

2 TIMOTHY

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2 TIMOTHY

I. INTRODUCTION

FROM

1:1 Paul,
an apostle
of Christ Jesus
by the will of God,
according to the promise of life
that is in Christ Jesus,

TO

2 To Timothy,
my dear son:

GREETING

Grace, mercy and peace
from
God the Father and
Christ Jesus our Lord.

II. REMINDING TIMOTHY OF HIS SPIRITUAL STRENGTH

PAUL'S LOVE FOR HIM

3 I thank God,
whom I serve,
as my forefathers did,
with a clear conscience,

as night and day I constantly remember you in my prayers.

4 Recalling your tears, I long to see you, so that I may be filled with joy.

TIMOTHY'S SPIRITUAL FOUNDATION / HERITAGE

5 I have been reminded of your sincere faith,
which first lived in your grandmother Lois and in your mother Eunice and, I am persuaded,
now lives in you also.

GOD'S SPIRIT AND HIS POWER

6 For this reason I remind you to
fan into flame the gift of God,
which is in you through the laying on of my hands.

7 For God did not give us
a spirit of timidity,
but
a spirit of power, of love and of selfdiscipline.

GOD THE FATHER'S GRACE

8 So
do **not**
be **ashamed** to testify about our Lord,
or **ashamed** of me his prisoner.

But join with me
in suffering for the gospel,
by the power of **God**,
9 **who** has saved us and called us to a holy life
–not because of
anything we have done
but because of
his own purpose and **grace**.

SON OF GOD'S REDEMPTION

This grace
was **given** us in Christ Jesus
before the beginning of time,

10 but it has now been **revealed**
through the appearing of our Savior, Christ **Jesus**,

who
has **destroyed death** and
has **brought life** and immortality to light
through the gospel.

III. EXAMPLE OF REMAINING STRONG

PAUL'S EXAMPLE OF CONFIDENCE - UNDER ADVERSE CIRCUMSTANCES

11 And of this gospel

I was appointed a herald and an apostle and a teacher.

12 That is why I am suffering as I am.

Yet I am **not ashamed**,
because I

know whom I have believed, and
am convinced that he is able to guard what I have entrusted to him for that
day.

ONESIPHOROUS'S EXAMPLE OF NOT BEING SHAKEN FROM THE GOSPEL

13 What you heard from me,
keep

as the pattern of sound teaching, with faith and love in Christ Jesus.

14 Guard

the good deposit that was entrusted to you
—guard it

with the help of the Holy Spirit who lives in us.

15 You know that everyone in the province of Asia has deserted me,
including Phygelus and Hermogenes.

16 May the Lord show mercy to the household of Onesiphorus,
because

he often refreshed me and
was **not ashamed** of my chains.

17 On the contrary,

when he was in Rome, he searched hard for me until he found me.

18 May the Lord grant that he will find mercy from the Lord on that day!
You know very well in how many ways he helped me in Ephesus.

IV. *ENCOURAGING TIMOTHY TO, LIKEWISE, REMAIN STRONG AMIDST HARDSHIPS*

MAIN POINT

2:1 You then, my son,
be strong
in the grace that is in Christ Jesus.

2 And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses
entrust to reliable men
who will also be qualified to teach others.

VARIOUS TYPES OF HARDSHIPS AND STRENGTH

3 Endure hardship
with us

like a good soldier of Christ Jesus.

4 No one serving as a soldier gets involved in civilian affairs—he wants to please his commanding officer.

5 Similarly, if anyone competes **as an athlete**,

he does not receive the victor's crown unless he competes according to the rules.

6 The **hardworking farmer**

should be the first to receive a share of the crops.

7 Reflect on what I am saying,

for the Lord will give you insight into all this.

8 Remember

Jesus Christ, raised from the dead, descended from David.

This is my gospel,

9 for which I am suffering
even to the point of being chained like a criminal.

But God's word is not chained.

10 Therefore I endure
everything for the sake of the elect,
that

they too may obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus, with eternal glory.

THE PROMISE THAT ENDURANCE HOLDS

11 Here is a trustworthy saying:

If we died with him, we will also live with him;

12 if we endure, we will also reign with him.

If we disown him, he will also disown us;

13 if we are faithless, he will remain faithful,
for he cannot disown himself.

14 Keep reminding them of these things.

Warn them before God against **quarreling about words**;

it is of no value, and only ruins those who listen.

AN APPROVED WORKMAN

15 Do your best to present yourself
to God

as one **approved**,
a **workman**

who does **not** need to be **ashamed** and
who correctly handles the word of truth.

