

The Bible Companion Series

PASTORAL EPISTLES

DEVELOPING SERVANT LEADERSHIP

"Let no man despise thy youth; but be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity."

1 Timothy 4:12

A Study of 1st & 2nd Timothy, Titus and Philemon

A Bible-Believing Study Guide

These Study Notes belong to: _____

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The Second Epistle to Timothy

INTRODUCTION

- A. After being released from his first Roman imprisonment (Acts 28), Paul is once again arrested.
- B. This arrest may have taken place suddenly in Troas, thus explaining why Paul left there without taking his cloak, parchments, or Old Testament scrolls (2 Tim. 4:13).
- C. His second imprisonment was far different from the first.
 - 1. He was then a political prisoner awaiting trial. He is now a condemned criminal, awaiting death.
 - 2. Then he lived in his own hired house. Now he huddles in a cold, damp, dark dungeon.
 - 3. During his first imprisonment he was visited by many. Now he is forsaken by all.
- D. This is his most personal letter.
 - 1. In Romans we see Paul the _____, teaching the greatest truths about God and salvation
 - 2. In 1 Corinthians, Paul the Parent, correcting a wayward church
 - 3. In 2 Corinthians, Paul the _____ and encourager
 - 4. In Galatians, Paul the defender of the faith
 - 5. In 1 Timothy and Titus, Paul the Leader
 - 6. But here in 2 Timothy, we see Paul the _____.
- E. The letter is rich in personal allusions. He compares the pastorate to working as an ox, as a servant, a farmer, as an athlete, etc. Paul mentions twenty-three men, women, friends, and foes.
- F. This epistle is his spiritual swan song, his dying shout of triumph just before graduation!
- G. Dr. J. Vernon McGee writes: "In Second Timothy Paul speaks of the ultimate outcome of gospel preaching. The final fruition will not be the total conversion of mankind, nor will it usher in the Millennium. On the contrary, there will come about an apostasy which will well-nigh blot out 'the faith' from the earth. This is in complete harmony with the startling word of Christ 'When the Son of man cometh, shall he find faith on the earth?' This is not in keeping, of course, with a social gospel which expects to transform the world by tinkering with the social system. These vain optimists have no patience with the doleful words of 1 Timothy. Nevertheless, the cold and hard facts of history and the events of the present have demonstrated the accuracy of Paul."
(*Second Timothy*, p. 196)

Chapter 1 – Paul the Preacher

"Whereunto I am appointed a preacher, and an apostle, and a teacher of the Gentiles ' (1:11).

- A. The preacher and his _____ (Timothy).
1. Paul prayed for him day and night (1:3).
 2. He longed to see him (1:4).
 3. He was aware of Timothy's tears (1:4).
 4. He had full confidence in him (1:5).
 5. He exhorted him to stir up his _____ of ministry (1:6).
 6. He commanded him to not be ashamed of the _____ of Christ (1:8).
 7. He commanded him to not be ashamed of the _____ of Christ (1:8).
 8. He is to hold fast to sound doctrine (1:13), not to the changing whims of people.
 9. He is to remain true to his ministry calling, and only that (1:14).
- B. The preacher and _____.
1. He reviews his past performance. The apostle gives a sevenfold description of himself in this chapter. He is:
 - a. an apostle (1:1)
 - b. a father (1:2) to spiritual sons in the faith (Philp 2:22; Titus 1:4; 1Cor 4:15;)
 - c. a faithful servant (1:3)
 - d. a prisoner (1:8; just as Timothy became, Heb 13:23)
 - e. a preacher (1:11)
 - f. a teacher (1:11)
 - g. a _____ (1:12)
 2. He retains his permanent hope in Jesus Christ, and NOTHING else.
 - a. "Nevertheless, I am not ashamed; for I _____ I have believed and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day" (1:12).
 - b. There are two views concerning the usage of "committed" in this verse.
 - 1) Paul was here referring to his salvation, which he had deposited with Christ.
 - 2) Paul was here referring to his service, which Christ had deposited with Paul.
 3. He had been forsaken by many false friends while in prison.
 4. He had been helped by one true friend while in prison - Onesiphorus (1:16-18).
- C. Paul's purpose in writing this last letter
1. To Praise and thank God publically for a faithful friend in the ministry
 2. To _____ Timothy
 - a. Every minister needs encouragement
 - b. We need to first get it from the Scriptures (Rom 15:4)
 - c. He needs his family to constantly support him – he works the most hours, with the fewest tools, and with the least wisdom, for the least results
 - d. The flock needs to honour and encourage him
 3. To Remind Timothy
 - a. Of His gift and calling to the ministry for Jesus Christ – every Christian has a spiritual gift
 - b. Of the power he had beyond any fear he might ever experience

