

Bethany Bible Study & Discussion



II TIMOTHY

Part-1

(chapter 1)
KJV

4.3.2024

CHAPTER 1

GOSPEL: Guard it, Preach it, Suffer for it

INTRODUCTION (1): What is the timing and context for this letter? With what authority does Paul write? What is the 'promise of life'?

PAUL & TIMOTHY (2-5): What can we learn about Paul's relationship with Timothy? Who were the 'influencers' in Timothy's life?

PAUL'S CALL to ACTION (6-14): What is Timothy asked to stir up? What does the gift of Holy Spirit offer us? What must Timothy do with the gospel? Why was Paul willing to suffer for the gospel?

LOYAL AND UNFAITHFUL BELIEVERS (15-18): Why did Paul commend Onesiphorous?

Introduction

Last letter written by Paul while in Roman Prison

Paul executed soon after around 67AD by Emperor Nero

Pastoral Epistles: I & II Timothy and Titus

Paul's 2nd letter to Timothy (written on a more personal exhortation note rather than as to a church elder like I Timothy)

Focus: Gospel & Sound doctrine

- **Know** the gospel & sound doctrine
- **Guard** the gospel & sound doctrine
- **Preach** the gospel & sound doctrine
- **Suffer** for gospel & sound doctrine

Authority of Paul

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

Paul's divine authority - an 'apostle' appointed by the will of God

Paul was an 'apostle' (similar to other disciples of Jesus)

- **Luke 6:13** And when it was day, he called unto him his disciples: and of them he chose twelve, whom also he named apostles;

Paul humbly considered himself to be the 'chief of sinners' (I Timothy 1:15) and 'least of all apostles' (I Corinthians 15:9)

The Promise of Life

Apostleship comes with the 'Promise of Life' in Christ Jesus (1)

- Jesus is Life (John 14:6)
- Abundant life is found in Christ (John 10:10)
- He that hath the Son hath life (I John 5:12)
- Jesus abolished death and brought life (II Timothy 1:10)

Life in Jesus is available to all believers ... life for today and for all of eternity.

Promise of 'future life' must have been a source of comfort and hope to Paul during his last days in the prison.

Paul & Timothy (2-5)

What can we learn about
Paul's relationship with
Timothy?

Who were the 'influencers'
in Timothy's life?

Paul & Timothy

² To Timothy, my dearly beloved son: Grace, mercy, and peace, from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

³ I thank God, whom I serve from my forefathers with pure conscience, that without ceasing I have remembrance of thee in my prayers night and day;

⁴ Greatly desiring to see thee, being mindful of thy tears, that I may be filled with joy;

⁵ When I call to remembrance the unfeigned faith that is in thee, which dwelt first in thy grandmother Lois, and thy mother Eunice; and I am persuaded that in thee also.

Greetings & Love to Timothy (2-4)

- Timothy introduced as 'my dearly beloved son' (2)
- Greetings of Grace, Mercy, and Peace (from God and Christ) (2)
- Thanks God (Thankful, despite being in prison) (3)
 - Recognizes faith passed on from forefathers
- Paul served God with pure conscience (blameless, not sinless)
- Paul remembered Timothy in his prayers regularly (3)
 - Found time to pray even in prison
- Paul longed for joyful fellowship with Timothy (4)
 - Do we take time to pray for others?
 - Do we long for fellowship with believers?

Influencers in Timothy's life

Important Influencers in Timothy's life

- Godly mother
- Godly grandmother
- Paul, as a mentor (Paul prayed for Timothy, taught him, loved him, challenged him, encouraged him, inspired him, warned him)
- And most importantly, gift of God-holy spirit (6)

Who are we influenced by in this life?

- Influencers can impact our life and destiny!
- May we seek to follow Godly influences
 - Be ye followers of me, even as I also am of Christ (I Corinthians 11:1)

Paul's high regard for Timothy

Paul selected Timothy during his second visit to Lystra to accompany him on the 2nd missionary journey (Acts 16:1-4, Timothy had a good testimony)

Later, Timothy seen with Paul in several ministry engagements.

