

# Daily Prayer

FRIDAY, JULY 3

Today's prayer is based on I Timothy 1.3-4, ESV.

*As I [Paul] urged you [Timothy] when I was going to Macedonia, remain at Ephesus so that you may charge certain persons not to teach any different doctrine, nor to devote themselves to myths and endless genealogies, which promote speculations rather than the stewardship from God that is by faith.*

Dear God of truth,

Thank you for the spread of your truth,  
and thank you for raising up those who would embrace your truth  
and see to it that it was passed faithfully  
to those who would, in their turn, also fight to preserve it.  
Help me to realize that there has never been a time  
when everyone agreed to and embraced your truth  
as you delivered it to your apostles,  
that there have always been "certain persons"  
who felt free to bend and twist your truth to their own purposes.  
Help me, in my day, to see who handles your truth faithfully,  
and who manipulates it for their gain.  
Help me to see the difference between your truth of divine origin  
and those so-called "truths" piling up in your world  
that are of anything but divine origin.  
Lord, teach me the difference between "speculation" -  
when my brain is in free flight, untethered by history, fact or reason,  
and the safe-guarding of your truth which is rightly understood  
only in the context of the faith you give.  
Father, make me into one who sees clearly, holds dearly,  
and fights boldly and effectively for your truth  
and for Jesus' kingdom's sake. Amen.

adapted by ptc

All who call on God in true faith, earnestly from the heart, will certainly be heard, and will receive what they have asked and desired.

- Martin Luther