

Paul's Second Letter to Timothy



Timothy had accompanied Paul at various times and appears at the end of some of Paul's other letters. Paul obviously had a high regard for him a faithful co-worker in the gospel. At the time of this letter Paul, writing from Rome, had been released from house arrest but was now in chains. It seems that he has few people with him and longs to see Timothy, who was pastoring the church at Ephesus (on the West coast of modern Turkey—then known as Asia)

2 TIMOTHY 1:1-14

What is it about Timothy that encourages Paul?

Paul's letter is particularly applicable to a church leader, but it has relevance to all Christians as they seek to serve God through Jesus Christ. What does Paul encourage Timothy (and us) to do?

What are the things most likely to make you 'ashamed' of the gospel (ie balk at talking about Jesus Christ)?

God calls us to a holy life (v9). What does that mean and what is the reason given for the calling?

What do think it means that 'this grace was given... before the beginning of time? (v9)

In v12 what do you think Paul has 'entrusted' to Jesus and how does he know that it will be 'guarded'?

Why then does he exhort Timothy to guard the deposit given to him? (v14)

2 TIMOTHY 2:1-15

What relevance might v2 have for churches planning for their future growth and development? How is your church implementing this?

What is the thrust of what Paul is saying in verses 3-7. How might it apply to your own commitment and work for Christ? (see also v10)

Who, in your knowledge, have been the outstanding examples of v10?

How can we 'correctly handle the word of truth'? What dangers does Paul see in this context?

2 TIMOTHY 3:10 to 4:5

What do you think it means to say that all Scripture is 'God-breathed'? (As Paul was primarily referring to the Old Testament, how can we apply his words to the New Testament?)

For what is Scripture useful? Can you think of times when each of these applications has been true for you (something you have been taught, rebuked about etc)?

What examples do you see of Scripture being undermined? (4:3-5, see also 3:1-9)

How should we initially approach those who oppose us? (refer back to 2:23-26)