Philippians 4:19-22 19 But I trust in the Lord Jesus to send Timotheus shortly unto you, that I also may be of good comfort, when I know your state. 20 For I have no man likeminded, who will naturally care for your state. 21 For all seek their own, not the things which are Jesus Christ's. 22 But ye know the proof of him, that, as a son with the father, he hath served with me in the gospel.

Paul's Call to Action (6-14)

What is Timothy asked to stir up? What does the gift of Holy Spirit offer us? What must Timothy do with the gospel? Why was Paul willing to suffer for the gospel?

Paul's call to action

⁶ Wherefore I put thee in remembrance that thou stir up the gift of God, which is in thee by the putting on of my hands.

⁷ For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind. ⁸ Be not thou therefore ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, nor of me his prisoner: but be thou partaker of the afflictions of the gospel according to the power of God;

⁹ Who hath saved us, and called us with an holy calling, not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began, ¹⁰ But is now made manifest by the appearing of our Saviour Jesus Christ, who hath abolished death, and hath brought life and immortality to light through the gospel:

¹¹ Whereunto I am appointed a preacher, and an apostle, and a teacher of the Gentiles. ¹² For the which cause 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 that which I have committed unto him against that day.

¹³ Hold fast the form of sound words, which thou hast heard of me, in faith and love which is in Christ Jesus. ¹⁴ That good thing which was committed unto thee keep by the Holy Ghost which dwelleth in us.

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Paul's call to action

- Stir up your gift
- Don't be timid
- Don't be ashamed of gospel
- Don't be ashamed of (prisoner) Paul
- Suffer for gospel
- Hold on to sound doctrine
- Guard what was given by Holy spirit

Stir up the gift (6)

Wherefore I put thee in remembrance that thou stir up the gift of God, which is in thee by the putting on of my hands.

Gift given to Timothy?... Gift of Holy Spirit and Specific spiritual gifts

- 1 Corinthians 12: 4 Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit.
- 7 But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal.
- Set the gift ablaze!
- Gift 'given' by God ... but we have to 'use' it (stir it, flame it)
- Gift cannot be lost but can become dormant and ineffective.

Do we know our spiritual gift? Are we using it?

Do not be timid (7)

For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.

Why was Timothy timid?

Maybe because of his youth or general personality or ongoing persecutions facing the church.

- Paul encourages Timothy to not fear.
- Gift of holy Spirit comes with power, love, and sound mind (or discernment, discipline)

Even Paul needed encouragement to not fear

ACTS 18:9 Then spake the Lord to Paul in the night by a vision, Be not afraid, but speak, and hold not thy peace:¹⁰ For I am with thee, and no man shall set on thee to hurt thee: for I have much people in this city.

Are we also shy or afraid of exercising our gifts?

Therefore,(8) ... *what must Timothy do?*

Based on

- Timothy's Christian upbringing
- Paul's influence in his life
- Paul's exhortation to stir up the gift, and not to be afraid

...*what must Timothy do?*

Therefore,

8 Be not thou therefore ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, nor of me his prisoner: but be thou partaker of the afflictions of the gospel according to the power of God;

1

Don't be ashamed of the testimony of Jesus, the gospel (8)

2

Don't be ashamed of Paul, the prisoner (8)

3

Be willing to suffer for gospel (8)

4

Hold on to sound doctrine (13)

5

Guard what was given by the Holy Spirit (14)

#1 Don't be ashamed of the Testimony of the Jesus

I JOHN 5: 11-12 (NIV)

¹¹ And this is the testimony: God has given us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. ¹² Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.