- 1) Everyone has fears – they are normal and natural. God gave us THREE things to counteract any and all fear!
- 2) Power – strength and ability beyond what we think we have
- 3) Love – ability to love the persons attacking/persecuting us
- 4) Sound mind – ability to stay sane in the midst of troubles and trials
- c. Of the testimony of the Lord Jesus – Jesus was and is not about conquering, winning, rioting, etc. His life was marked by...
 - 1) Affliction
 - 2) _____ Troubles
 - 3) Defeats
 - 4) Struggles
 - 5) Loss
 - 6) The pastorate is _____ the high life!
- d. Of the power of the Gospel (1:9,10)
 - 1) To _____ sinners like Paul and Timothy
 - 2) To _____ them with an HOLY calling – not a job!
 - 3) To _____ them, not according to what they already could do!
 - 4) To do everything for Christ’s OWN purpose, not ours!
4. To Command Timothy
 - a. To hold fast – stay straight concerning doctrine like a sailor in a storm – to not veer off course one degree!
 - 1) In _____ – trusting the Lord to work with his word
 - 2) In _____ – loving people enough to be patient with them
 - b. To keep his gift of ministry by the power of Holy Spirit. You can _____ it!
5. To Warn Timothy (1:15-18)
 - a. That many are turned away from sound doctrine
 - b. That few will care and minister to you
 - c. Onesiphorus was a great blessing who went against the flow (2Tim 4:19)
 - 1) He is the only one who is mentioned from that region who had showed the apostle kindness in his trials. He is mentioned only in this Epistle, and nothing more is known of him. The record is entirely honourable to him, and for his family the apostle felt a warm interest on account of the kindness which he had showed to him in prison.
 - 2) Few people care about us, and fewer care about us when things are going badly (like being in prison)

Chapter 2 – Paul the Pattern

"And the things that thou hast heard from me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also" (2:2).

I. The _____ of a Pastor (2:1)

- A. You are going to need a lot of strength as a pastor
 1. To carry and lead your _____ – needs strong men, not just strong women
 2. To carry and lead your ministry (2Cor 11:28)
 3. To carry your own burdens
 4. To carry out _____
- B. You get strength from
 1. The _____ (2Cor 12)
 2. A strong relationship with your _____ – keeping you humble and accountable (1Peter 5)
 3. A solid commitment to doing _____
 4. Your strength will be in the _____ times (Isa 30:15)
 5. But, you must never draw your strength from your self (Philp 3:3)

II. The Purpose of a Pastor (2Timothy 2:2)

- A. To _____ the Sheep (Acts 20:28)
- B. But, more importantly, to _____ and train the sheep to lead – to become shepherds
 1. There are nominal Christians
 2. There are _____ – these are the main group a pastor MUST teach
 3. Faithful older Christian women must teach the younger women (Titus 2)
- C. Teach faithful men – the purpose of learning is generally to _____
 1. Don't waste your time teaching people who don't want to know
 2. Invest in worthy lives
- D. Four generations of students in Paul's 20+ years of ministry
 1. Jesus personally taught Paul and the other Apostles
 2. Paul personally taught Timothy and other men
 3. Timothy was to teach faithful men
 4. Those faithful men were to teach other faithful men
- E. Be faithful to the word, not to _____

