

Book of 2Timothy

Synopsis



Introduction

Book No	55
Name	2Timothy
Written By	Paul
Testament	New
Category	Epistles
Date Written	Approx. 66 – 67 A.D
Place Written	Rome
Audience	Timothy
Purpose	To give final instructions and encouragement to Timothy, pastor of the church at Ephesus
History Covered	NA
Chapters	4
Verses	83
Key Verse	Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. (2:15)
Key People	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Paul ❖ Timothy ❖ Luke ❖ Mark
Key Places	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Ephesus

Purpose of the Book

Although Paul is terse and to the point, he is also tender, warm, and affectionate. Second Timothy reveals Paul's emotions more than his intellect, because his heart was speaking. Consequently, the letter is not an orderly, well-planned literary production, but a personal note passionately expressing the apostle's last will and testament.

One of the most knowledgeable, influential, and beloved men of history is the apostle Paul. And we have his famous last words.

Paul was facing death. He was not dying of a disease in a sterile hospital with loved ones gathered nearby. He was very much alive, but his condition was terminal. Convicted as a follower of Jesus of Nazareth, Paul sat in a cold Roman prison, cut off from the world, with just a visitor or two and his writing materials. Paul knew that soon he would be executed (4:6), and so he wrote his final thoughts to his "son" Timothy, passing to him the torch of leadership, reminding him of what was truly important, and encouraging him in the faith. Imagine how Timothy must have read and reread every word; this was the last message from his beloved mentor, Paul. Because of the situation and the recipient, this is the most intimate and moving of all Paul's letters—and it is his last.

Paul's introduction is tender, and every phrase exudes the love he has for Timothy (1:1-5). He then reminds Timothy of the qualities necessary for a faithful minister of Jesus Christ (1:6-2:13). Timothy should remember his call and use his gifts with boldness (1:6-12), keep to the truth (1:13-18), prepare others to follow him in the ministry (2:1-2), be disciplined and ready to endure suffering (2:3-7), and keep his eyes and mind focused on Christ (2:8-13). Paul challenges Timothy to hold to sound doctrine, reject error and avoid godless chatter, correctly handle the word of truth (2:14-19), and keep his life pure (2:20-26).

Next, Paul warns Timothy of the opposition that he and other believers would face in the last days from self-centered people who use the church for their own gain and teach false doctrines (3:1-9). Paul tells Timothy to be prepared for these unfaithful people by remembering his example (3:10-11), understanding the real source of the opposition (3:12-13), and finding strength and power in the Word of God (3:14-17). Then Paul gives Timothy a stirring charge: to preach the Word (4:1-4) and to fulfill his ministry until the end (4:5-8).

Paul concludes with personal requests and items of information. In these final words, he reveals his loneliness and his strong love for his brothers and sisters in Christ (4:9-22).

There has never been another person like Paul, the missionary apostle. He was a man of deep faith, undying love, constant hope, tenacious conviction, and profound insight. And he was inspired by the Holy Spirit to give us God's message.

This epistle is a handbook for young ministers of the gospel. The church needs more Timothys who are determined to guard the gospel as a sacred deposit committed to them, who are faithful to proclaim it, who are ready to suffer for it, and who will pass it on to faithful followers.

As you read 2 Timothy, know that you are reading the last words of this great man of God—his last words to Timothy and to all who would claim to follow Christ. Recommit yourself to stand courageously for the truth, knowing the Word and being empowered by the Holy Spirit.

Overview

- ❖ 55th book of the BIBLE, 16th in the New Testament, 11th of the 21 epistles and 11th of the 14 epistles written by Paul
- ❖ Paul's last three epistles are often referred to the "Pastoral Epistles." In order of writing, they are.
 - 1 Timothy
 - Titus
 - 2 Timothy
- ❖ Timothy's name is found more often in the salutations of Paul's letter than any other. It is found in:
 - 2 Corinthians
 - 2 Thessalonians
 - Philippians
 - 1 Timothy
 - Colossians
 - 2 Timothy
 - 1 Thessalonians
 - Philemon
- ❖ 2 Timothy is Paul's final book and is written from his prison cell in Rome.

- ❖ It appears that Paul may have been arrested in Troas due to the fact that there is where his personal belongings had suddenly been left.
- ❖ Paul asks Timothy to:
 - Bring him his books, and especially the parchments.
 - Bring him his cloak (coat).
 - To do all of this before winter sets in.
- ❖ Paul calls Timothy a “good soldier of Jesus Christ.” 2:3
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- ❖ Paul encourages Timothy to:
 - “Stir up.” 1:6
 - “Do not be ashamed.” 1:8, 12-13
 - “Share with me in the sufferings.” 1:8
 - “Hold fast . . . sound words.” 1:13
 - “That good thing . . . keep.” 1:14
 - “Be strong.” 2:1
 - “Endure hardship.” 2:3
 - “Be diligent to present yourself approved.” 2:5
 - “Flee . . . pursue.” 2:22
 - “Avoid” 2:23
 - “You . . . must beware.” 4:15

Hebrew Names of GOD used in 2Timothy

NA

Revelation of JESUS CHRIST

For Paul, the gospel is more than statements and proposition; it is Christ (see 1:8). Spiritual blessings, such as grace, mercy, peace, and even life itself, reside in Him and are derived from Him (1:1, 2, 9, 10, 13, 16, 18; 2:1). Jesus came to earth as a man (2:8) to be our Savior (1:10; 2:10; 3:15) and was resurrected (2:8) following His death. He is faithful to those who follow Him (1:12; 2:11, 12; 4:17, 18, 22) and consistent in His purpose (2:12, 13). He also grants spiritual understanding (2:7). Christ will appear at His Second Coming as the righteous judge (4:1, 8; see 1:18; 4:14, 16).

