

COMMENTARY

II TIMOTHY 1

Paul writes in this second letter to Timothy (within a brief time from the first letter) praying for God to grant grace, mercy and peace to Timothy.

Paul has fond memories of Timothy and his faith in Christ; faith which was found in Timothy's grandmother and mother. Paul challenges Timothy to make the most of his spiritual gift; allowing God's Spirit to work through him in power, love and self-discipline.

Paul reminds Timothy that Jesus has overcome death and its power, through His resurrection and that Jesus now offers eternal life to all who believe in Him. Paul is confident that Jesus can, and will, keep His promises. Paul tells Timothy therefore, to be proud of the gospel and to be willing to even suffer for it.

Timothy is to hold true to the teachings of God, as delivered through Paul. Others have deserted (implying punishment for so doing), whereas Onesiphorus has been beneficial in serving Paul.

II TIMOTHY 2

vs. 1-13:

Paul tells Timothy to persevere and even be willing to undergo hardship for the sake of Jesus Christ. He cites example after example of situations where people are expected to be faithful and not to get sidetracked from their mission; he instructs Timothy to do likewise. Timothy is also to teach other reliable men these same things so that they might also pass them on to others.

He reminds Timothy of the message for which he is imprisoned: simply that Jesus is the one that God promised to send and that He has been raised from the dead and offers life and salvation to the elect. Paul informs Timothy that this is the reason that he is imprisoned and tells him that it is worth it. He teaches that as long as we remain faithful to Christ we have the promise of everlasting life; but if we turn our back on Him, we shall be condemned for eternity!

vs. 14-26:

Paul comes back again to warn Timothy and others about devoting times to arguing over things that are false or unimportant. These things have caused some to fall away completely from Christ. Rather, we are to strive to do all that we can to be a faithful servant of Jesus Christ and of His truth.

Paul instructs Timothy to put out the sinfulness from his life. He is to avoid false teachings, stupid arguments, quarrels, etc. Rather, we are to strive to be holy, useful to God, ready to work, pursuing righteousness, faith, love and peace. We are to strive to be kind to everyone, even those who oppose, so that they might repent and avoid the devil's trap.

II TIMOTHY 3

vs. 1- 9:

Paul teaches Timothy that the times will get bad before Christ returns. People will be lovers of themselves and of money, they will be boastful, proud, abusive, disobedient to parents, ungrateful, unholy, without love, unforgiving, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, treacherous, rash, conceited, lovers of pleasure; pretending to be good, but refusing its power. Such people are to be avoided.

These individuals persuade others of their false teaching. These people will oppose the truth and therefore rejected by God.

vs. 10-17:

Paul reminds Timothy of his example and his persecutions because of it. Paul warns that all godly people will undergo persecution as those who are evil are going from bad to worse. We as Christians, are to remain true to the Word and what we have learned for they will teach us all that we have to know to gain the salvation of our souls. The Scriptures were given by God and are for the purpose of instruction, correction, and training. By following them, we can become thoroughly equipped to serve the Lord!

II TIMOTHY 4:

vs. 1-8:

Paul instructs Timothy to persevere in Preaching the Word, correcting, training and building up. He warns him that the time will come when such instruction will not be popular, and instead, false teachers will be accepted by the people for they will proclaim what the people want to hear.

Paul reminds how he has been faithful and given of himself. He states that he is sure that there is a reward from God (and for all faithful servants) on that day when Christ returns.

vs. 9-22:

Paul asks for Timothy to bring Mark, and come and see him. Many of his other co-laborers have left. He is to be on guard in respect to Alexander who fought against the truth and opposed Paul.

Paul asks forgiveness for all those who deserted him the first time he was in prison. He is grateful that the Lord stood by him all the way and strengthened him that he might declare the gospel message. He is convinced that God will care for him and bring him into the heavenly kingdom.

Paul sends his greetings to those who are with Timothy and sends greetings from those who are with him. He closes, praying that the Lord would be with Timothy!

STUDY GUIDE

II TIMOTHY 1

1. What promise do we have in Christ?
2. With what, did Paul serve God? (see vs. 3)
3. From whom, may Timothy have been influenced in his faith?
4. What was Timothy to "fan into flame"?
5. What type of Spirit did God give us?
6. On what basis did God Not save us and call us to be holy?
7. What did Jesus bring to light through the gospel?
8. What, in verse 12, was Paul convinced of?
9. What was Timothy to do with what he had heard from Paul?
10. With whose help was Timothy to guard the good deposit?
11. Who was not ashamed of Paul's chains?
12. In what 2 places did Onesiphorus help Paul?

BONUS:

1. How can parents pass on their faith in Christ to their children?
2. Explain the significance of verse 9.
3. What do you think the "good deposit" is?

STUDY GUIDE

II TIMOTHY 2:

1. Why was he to entrust what he had heard to reliable men?
2. Who does the soldier seek to please?
3. Who should be around to be the first to receive a share of the crops?
4. What was Paul's gospel?
5. Why did Paul endure for the sake of the elect?
6. What will result, if we die with him?
7. What will result if we disown Christ?
8. How was Timothy to present himself to God?
9. What will happen to those who indulge in godless chatter?
10. What must the ones who confess Jesus, turn from?
11. What was Timothy to pursue?
12. What was he to do to those who opposed him?

BONUS:

1. Of what value would reliable men prove to be?
2. What does verse 13 mean?
3. Why are we not to resent or be cruel to those who oppose Christ?

Study Guide

II TIMOTHY 3:

1. What type of times will there be in the last days?
2. What will people be lovers of?
3. List 8 traits of the people of the last days.
4. What is to be our relationship with them?
5. What are such people, who worm their way into homes, loaded with?
6. What are they, as far as the faith is concerned?
7. What, in verse 10, did Timothy know of Paul?
8. Who will be persecuted?
9. What will happen to evil men and imposters?
10. What was Timothy to continue in?
11. What are the holy Scriptures able to do?
12. Why did God give Scripture? (see vs. 17)

BONUS

1. Do you see people, like Paul describes, around today? Explain.
2. Do you think Christians in our area are persecuted today? Explain.
3. Why is Bible Study important?

Study Guide

II TIMOTHY 4:

1. Who will judge the living and the dead?
2. What was Timothy to do with great patience and careful instruction?
3. What will the teachers that people gather, say?
4. What was Timothy to endure?
5. What had Paul done, according to verse 7?
6. What was in store for Paul?
7. Why had Demas deserted Paul?
8. Why did Paul want Mark brought to him?
9. Why was Timothy to be on guard against Alexander?
10. What did the Lord do at Paul's first defense?
11. What would the Lord rescue Paul from?
12. What would the Lord bring Paul safely to?

BONUS:

1. Is verses 3 and 4 applicable today? Explain.
2. What lesson can be learned from verse 11?
3. How can verse 17 help you in the trials you face?