John 14:6 "I am the way, the truth, and the life; no man cometh unto the father but by me"

Paul's Testimony: This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptation, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief (I Timothy 1:15)

2 Don't be ashamed of the gospel

WARNING

Mark 8:38

Whosoever therefore shall be ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation; of him also shall the Son of man be ashamed, when he cometh in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.

Mathew 10:32

Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven.

3 Be willing to suffer (8)

8 ... but be thou partaker of the afflictions of the gospel according to the power of God;

- Not suffer alone, but through the power of God)
- What inspires us to suffer?
 - ... for the love of Christ constraineth us (II Corinthians 5:14)
 - ... For the which cause I also suffer these things (12)

Greatness of gospel and our calling (9-10)

¹⁰ But is now made manifest by the appearing of our Saviour Jesus Christ, who hath abolished death, and hath brought life and immortality to light through the gospel:

We are Saved ... Not by works, but by His purpose and grace

Only by His grace can we be saved
Planned before time began
Revealed through the birth of Christ

We have a Holy Calling ... call to live holy lives after salvation

Gospel Leads to life and immortality

- Justification | Sanctification | Glorification

O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory?
I Corinthians 15:55

Guard the gospel (12)

for I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day.

- Precious Gospel that is passed on from one generation to the next must be 'guarded'
- Need to be guarded from 'false teachers' and our own lukewarmness towards the gospel
- Paul emphasizes the security in God ... 'he is able to keep that which I have committed' (12)

Anything committed to the Lord is SAFE

Luke 23:46 And when Jesus had cried with a loud voice, he said, Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit: and having said thus, he gave up the ghost.

Paul's role (11-12a)

Whereunto I am appointed a preacher, and an apostle, and a teacher of the Gentiles.

Preacher – boldly proclaim the gospel message

Apostle – divinely appointed to preach and teach

Teacher – clearly explain the truth of gospel and sound doctrine

Paul's role as a bold witness of the gospel brought persecution and suffering (12)

#4 Hold on to sound doctrine (13)

13 Hold fast the form of sound words, which thou hast heard of me, in faith and love which is in Christ Jesus.

“Hold Fast” ... there is danger of slipping and falling when we don't hold fast!

Sound doctrine is precious ... and we must not lose it by our carelessness and irreverence.

5 Guard That good thing (14) ...

That good thing which was
committed unto thee keep by
the Holy Ghost which dwelleth
in us.

The good thing ... Gospel and sound doctrine must be
guarded

God helps us to guard the gospel through the Holy Spirit so we
must not quench the holy spirit or grieve the holy spirit.

Faithful and Unfaithful believers (15-18)

Why did Paul commend
Onesiphorous?

Faithful and Unfaithful

¹⁵ This thou knowest, that all they which are in Asia be turned away from me; of whom are Phygellus and Hermogenes.

¹⁶ The Lord give mercy unto the house of Onesiphorus; for he oft refreshed me, and was not ashamed of my chain:

¹⁷ But, when he was in Rome, he sought me out very diligently, and found me.

¹⁸ The Lord grant unto him that he may find mercy of the Lord in that day: and in how many things he ministered unto me at Ephesus, thou knowest very well.

Disloyal or Unfaithful believers

All in Asia were turned away from Paul, including Phygellus and Hermogenes

- No reason given - Could be persecution or backsliding

Jesus was forsaken, (“And they all forsook him and fled” Mark 14:50) and betrayed by Judas and Peter.

Paul faced isolation, II Timothy 4: 16 At my first answer no man stood with me, but all men forsook me: I pray God that it may not be laid to their charge ¹⁷ Notwithstanding the Lord stood with me, and strengthened me

Faithful believer

Onesiphorous ... loyal friend / believer ... stood by Paul

- Source of refreshment
 - Also, ministered in Ephesus
- Sought Paul when imprisoned
- Was not ashamed of Paul's change of status to 'prisoner'

Lord is looking for faithful selfless believers!

Do we shift our loyalty to people & church
when circumstances change?

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