

2

2 Timothy

Paul is nearing the end of his life, and encourages Timothy to continue preaching the word.

Author: Paul

In 2 Timothy – Jesus is the Leader of the Leaders

2 Timothy 3:16

"All scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness."

TEACHER: 4 CHAPTERS

Paul's 1st letter to Timothy was for a young man leading a young church. This letter comes after a lot of time has expired. Paul is now a prisoner in Rome, and he knows he will soon be executed. In Rome Paul has around him Luke, Mark, Titus, and Linus. History tells us that Linus became the head of the Roman church after Paul was martyred. Knowing he will soon die, this letter is filled with emotion and love for Timothy.

Nero Claudius Caesar Augustus Germanicus ruled the Roman Empire from 54-68 AD.

He was a brutal, irresponsible, and opulent ruler who was famous for persecuting Christians. He was known to force Christians into gladiator matches, where they would be eaten by lions, and "he often lit his garden parties with the burning carcasses of Christian human torches," He most likely started the famous fires of Rome so he could rebuild it after the Senate tried to stop him, and he used the opportunity to rebuild to his tastes and kill Christians, Paul being one of them, along with Peter around the same time. Paul being a Roman citizen from birth would not be executed like Peter was, because his execution had to be painless. He was most likely beheaded. "The Church Outside The Walls" is believed to be the spot he was martyred. Below is the structure.

The Church Outside The Walls.
Built during the reign of
Constantine in 324 AD on the site
Of Paul's martyrdom.
It houses the remains of the
Apostle Paul.





Nero Claudius Caesar Augustus Germanicus

STUDENT:

CH. 1

³I thank God, whom I serve with a pure conscience, as *my* forefathers *did*, as without ceasing I remember you in my prayers night and day, ⁴ greatly desiring to see you, being mindful of your tears, that I may be filled with joy, ⁵ when I call to remembrance the genuine faith that is in you, which dwelt first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice, and I am persuaded is in you also. ⁶ Therefore I remind you to stir up the gift of God which is in you through the laying on of my hands. ⁷ For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind. (NKJV)

TEACHER:

As Paul faces certain death, he wants to be sure Timothy will have no doubt about Paul's resolve to fulfill his calling to martyrdom, and that he has no regrets, but rather pride in his calling to suffer for Christ.

STUDENT:

⁸Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, nor of me His prisoner, but share with me in the sufferings for the gospel according to the power of God, ⁹ who has saved us and called *us* with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace which was given to us in Christ Jesus before time began, ¹⁰ but has now been revealed by the appearing of our Savior Jesus Christ, *who* has abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel, ¹¹ to which I was appointed a preacher, an apostle, and a teacher of the Gentiles. ¹² For this reason I also suffer these things; nevertheless I am not ashamed, for I know whom I have believed and am persuaded that He is able to keep what I have committed to Him until that Day. (NKJV)

TEACHER:

I know whom I have believed and am persuaded that He is able to keep that which I've committed to Him until that day. (NKJV) I pray this prayer almost daily.

"God can finish what He has started in me." DH

TEACHER:

Chapter 2 starts with Paul's desire that his message continue after he dies. That Timothy should not just teach, but train others to teach as well.

STUDENT:

CH. 2

You therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. ²And the things that you have heard from me among many witnesses, commit these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also. ³ You therefore must endure hardship as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. ⁴ No one engaged in warfare entangles himself with the affairs of *this* life, that he may please him who enlisted him as a soldier. ⁵ And also if anyone competes in athletics, he is not crowned unless he competes according to the rules. ⁶ The hardworking farmer must be first to partake of the crops. ⁷ Consider what I say, and may the Lord give you understanding in all things. (NKJV)

TEACHER:

Paul lifts up the name of Jesus.

STUDENT:

⁸Remember that Jesus Christ, of the seed of David, was raised from the dead according to my gospel, ⁹ for which I suffer trouble as an evildoer, *even* to the point of chains; but the word of God is not chained. ¹⁰ Therefore I endure all things for the sake of the elect, that they also may obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory.

11 This is a faithful saying:
For if we died with Him,
We shall also live with Him.

12 If we endure,
We shall also reign with Him.
If we deny Him,
He also will deny us.

13 If we are faithless,
He remains faithful;
He cannot deny Himself.(NKJV)

TEACHER:

Starting in verse 15 we have a very popular verse to Bible students like ourselves.

STUDENT:

¹⁵ Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

¹⁶ But shun profane and vain babblings: for they will increase unto more ungodliness. (KJV)

STUDENT:

¹⁹ Nevertheless the solid foundation of God stands, having this seal: "The Lord knows those who are His," and, "Let everyone who names the name of Christ depart from iniquity."

