2 Cor. 6:14-18; Rev. 18:1-5)

Note that we must also be “cleansed from these things” if we want to be prepared for every good work: 2 Tim. 3:16-17; Eph. 2:10; Titus 3:1, 8, 15)

v. 22 -- What are youthful lusts?

What is the significance of the word “flee”? (Gen. 39:10-12; 1 Cor. 6:18)

Why is it important to pursue righteousness, faith, love and peace, with those who call on the Lord from a pure heart”?

“Those that are disposed to strive commonly strive about matters of very small moment. Strifes of words are very destructive to the things of God. That they strive not about words to no profit. If people did but consider of what little use most of the controversies in religion are, they would not be so zealous in their strifes of words, to the subverting of the hearers, to the drawing of them away from the great things of God, and occasioning unchristian heats and animosities, by which truth is often in danger of being lost. Observe, People are very
prone to strive about words, and such strifes never answer any other ends than to shake some
and subvert others; they are not only useless, but they are very hurtful, and therefore
ministers are to charge the people that they do not strive about words, and they are most
likely to be regarded when they charge them before the Lord, that is, in his name and from
his word; when they produce their warrant for what they say.” – Matthew Henry

“The ministry of the word is a work, and it is a good work; and those that perform it aright
are worthy of honour and esteem; and it requires industry, diligence, and application, and for
which no man is sufficient without the grace of God; and those who are employed in it are
workmen, workers together with God, and labourers in his vineyard: and such who are
faithful and diligent ones, "need not to be ashamed"; such do not cause shame, neither in
themselves nor in others, as false teachers do, who foam out their own shame, and as
negligent ministers of the word, and such whose lives are not agreeable to the doctrines they
preach; nor have they any reason to be ashamed, neither of the Gospel, which they preach,
nor of their sufferings, which they endure for the sake of it, nor of their upright ministrations
of the word; and as they are not afraid to suffer shame for the sake of Christ now, they will
not be ashamed before him at his coming.” – John Gill