16 Avoid **godless chatter**,

because those who indulge in it
will become more and more ungodly.

17 Their teaching will spread like gangrene.

Among them are Hymenaeus and Philetus,

18 who have wandered away from the truth.

They say that the resurrection has already taken place, and
they destroy the faith of some.

19 Nevertheless,

God's solid foundation stands firm, sealed with this inscription:

"The Lord knows those who are his," and,

"Everyone who confesses the name of the Lord must turn away from wickedness."

AN INSTRUMENT

20 In a large house there are articles

not only of gold and silver, but also of wood and clay;
some are for noble purposes and some for ignoble.

21 If a man cleanses himself from the latter,

he will be **an instrument** for noble purposes,
made holy, useful to the Master and prepared to do any good work.

22 Flee

the evil desires of youth, and

pursue

righteousness, faith, love and peace,

along with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart.

A SERVANT

23 Don't have anything to do with **foolish and stupid arguments**,

because you know they produce quarrels.

24 And the Lord's **servant** must not quarrel;

instead,

he must be kind to everyone, able to teach, not resentful.

25 Those who oppose him

he must gently instruct, in the hope

that God will grant them repentance leading them to a knowledge of the
truth, 26 and

that they will come to their senses and escape from the trap of the devil, who
has taken them captive to do his will.

V. *EVEN MORE SUFFERING LIES AHEAD*

3:1 But mark this:

There will be terrible times in the last days.

2 People will be

lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boastful, proud, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, 3 without love, unforgiving, slanderous, without selfcontrol, brutal, not lovers of the good, 4 treacherous, rash, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God— 5 having a form of godliness but denying its power.

Have nothing to do with them.

6 They are the kind who

worm their way into homes and gain control over weakwilled women, who are loaded down with sins and are swayed by all kinds of evil desires, 7 always learning but never able to acknowledge the truth.

8 Just as Jannes and Jambres opposed Moses, so also these men oppose the truth—men of depraved minds, who, as far as the faith is concerned, are rejected. 9 But they will not get very far because, as in the case of those men, their folly will be clear to everyone.

10 You, however,

know all about my teaching, my way of life, my purpose, faith, patience, love, endurance, 11 persecutions, sufferings—what kinds of things happened to me in Antioch, Iconium and Lystra, the persecutions I endured. Yet the Lord rescued me from all of them.

12 In fact, everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus
will be persecuted,

13 while evil men and impostors
will go from bad to worse, deceiving and being deceived.

14 But as for you,

continue in what you have learned and have become convinced of,

because

you know those from whom you learned it, 15 and
how from infancy you have known the holy Scriptures,
which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.

16 All Scripture is Godbreathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, 17 so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

VI. *ENCOURAGING TIMOTHY TO FULLY EMBRACE HIS TIME AND PLACE*

4:1 In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who will judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom,
I give you this charge:

2 Preach the Word;
be prepared in season and out of season;
correct, rebuke and encourage—with great patience and careful instruction.

3 For the time will come when
men will not put up with sound doctrine.

Instead,
to suit their own desires,
they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear.

4 They will turn their ears away from the truth and turn aside to myths.

5 But you,
keep your head in all situations, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, discharge all the duties of your ministry.

6 For I am already being poured out like a drink offering, and the time has come for my departure. 7 I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. 8 Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day—and not only to me, but also to all who have longed for his appearing.

VII. FARWELL

9 Do your best to come to me quickly,

10 for Demas, because he loved this world, has deserted me and has gone to Thessalonica. Crescens has gone to Galatia, and Titus to Dalmatia.
11 Only Luke is with me.

Get Mark and bring him with you, because he is helpful to me in my ministry.

12 I sent Tychicus to Ephesus.

13 When you come, bring the cloak that I left with Carpus at Troas, and my scrolls, especially the parchments.

14 Alexander the metalworker did me a great deal of harm. The Lord will repay him for what he has done. 15 You too should be on your guard against him, because he strongly opposed our message.

16 At my first defense, no one came to my support, but everyone deserted me. May it not be held against them.

17 But the Lord stood at my side and gave me strength,

so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it.

And I was delivered from the lion's mouth.

18 The Lord will rescue me from every evil attack and will bring me safely to his heavenly kingdom.

To him be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

19 Greet Priscilla and Aquila and the household of Onesiphorus.

20 Erastus stayed in Corinth, and I left Trophimus sick in Miletus.

21 Do your best to get here before winter.

Eubulus greets you, and so do Pudens, Linus, Claudia and all the brothers.

22 The Lord be with your spirit. Grace be with you. (NIV)