²⁰ But in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and silver, but also of wood and clay, some for honor and some for dishonor. ²¹ Therefore if anyone cleanses himself from the latter, he will be a vessel for honor, sanctified and useful for the Master, prepared for every good work. (NKJV)

TEACHER:

"Let everyone who names the name of Christ depart from iniquity." Iniquity = moral impurity. If you're going to call yourself a Christian, act like it.

STUDENT:

²² Flee also youthful lusts; but pursue righteousness, faith, love, peace with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart. ²³ But avoid foolish and ignorant disputes, knowing that they generate strife. ²⁴ And a servant of the Lord must not quarrel but be gentle to all, able to teach, patient, ²⁵ in humility correcting those who are in opposition, if God perhaps will grant them repentance, so that they may know the truth, ²⁶ and *that* they may come to their senses *and escape* the snare of the devil, having been taken captive by him to *do* his will. (NKJV)

TEACHER:

In chapter 3 Paul talks of the end times. Listen for parallels in our time. I feel a R.B.S. list coming soon!

CH. 3

STUDENT:

But know this, that in the last days perilous times will come: ² For men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, ³ unloving, unforgiving, slanderers, without self-control, brutal, despisers of good, ⁴ traitors, headstrong, haughty, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, ⁵ having a form of godliness but denying its power. And from such people turn away! ⁶ For of this sort are those who creep into households and make captives of gullible women loaded down with sins, led away by various lusts, ⁷ always learning and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth. ⁸ Now as Jannes and Jambres resisted Moses, so do these also resist the truth: men of corrupt minds, disapproved concerning the faith. (NKJV)

TEACHER:

The list of people to turn our backs on in the end times of which we are currently living.

1. Men who love themselves. 11. Slanderers.

2. People who love money. 12. People with no self-control.

3. Boasters. 13. Brutal people.

4. The proud. 14. People who despise good.

5. Blasphemers. 15. Traitors.

6. People disobedient to their parents.
7. Unthankful people.
16. The headstrong. (stubborn)
17. Haughty (proud elites)

8. Unholy people.9. Unloving people.18. Lovers of pleasures rather than lovers of God.19. Spiritual people who deny God's power.

10. Unforgiving people.

A solemn note in this next segment, Paul says all who serve Christ will suffer persecution, but to hold fast.

STUDENT:

¹⁰ But you have carefully followed my doctrine, manner of life, purpose, faith, longsuffering, love, perseverance, ¹¹ persecutions, afflictions, which happened to me at Antioch, at Iconium, at Lystra—what persecutions I endured. And out of *them* all the Lord delivered me. ¹² Yes, and all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution. ¹³ But evil men and impostors will grow worse and worse, deceiving and being deceived. ¹⁴ But you must continue in the things which you have learned and been assured of, knowing from whom you have learned *them*, ¹⁵ and that from childhood you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. (NKJV)

TEACHER:

And Paul ends chapter 3 with those famous words.....

STUDENT

¹⁶ All Scripture *is* given by inspiration of God, and *is* profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, ¹⁷ that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work. (NKJV)

CH. 4

The 4th and final chapter of 2nd Timothy starts with Paul's call and charge to preach!

STUDENT:

I charge you therefore before God and the Lord Jesus Christ, who will judge the living and the dead at His appearing and His kingdom: ² Preach the word! Be ready in season and out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching. ³ For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers; ⁴ and they will turn their ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables. ⁵ But you be watchful in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry. (NKJV)

TEACHER:

Paul's thoughts as he faces his martyrdom.

STUDENT:

⁶ For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure is at hand. ⁷ I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. ⁸ Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing. (NKJV)

TEACHER:

Next he gives glory to God that the Gentiles everywhere have learned about Jesus.

STUDENT:

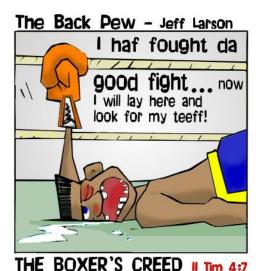
¹⁷ But the Lord stood with me and strengthened me, so that the message might be preached fully through me, and *that* all the Gentiles might hear. Also I was delivered out of the mouth of the lion. ¹⁸ And the Lord will deliver me from every evil work and preserve *me* for His heavenly kingdom. To Him *be* glory forever and ever. Amen! (NKJV)

NEXT LESSON TITUS

For God didn't give us a Spirit of fear, but of power, love, and self-control.

2 Timothy 1:7





The monument erected by the silversmiths of Ephesus, testifies to their wealth and influence in ancient Ephesus. In Acts 19, Demetrius, a silversmith, incites a riot over concerns that the response to the gospel Paul was preaching was hurting their business. Photo Credit: John Klopsch