III. The Faithfulness of a Pastor (2Timothy 2:3,4)

- A. Standing – Endurance – Never Quitting (Eph 6:0-13)
 1. Like a soldier – a good soldier
 2. In a _____ – wars can't be won with quitters
 3. Never entangled, or trapped by the affairs of this life – also keeping your life simple, and able to move at God's will
 - a) _____ affairs – porn, adultery
 - b) _____ affairs – debts
 4. Seeking to please only one Person – your Captain, the Lord Jesus
- B. Striving- always going forward (2:5)
 1. Seek to master each hurdle – don't let anything win against God's will
 2. Try to conquer every enemy – self, and others

3. BUT, you must conquer your enemy/ run your race, _____ – according to God’s way, not according to the flesh
 4. To be crowned is to be rewarded in the end
- C. Reaping – you will reap your labours (Gal 6:7-9; 1Cor 9:7)
1. God has you first in line to enjoy the blessings of your efforts
 2. AND, He will curse you with the fruit of your wrong decisions and misguided labours as well
 3. Anyone in the ministry is on the front line and experiences first had both the enemy AND the victory!

IV. The Sufferings of a Pastor (2:7-14)

- A. Example of Jesus Christ
1. Suffering, endured, killed, and resurrected
 2. That’s the WHOLE Gospel
 - a) Not just “believing”
 - b) But also _____ as a Christian – not to become one (Philp 1:29)
 - c) And also, _____, never quitting – persevering
 3. We forget that the Christian life is one of believing God, but also suffering, enduring the suffering, AND reaping the glory!
- B. Example of Paul (2:9-10)
1. Suffered in prison and in chains – but never defeated
 2. The word of God is NOT ever limited
 3. Paul chose to endure everything that came his way – no matter what it was!
- C. Suffer “_____”
1. The elect are the _____ (Rom 9:1-4)
 2. Any other meaning is empty
 - a) Elect are not Christians – we were NOT elect – we had to be adopted
 - b) One a person gets saved, they join WITH the elect as become a peculiar people to God like the Jews are
 3. Election has _____, or the elect would not need to be saved!!!
- D. Pastors are to remind Christians (2:11-14)
1. Some truths that Christians need to be constantly reminded of:
 - a) Christian death only leads to LIFE - Death does not defeat us – we only LIVE ON with Jesus
 - b) Suffering will only lead to reigning (Rom 8:17,18) - Suffering earns reigning with Him
 - c) Denying Christ (as Peter did) only leads to no help from Christ (Mt 10:32,33)
 - d) Loss of faith (*what an extreme!*) will result in NOTHING!
 - 1) Because HE abides faithful to His commitment (1Cor 10:13; 1Thes 5:24)
 - 2) He CANNOT deny Himself (1Cor 12:27)
 2. Don’t waste time arguing about frivolous and meaningless words
 3. Use carefully spoken words that subvert (convince) your hearers – win souls!

V. The Studies of a Pastor (2:15-19)

- A. Study (Psalm 119:7,12,18)
1. Webster’s 1828: “setting the mind or thoughts upon a subject; hence, application of mind of books, to arts or science, or to any subject, for the purpose of learning what is not before known”

2. Set out to _____ what God says, commands, teaches in the word of God
3. Over-rule all preconceptions, replacing them with only the Scriptures
- B. Examples include: The _____ (Acts 17:11,12)
- C. Study, to the approval of God (2Cor 6:4; John 5:44)
 1. To please God, to answer to God, like HE is going to test your knowledge!
 2. Know the Bible so that you won't be ashamed!
- D. How to Study the Bible
 1. _____ it – don't just read books about the Bible, READ IT!
 2. Search out answers from it – go looking for answers
 3. _____ its truths
 - a) Carefully, verifiably breaking up the truths and statements of the Bible into various time-frames, places, people groups
 - b) Examples being
 - 1) The Church, the Gentiles, and the Jews (see 1Cor 10:32)
 - 2) Old Testament, New Testament
 - 3) Dispensations
 - 4) Covenantal relationships
 - 5) Prophecies (Isa 61; Luke 4)
 - 6) The three categories of God's law (Ceremonial, Moral, and Civil)
 - c) Examples of wrongly dividing the word of truth
 - 1) Thinking God is all through with the Jews (Catholics and Protestants believe this)
 - 2) The Old Testament dietary laws cannot be violated by Christians
 - 3) Christians have to meet on Saturday (the Sabbath)
 4. _____ it (2:19)
 5. _____ it and experience living by it (James 1:22)
 6. Shun anything that attacks it – block out these things/people
 - a) Profane and vain babblings – news media for the most part
 - 1) They will only increase
 - 2) Specific people are named
 - b) False doctrines that are popular