Work of THE HOLY SPIRIT

The Holy Spirit had given Timothy a gift and Paul exhorted him to use it actively (1:6). Furthermore, the Holy Spirit grants power, love, and a sound mind (1:7). The indwelling Holy Spirit enables us to be faithful to the gospel committed to us and to safeguard its purity (1:13, 14).

Mega Themes of 2Timothy

BOLDNESS

In the face of opposition and persecution, Timothy was to carry out his ministry without fear or shame. Paul urged him to utilize boldly the gifts of preaching and teaching that the Holy Spirit had given him.

The Holy Spirit helps us to be wise and strong. God honors our confident testimony even when we suffer. To get over our fear of what people might say or do, we must take our eyes off of people and look only to God.

FAITHFULNESS

Christ was faithful to all of us in dying for our sin. Paul was a faithful minister even when he was in prison. Paul urged Timothy to maintain not only sound doctrine but also loyalty, diligence, and endurance.

We can count on opposition, suffering, and hardship as we serve Christ. But this shows that our faithfulness is having an effect on others. As we trust Christ, he counts us worthy to suffer, and he will give us the strength we need to be steadfast.

PREACHING AND TEACHING

Paul and Timothy were active in preaching and teaching the Good News about Jesus Christ. Paul encouraged Timothy not only to carry the torch of truth but also to train others, passing on to them sound doctrine and enthusiasm for Christ's mission.

We must prepare people to transmit God's Word to others so that they in turn might pass it on. Does your church carefully train others to teach?

ERROR

In the final days before Christ returns, there will be false teachers, spiritual dropouts, and heretics. The remedy for error is to have a solid program for teaching Christians.

Because of deception and false teaching, we must be disciplined and ready to reject error. Know the Word of God as your sure defense against error and confusion.

Life Lessons in 2Timothy

Truth	Lesson
<p>Growing in Godliness</p> <p>Living in godliness means living as God has told us to live; this involves studying and applying the Scriptures. Those who do so will become living reproof to those who do not and thus will often encounter persecution.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Strictly maintain a clear conscience before God and people. ❖ Devote yourself to responsible Bible study. ❖ Become a sensible interpreter of Scripture. ❖ Recognize that godly living often encounters persecution.
<p>Cultivating Dynamic Devotion</p> <p>Devotion to God grows as you learn to depend upon the Holy Spirit's life in you through His indwelling presence and the spiritual gifts He has given you.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Faithfully exercise gifts of the Holy Spirit that have been imparted to you. Discipline yourself continually to employ them in boldness and in love. ❖ Be strong in grace; draw deeply on God's enabling power and energy to accomplish His purpose through you. ❖ Strictly avoid any fleshly indulgence, and do not succumb to carnal desires. Devote yourself to Spirit-filled living, Spirit-inspired devotion, and bearing the fruit of the Spirit.
<p>Pursuing Holiness</p> <p>One who pursues holiness will do so with spiritual wisdom, spiritual perception, and a wise value system, realizing that any theological quarrelling for the sake of argument is unproductive and refusing to be drawn into it.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Be warned that vain theological quarreling can be ruinous and is almost never helpful. ❖ Avoid being drawn into arguments or quarrels. ❖ Learn to encourage others to believe and practice truth, but do so gently and kindly.

<p>Rather, they learn to gently persuade others to godliness, not being easily deceived by feigned godly behavior.</p> <p>They also recognize the human tendency to avoid the demands of truth and to listen, rather, to what they want to hear.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Do not be deceived by jargon or religiosity. ❖ Look for true spiritual power and godliness in others.
<p>The Walk of Faith</p> <p>Faith believes absolutely in the divine inspiration of the Scriptures. Therefore, the person of faith has a very high view of the Bible and is able courageously to face opposition unmoved.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Revere God’s Word very highly. Recognize its fully divine source of inspiration. Submit to it absolutely. ❖ Do not be frustrated by opposition. Continue to stand strong. Be tirelessly faithful in those things God has commissioned you to do.
<p>Getting Motivated for Ministry</p> <p>Ministry is service, and a “minister” of the gospel is primarily a servant of God’s Word, boldly and courageously sharing its message. Treasure the Word of God and defend it tirelessly, being careful to communicate its truth with accuracy. This is no easy task because the Word of God faces violent opposition.</p> <p>Thus the “minister” of God’s Word learns that patience, endurance, and hard work are necessary for success.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Preach the gospel boldly, without fear! ❖ Recognize that the Word of God is a treasure of inestimable value. Guard it diligently. Hold firmly to the truth you have received. Do not let the Enemy corrupt it. ❖ Communicate truth with accuracy and purity. Train others to do the same. ❖ Learn from the “ministry” examples of 1) the soldier enduring hardship, 2) the athlete in strict training, and 3) the hardworking, patient farmer, what ministry really means. ❖ Become a committed servant of God’s Word. ❖ Be prepared at any time, whether convenient or inconvenient, to proclaim

	it and to patiently instruct those who do not understand or accept it.
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Praise Points in 2Timothy

