

2 Tim 2 (1-13)

Suffer as a soldier of the Savior

- I. Be strong in the grace in Christ Jesus (1).
 - A. Immediately after Paul points out it is possible for people to fall away he admonishes Timothy to be strong.
 - B. Verse 2 is the perpetuation of the gospel.
- II. “Endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ” (3-5).
 - A. The words, “endure hardness” mean to suffer evil. That is the idea of distress, afflictions and troubles.
 - B. The word “entangleth” in verse 4 is worth noting.
 - The only other time this word is used is in 2 Peter 2:20.
 - It has the idea of being interwoven, or caught back up in.
 - C. Paul uses athletic games to teach dedication and rule following.
- III. Those who do the work are to benefit from their labors (6, 7).
 - A. “Husbandman” is a worker of the land. A farmer or a tiller of the soil.
 - B. The three facets of this teaching will give us the complete picture of being strong and enduring whatever we may have to face:
 - Verse 4; the soldier is trying to please his commander.
 - Verse 5; the athlete is trying for the prize.
 - Verse 6; the husbandman is laboring to get the fruit.
- IV. The centerpiece of Paul’s message (the gospel) is always the resurrection of Christ (8-10).
 - “Jesus Christ of the seed of David was raised from the dead.”
 - Suffering and sainthood go hand in hand (9).
 - Paul was willing to endure anything that came his way in order to obtain heaven (10). Are we?
- V. “It is a faithful saying” is one of Paul’s frequently used expressions (11-13).
 - A. “If we be dead” is present tense. A reference to our living sacrifice as baptized believers. (Rom 6:3-5)
 - B. “Shall live” is future tense. If we get it right now, we have hope.
 - C. It should be obvious that Timothy had the real possibility of suffering as a preacher.

2 Timothy 2

Study to gain God's approval (14-18)

- II. Twin charges to those he will teach and to himself (14, 15).
 - A. "Of these things" refers back to the previously stated declaration of salvation in Christ if faithfully followed. (8-13)
 - B. Conversely, "Study to shew thyself approved unto God."
 - C. Verse 15 ends with, "Rightly dividing the word of truth."
- JJ. Why profane and vain babblings should be avoided (16).
 - A. The word "profane" means the crossing over to the heathenistic or unhallowed side.
 - B. "Vain babblings" means empty sounds or empty chatter.
 - C. Timothy was to "shun" these things.
- JJJ. If Timothy did not avoid these problems it would be like gangrene to his spiritual life (17, 18).
 - A. We all know how serious gangrene is to the body. How do we stop gangrene once it starts?
 - B. Then Paul lists two men who have allowed the canker (gangrene) to corrupt their lives. Hymenaeus and Philetus.
 - C. The specific error of these two was, "Saying that the resurrection is past already; and overthrow the faith of some."

Timothy 2 (19-26)

How to be the vessel of honor

- I. The converse of those with canker are those who the Lord knows.
 - A. Some had erred from the truth, “Nevertheless the foundation of God standeth sure.” (19)
 - B. Verse 20 is a valuable illustration concerning worth.
- II. Becoming a sure vessel of honor (21-23).
 - A. A person could go from being a dishonorable vessel to an honorable vessel by giving up their error and repenting.
 - B. Have you ever seriously considered the “youthful lusts” of verse 22?
 - C. The “pure heart” is an obedient heart.
 - D. In addition to fleeing lusts Timothy is warned to avoid “foolish and unlearned questions” (23).
- III. The servant of the Lord has a set conduct of behavior (24-26).
 - A. As servants of our Lord we have no business in breeding quarrels and disputes (24).
 - B. Those who “oppose themselves” need instruction (25).
 - C. Verse 26 tells us that there is hope to escape (recover) the damnation of a devil’s hell.

2 Timothy 3

Perilous times are coming (1-9)

- I. Paul gives inspired assurance that dangerous (grievous) times were surely coming (1). Same word in Matt 8:28 (fierce).
 - A. “This know also” means to keep this in mind. Keep what in mind?
“That in the last days perilous times shall come.”
Another example of improper chapter division.
Remember, denominational churches did not exist when this was written.
 - B. “In the last days” refers to the last time period, e.g., Christian age.
- II. In verses 2-4 we see a list of some of the sinful practices associated with perilous times. Please note how fresh these sins are to our world.
 - A. Inspiration lists 18 sins (or attitudes) connected to perilous times.
 - B. Which of these doesn’t apply to our world? Timothy’s world too.
- III. It takes more than a form of godliness to be acceptable (5-7).
 - A. Anyone involved in these sins might claim to be a Christian, but it requires more than just the form of godliness to be godly (5).
 - B. “From such turn away.”
 - C. Then inspiration gives us some examples of what is being referenced.
 - D. “Led away with divers lusts.”
- IV. Paul mentions two men who had opposed Moses (8, 9).
 - B. “Now Jannas and Jambres withstood Moses (8).
 - C. Paul says that there is a limit on how far a person like this can go (9).

2 Timothy 3 (10-14)

Paul appeals to his own life and teachings

- I. The contrast was significant between what Timothy had seen from Paul and what the false teachers were teaching (10).
 - A. “But thou hast fully known...,” (we will see that Paul will touch on nine facets of his personal conduct and teaching).
 - “My doctrine” was something Timothy knew well.
 - “Manner of life” or the way he lived day by day.
 - “Purpose” a reference to Paul’s unending devotion to spreading the gospel.
 - “Faith” probably a reference to Paul’s faithfulness.
 - “Longsuffering” patience in regard to people doing us wrong.
 - “Charity” this is agape, the highest form of love.
 - “Patience” a calm demeanor.
 - “Persecutions” (vs 11).
 - “Afflictions” pain and suffering.
 - B. “Which came unto me at Antioch, at Iconium, at Lystra;” (11).
- II. Verses 12-14 is a sobering passage of scripture.
 - A. Inspiration reveals the universality of suffering as saints (12).
 - B. Evil was not about to vacate the world (13).
 - C. Paul calls on Timothy to make sure he lives differently than the seducers (14).

2 Timothy 4

A solemn charge (1, 2)

- I. Paul gives Timothy another “charge,” he is to “preach the word” (1).
 - A. The Bible is filled with serious and solemn charges.
 - B. The highest power was called on in this charge, “Before God and the Lord Jesus Christ.”
 - C. “At his appearing and his kingdom” or His 2nd coming.
- II. What was the charge? “Preach the word” (vs 2).
 - A. The importance of this statement is highlighted by those called as witnesses; God and the Lord Jesus Christ.
 - B. The importance of this statement is highlighted by those called as witnesses; God and the Lord Jesus Christ.
 - C. “Be instant in season, out of season.”
 - D. “Reprove” means to reprehend severely.
 - E. “Rebuke” means to admonish.
 - F. “Exhort” means to urge or plead with appealing words.
 - G. “With all longsuffering and doctrine.”