VI. The Separation of a Pastor (2:20-23)

- A. Illustration of many pots and containers (vessels) in a home
 1. Some are for _____ uses
 - a) Cups
 - b) Bowls
 - c) Plates, Food storage jars
 - d) Drawers
 - e) Cabinets
 2. Some are for dishonourable uses
 - a) Toilet bowl
 - b) Rubbish bin
 - c) Ash tray
 3. Some are made of clay, or plastic, and some are made of gold even
 4. BUT! It's not what we are made of that makes us honourable, it is what is _____ us
 - a) Ashes make anything an ash tray
 - b) Poop in anything, defiles that container

- c) If filthy thoughts, bitterness, and sin are in us, then we are only a toilet bowl
 - d) But, purge out, and clean out any filth, and no matter what we are made of (plastic, etc), and we will be an honourable vessel
 - e) We are the temple of God, not because we are saved, but because the _____ INDWELLS US (1Cor 3:16)
 - f) So keep yourself clean, sanctified, purging out anything that is “defiling” you (1Thes 4:4) – clean through reading the word, confessing to God, obeying God, obeying preaching, examining yourself, being accountable
5. Once you are clean, you are perfectly ready for the master’s use (even though not well trained)!
- B. The Pastor must Flee some things (2:22-24a)
- 1. _____ Foolish and ignorant questions
 - 2. Fighting amongst ourselves, and with the lost (2:24)
- C. The Pastor must _____ some things (2:22) – feed on these things
- 1. Righteousness – love righteousness – not self righteousness
 - 2. Faith
 - 3. Charity
 - 4. Peace
 - 5. Hang around with other Christians who also want such things – Church!

VII. The _____ of a Pastor (2:24-26)

- A. A Soul-Winner is a _____
 - 1. We soul-win as a doctor, not as a general
 - 2. Moses was called this great title (Josh 14:7)
- B. A Soul-Winner _____ Fights/Argues
- C. A Soul-Winner is _____ – harmless
- D. A Soul-Winner is _____ to Teach - Ready, hungry to teach someone about God
- E. A Soul-Winner is Patient
- F. A Soul-Winner is Meek – not proud, or driving
 - 1. Meekly teaching
 - 2. Meekly restoring (Gal 6:1)
 - 3. Meekly humble others
 - 4. Meekly Recovering broken people from the devil’s ruin

VIII. Conclusion

- A. In this chapter Paul likens the life of the believer (especially a pastor) to eight earthly occupations
 - 1. A Steward (2:2) – custodian, or caretaker of someone else’s property – here, we are entrusted with the Gospel
 - 2. A Soldier (2:3, 4).
 - 3. An _____ (2:5).
 - 4. A _____ (2:6, 7).
 - 5. An Instructor (2:11-14).
 - 6. A Student (2:15).
 - 7. A _____ (2:20, 21).
 - 8. A _____ (2:24).

Chapter 3 - Paul the Prophet

"This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come" (3:1).

