

**Setting Aside
Present-Tense
Priority of Faith:
Giving Opportunity
to the Adversary -
Satan**

*Scripture
Reading:*

I Timothy 5:2-16

**The final 3 Satanic lusts are found in I Timothy
5:13**

**Spiritual
idleness**

Gossip

**Being a
busybody**



**Verse 12 explains Satan's methodology for
these attacks, which is to "set aside the
priority of the use of faith" as a Christian**

INTRODUCTION

The Background to these Satanic Lusts: Caring for Widows in the Church

- Widows who qualify for church support: (“widows indeed”) - I Tim 5
 - They have no legitimate support - vs 5a
 - They set their hope upon God - vs 5b
 - They continue to supplicate and worship at any time of day or night - vs 5c
 - They (must) be at least 60 years old - vs 9a
 - They (must) have come to be a wife of one man (at a time) - vs 9b
- Witnessed by good (appropriate) works - vs 10
 - If she had children, she brought them up by good works
 - If she entertained strangers
 - If she washed the feet of saints
 - If she relieved/assisted afflicted ones
 - If she paid close attention to every good (beneficial) work - cf Eph 2:10

The Background to these Satanic Lusts: Caring for Widows in the Church

- Widows who DO NOT qualify for church support: - 1 Tim 5
 - Those who have children, or offspring - vs 4,8,16
 - Those who live wantonly (intense, insolent luxury) - vs 6
 - Younger widows - vs 11-15
 - They tend to grow luxuriously insolent against The Christ (the Head and the Body – the Church)
 - They desire to marry - vs 11
 - They have judgment against them (by the church) because they set aside the first quality of faith

The Priority of Faith

- What faith is and what it does - Heb 11:1
 - Enables one to substantize unseen things that are “yet hoped for”
- First use of faith is to become a Christian
 - I Cor 15:1-4, cf Phil 1:29, Eph 2:8-9
- First priority of faith as a Christian
 - To grow spiritually - II Pet 3:18
 - The use our growing faith in the grace and experiential knowledge of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, and to encourage one another's faith by your own faith which is energized by love - Gal 5:6
 - Encouraged by on another's salvation testimony
 - Encouraged by one another's walk and growth in faith

CONCLUSION

- The younger widows who are materially supported by the church, instead of directing their faith for the purpose of encouraging the saints in the local church will desire to marry (a believer) and prioritize their faith toward that end.
- In so doing, they give Satan opportunity to tempt them to spiritual idleness, gossiping, and being a busybody to the detriment of their testimony and the building up of others in the body of Christ by means of love.