



THE
PILLAR & GROUND
TRUTH
OF
THE

The Metaphor — Pillar and Ground

- Pillar – *stylos* – “a prop or support” (THAYER)
- Ground – *hedraiōma* – “that which provides a firm base for someth., perh. Mainstay” (BDAG)
- Timothy in Ephesus — *1 Timothy 1:3* — temple of Diana.
 - Not only supporting truth, but displaying for all to see.



The Pillar and Ground of the Truth

What is the pillar and ground of the truth?

The House of God

- Household/family — *Genesis 18:19; Joshua 24:15; Deuteronomy 6:4-9*

The Church of the Living God

- Assembly — *cf. Acts 19:32, 40-41*
- LIVING God — *Psalms 115*



The Truth

What is the truth of which the church is the pillar and ground?

The Faith and the Truth

- Truth — *1 Timothy 2:4; 3:15; 4:3; 6:5*
- Faith (obj.) — *1 Timothy 1:2, 19; 3:9, 13; 4:1; 5:8; 6:10, 21*
- “*the faith*” manifests a relationship between truth and one who interacts with it — *1 Timothy 4:3; Acts 6:7 (cf. Rom. 1:5)*



The Truth

What is the truth of which the church is the pillar and ground?

The Mystery of Godliness (*1 Timothy 3:16*)

- That which brings the effect of godliness — *1 Tim. 4:6-7; 6:3*
- The mystery summarized shows how it produces godliness.
- God manifested in the flesh, and proclaimed for all to partake in their God-given purpose as His image bearers through the redemptive work of Christ, and His pattern. (*1 Tim. 2:5-6; 3:16; Gal. 2:20*)



The Church as the Pillar and Ground of the Truth

The Emphasis on Conduct in the Context

- *1 Timothy 3:15; 3:7, 10, 13; 1:8-9, 12-13, 16*

The Relation Between Conduct and Doctrine

- *1 Timothy 1:18-20; 1:3, 5-6; 4:1-5; 6:6-10*

The Display of Saving Truth to the World

- *1 Timothy 1:9, 12, 15-16; 2:4, 11; 4:16; 5:14; 6:1*





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