I. Introduction

- A. In the last days Satan will attempt to turn this world into his own personal _____.
- B. No prophet in the Bible looked forward and saw _____ days coming, not before perilous times came first.
- C. Man, left to himself will only _____, and God has to intervene and bring judgment
- D. What do politicians see in the future? What do Biblical prophets see?
 1. Moon colonies – _____ on the Moon
 2. Peace on earth – at least two more world wars
 3. One world government – the _____ taking over
 4. One world religion – Blasphemy against the _____
 5. Scientific advances – _____ life on earth from hell
- E. Let's take a listen to a man, in a dark dungeon cell, as he describes our daily newspaper headlines to a 't'

II. Study

- A. The symptoms of this "final days" disease (3:1-13). Men will be:
 1. self-lovers – full of promoting " _____ "
 2. covetousness - money-lovers
 3. boasters – _____ lovers
 4. proud – unable to humble themselves at all!
 5. blasphemers – speak evil of God, slandering God, insulting God, or blaming God
 6. disobedient to parents – this is only in the 20th century!
 7. unthankful – especially towards God (Rom 1:21)
 8. unholy (profane) – unclean in thought and life
 9. without natural affection – _____ love (Rom 1:31)
 10. trucebreakers – quick to _____, be angry, full of wrath and revenge – no desire for truce or peace
 11. false accusers – gossipers, slandering others
 12. incontinent (without self-control) – _____
 13. fierce – _____, savage
 14. despisers of good men
 15. traitors - _____
 16. heady – reckless, headstrong, hasty because they think they are right
 17. high-minded - drunk with pride (1Tim 3:6)
 18. pleasure-lovers – _____ is more important than God – it IS their god!
 19. They have religion without the _____ (3:5) – they are only religious
 - a. A form, a shadow, but not the real thing
 - b. The real thing has power over you, your actions, attitudes, your past, and your future
- B. The cure for this "final days" disease (3:5-9)
 1. _____
 - a. Personal separation – "turn away"
 - b. Ecclesiastical separation – make all Christians aware of how sin, and evil works
 2. How sin works

- a. It _____ into house-churches
 - b. It creeps into homes
 - c. It works on _____ first and best
 - d. It emphasizes learning without obedience to absolute truth
 - e. It causes people to _____ truth just as Jannes and Jambres did (Ex 7:11,12,22; 8:7,18-19)
3. Stay clear of sin as a church body so that the world can see sin for what it really is
- a. It is so hard to know what is right and wrong today because most Christians are not any different than the world they live in
 - b. When we give in to sin, we make it easier for the world to continue in sin
 - c. The moment we become and stay different/godly, is the moment that the world sees just how sinful they are!
- C. Personal Training (3:10-17)
1. Life Training of Paul – what to learn from your pastor:
 - a. His _____
 - b. His manner of life – the way he lives and handles life
 - c. His _____
 - d. His Faith
 - e. His Long-Suffering
 - f. His Charity
 - g. His Patience
 - h. His Persecutions
 - i. His Afflictions
 - 1) At Antioch (Acts 13:14,44-52)
 - 2) At Iconium (Acts 14:1-6)
 - 3) At Lystra (Acts 14:6,7,19,20)
 - j. His _____
 - k. But the LORD gets all the credit (3:11)!
 2. Life Principle of the Christian – _____
 3. Life Challenge of the Scriptures (3:14-17)
 - a. _____! Be faithful!
 - 1) Be faithful to what you have already learn
 - 2) Study to learn it better
 - b. _____ – learn through and through!
 - 1) The Holy Scriptures – what a title!
 - 2) The Scriptures should be read and known by every child
 - 3) The Scriptures _____ the soul (1Pet 1:23)
 - 4) The Scriptures must be mixed with faith (Heb 4:2)
 - 5) The Scriptures are _____
 - a) No autographs existed
 - b) Old Testament copies in the hands of Timothy were the very words of God
 - 6) The Scriptures are all a man of God needs
 - a) For doctrine – no Magisterium needed
 - b) For reproof
 - c) For correction

- d) For instruction in righteousness
- 7) The Scriptures make you “_____” – thoroughly furnished to do whatever God calls you to do
 - a) To preach
 - b) To pastor
 - c) To church plant
 - d) To plumb
 - e) To be a politician
 - f) To be a chemist
 - g) To engineer
 - h) To manage department stores
 - i) Etc

III. Conclusion

- A. How does a pastor counteract the symptoms of this “final days” disease (3:1-13).
 - 1. Men will always be those things without Biblical transformation
 - 2. A pastor needs to have a different kind of a life, learned by studying the word of God, and the life of their pastor
 - 3. A pastor has a lot to teach – be teachable, and take your role very seriously
- B. How perfect is your Bible?