- ❖ His continuing grace though many generations (1:5)
- ❖ The spirit of power, love, and self-discipline that he gives us (1:7)
- ❖ Christ Jesus, who has broken the power of death (1:10)
- ❖ His faithfulness, which enables us to put our trust in him (1:12; 2:13)
- ❖ The holy scriptures, which teach and correct us (3:16)
- ❖ The crown of righteousness that awaits us (4:8).

Worship Insights in 2Timothy

We can know everything about how to do Worship, but until we experience the grace of God and personally respond to it, we will know very little about true worship.

Second Timothy is an intimate letter from the apostle Paul to Timothy, one of Paul's children in the faith. In it, the apostle illustrated what it meant to participate in worship despite his difficult circumstances. For Paul, worship was more than just theory; it was a heartfelt and habitual response to God's gracious gift of salvation, to be practiced no matter what circumstances he faced.

As Paul wrote this letter, he was facing certain death (4:6), but despite this he approached the end with integrity and peace. He called young Timothy to focus on the person of Jesus, the object of all worship (1:13). And in the midst of recounting his sufferings, Paul broke forth with a doxology of praise: "To God be the glory forever and ever. Amen" (4:18).

Here we see true worship illustrated. We see how Paul had suffered from imprisonment, impending death, and estrangement from one of his churches (1:15; 4:10; 4:16). But in his hour of desperation, his heart expressed itself in thankful worship to God. For Paul, worship was not an occasional moment of quick devotion. It sprang from his very being and empowered him to face his hardships with peace.

While we know only a few details about Timothy's life, we are told in 1:5 of a continuing legacy of faith. It had been passed from his grandmother Lois, to his mother, Eunice, and then on to him. Worship binds one generation to the next in our experience of

God. Shared moments of prayer, song, and teaching build a common bridge that spans generations, helping families to know God.

In this tender letter we see Paul, as he neared the end of his life, longing to pass the mantle of ministry to young Timothy. In doing so, he recalled a song of worship that begins: “If we die with him, we will also live with him” (2:11). This song expresses the glorious promise of an eternity with Jesus. But in a sense, the song itself is a part of that message. For as each new generation recalls its words, faith is rekindled in that act of worship.

- ❖ Worship is a constant state of communion with God (1:3).
- ❖ God gives us strength to overcome fear (1:7-8).
- ❖ As we worship God and learn to trust him, we are lifted above our problems (1:12).
- ❖ Worship enables us to place our complete confidence in God (4:18).

An Outline of 2Timothy

I. Marching Orders for a Young Disciple: 2Ti_1:1-10

- A. Christ Jesus Our Lord: 2Ti_1:1-2
- B. God Has No Grandchildren: 2Ti_1:3-5
- C. Rekindling the Gift of God: 2Ti_1:6-7
- D. The Gospel in a Nutshell: 2Ti_1:8-10

II. Our Calling to the Ministry: 2Ti. 1:11-2:7

- A. Everyone a Minister: 2Ti_1:11-14
- B. Everyone Needs an Onesiphorus: 2Ti_1:15-18
- C. Strength for the Task: 2Ti_2:1-2
- D. Ministry is Difficult: 2Ti_2:3-7

III. Our Work for God: 2Ti_2:8-26

- A. The Power of Memory: 2Ti_2:8-10
- B. Awesome Options: 2Ti_2:11-13
- C. An Unashamed Worker: 2Ti_2:14-19
- D. A Clean Vessel: 2Ti_2:20-22
- E. A Gentle Servant: 2Ti_2:23-26

IV. Coping in Troubled Times: 2Ti_3:1-17

- A. The Roots of Trouble: 2Ti_3:1-5

B. The Spread of Trouble: [2Ti_3:6-9](#)

C. Overcoming Trouble: [2Ti_3:10-13](#)

D. The Firm Foundation for Living in Troubled Times: [2Ti_3:14-17](#)

V. Love's Last Appeal: [2Ti_4:1-22](#)

A. The Highest Priorities: [2Ti_4:1-5](#)

B. Hanging Up the Spikes: [2Ti_4:6-8](#)

C. Even Apostles Have Needs: [2Ti_4:9-13](#)

D. When Everyone Lets You Down: [2Ti_4:14-18](#)

E. Come Before Winter: [2Ti_4:19-22](#)