Chapter 4 - Paul the Finisher

"I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith" (4:7).

I. Introduction

- A. These are the last instructions that Paul could give to Timothy
- B. They are the most important instructions to pastors/teachers today

II. Main Lesson

A. His Final Charge (4:1, 2, 5).

1. Preach the word.
2. Be diligent at all times, in all you do, but especially in preaching!
3. Reprove, rebuke, and exhort in your preaching
 - a. Reprove means convince someone of their wrongdoing – bring people under conviction
 - b. Rebuke means to stop someone from sinning, to restrain them
 - c. Exhort means to urge, encourage, draw people after you to follow God
4. Remain alert at all times.
5. Bear up under persecutions.
6. Evangelize your field – start many churches
7. Utilize your ministry to the fullest.

B. His Final Warning (4:3, 4).

1. In the last days men will not tolerate healthy doctrine.
2. They will be controlled by their own lusts.
3. In their restlessness they will seek out many false teachers.
4. Having refused the truth they will fall victim to fables.

C. His Final Testimony (4:6, 7).

1. “For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith.”
2. The word “offered” signifies the pouring out of a religious drink offering (Num. 15:1-10). Paul had already regarded his ministry in winning the lost to Christ as an offering to God (Rom. 15:16; Phil. 2:17) and now his approaching death would complete the sacrifice.
3. The word “departure” means “to take down a tent, to break camp, to pull in the anchor.”
4. His testimony in verse 7 should be contrasted with God’s statement to wicked Belshazzar in Daniel 5:26.

D. His Final Request (4:9, 11, 12, 13, 19, 21).

1. Timothy was to come to the Roman prison immediately.
2. He was to bring John Mark with him. Years prior to this Mark had, of course, accompanied Paul and Barnabas on their first missionary trip, but had left the team and gone home. Due to this sign of immaturity, Paul had refused to include him in a second proposed trip. This action then prompted a break between Paul and Barnabas. (See Acts 13:3; 15:36-40.) But since that time John had so grown in God’s grace that Paul desired to see him before his departure.
3. He was to bring Paul’s cloak he had left at Troas (4:13). The great sixteenth-century Bible translator William Tyndale would later make a similar request while confined to a damp prison cell:
 - a. “I entreat your lordship, and that by the Lord Jesus, that if I must remain here for the winter, you would beg the Commissary to be so kind as to send me, from the things of

mine which he has, a warmer cap, I feel the cold painfully in my head. Also a warmer cloak to patch my leggings. My overcoat is worn out, my shorts even are worn out. He has a woolen shirt of mine, if he will send it. But most of all I entreat and implore your kindness to do your best with the Commissary to be so good as to send me my Hebrew Bible, grammar, and vocabulary, that I may spend my time in that pursuit.”

4. Timothy was to bring Paul’s study books.
5. He was to bring the parchments - Paul’s copies of the Old Testament. This statement is staggering in its implications. Here is a man who conducted the first three missionary trips ever attempted for Christ, who had personally seen the Saviour on at least four occasions, who had written approximately half of the New Testament, and who had organized the first fifty or so Christian churches on this earth. Now in his hour of death he requests the Scriptures, for he evidently felt he could still learn from the precious pages.
6. The child of God is in absolutely no danger whatsoever of learning too much about God’s Word.

E. His Final Sorrow (4:10, 14-16)

1. Demas had forsaken him (Col. 4:10; Philemon 1:24).
2. Alexander had persecuted him (1 Tim. 1:20; Acts 19:33).
3. His friends at Rome had not helped him.

F. His Final Confidence (4:8, 17, 18).

1. God had stood by him during all past dangers (4:17).
2. God would stand by him during any future dangers (4:18).
3. Both past and future sufferings would be amply rewarded by that righteous Judge someday (4:8).

G. His Final Prayer (4:22). “The Lord Jesus Christ be with thy spirit. Grace be with you Amen.”

III. Conclusion