# **First Timothy**

**Introduction**

 We are first introduced to Timothy, as Timotheus, in Acts 16 as Paul and Silas return to Asia to deliver the decrees they received in Jerusalem from James and the twelve. He would then travel with Paul into Europe and begin to establish churches there.

 He would later see Paul stoned at Lystra, where he was born and raised, but that did not discourage Timothy from going with Paul to the work. He was sent by Paul to edify the saints in Corinth, Philippi, and Ephesus. He was Paul’s fellowlabourer until the end.

**Chapter One**

**Paul our Pattern**

**1 Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the commandment of God our Saviour, and Lord Jesus Christ, which is our hope;**

**Paul:**Paul is the first word in all of his epistles, and they are all placed back-to-back in the bible. Romans through Philemon. Paul is not the writer of Hebrews according to Hebrews 2:3.

**An apostle of Jesus Christ by the commandment of God our Saviour:**The word apostle means a sent one. Paul was commanded to be an apostle by God the Father, and Jesus Christ; he did not have a choice.

 See Romans 16:26 where God also gives commandment concerning the mystery the apostle was supposed to preach.

***1st Corinthians 9:16 For though I preach the gospel, I have nothing to glory of: for necessity is laid upon me; yea, woe is unto me, if I preach not the gospel! 17 For if I do this thing willingly, I have a reward: but if against my will, a dispensation of the gospel is committed unto me.***

**Lord Jesus Christ, which is our hope:**The hope is not the blessed hope (the rapture), it is the one who makes the rapture possible, the Lord Jesus Christ.

**2 Unto Timothy, my own son in the faith: Grace, mercy, and peace, from God our Father and Jesus Christ our Lord.**

**My own son in the faith:**Paul led Timothy to the Lord through his preaching the gospel of the grace of God to him. 1st Corinthians 15:1- 4 & Acts 20:24. Timothy’s mother, and grandmother were probably saved hearing Paul as well. 2 Timothy 1:5.

**Grace, mercy, and peace:**Paul alters his usual introduction of grace and peace when he adds the word mercy in between.

 This is because he is talking to Timothy personally and he would need the mercy of God when the devil throws his many wiles at him as a Pastor.

 Grace and peace are the conditions that mankind is enjoying in this age where God is dispensing grace instead of demanding obedience to the law. God is allowing peace between him and sinful mankind instead of giving us the wrath we deserve.

**From God our Father and Jesus Christ our Lord:**Grace, mercy, and peace, all come from God, and not from Paul, they are a gift from God in this age.

**3 As I besought thee to abide still at Ephesus, when I went into Macedonia, that thou mightest charge some that they teach no other doctrine, 4 Neither give heed to fables and endless genealogies, which minister questions, rather than godly edifying which is in faith: so do.**

 Paul writes this epistle to Timothy after his first imprisonment in Rome, where Timothy was assisting Paul for much of the two years that Paul was under house arrest in his own hired house. Acts 28:16-30.

**Charge some that they teach no other doctrine:**Timothy was to charge grace believers not to preach Israel’s old kingdom message to the body of Christ.

**Endless genealogies:** This refers back to the law, while godly edifying is found in what was dispensed to Paul in this present dispensation of grace.

**Godly edifying:**The Greek word for edifying her is Oikonomia, which is where we get the words economy, and dispensation from.

**5 Now the end of the commandment is charity out of a pure heart, and of a good conscience, and of faith unfeigned: 6 from which some having swerved have turned aside unto vain jangling; 7 Desiring to be teachers of the law; understanding neither what they say, nor whereof they affirm.**

**From which some have turned aside unto vain jangling:**Some had turned from charity, and unfeigned faith that permeates Paul’s teachings on the dispensation of grace, and they had turned back to the law.

**Desiring to be teachers of the law:**This problem is rampant amongst churches today who blend the law of Moses with grace by spiritualizing verses meant for Israel under the Law.

 For example, to teach doctrine found in Matthew 1:1 through Acts chapter 8 as doctrine for the body of Christ today is to not understand what they are saying, and to whom it is being spoken to.

**8 But we know that the law is good, if a man use it lawfully: This means that we know the law, so we know what sin is, and we try to refrain from it.**

**The law is good if we use it lawfully:** The law condemns us and allows us to see that we cannot save ourselves, so that we may acknowledge our need for salvation.

**9 Knowing this, that the law is not made for a righteous man, but for the lawless and disobedient, for the ungodly and for sinners, for unholy and profane, for murderers of fathers and murderers of mothers, for manslayers, 10 For whoremongers, for them that defile themselves with mankind, for menstealers, for liars, for perjured persons, and if there be any other thing that is contrary to sound doctrine;**

**The law is not made for a righteous man:**The law is a teacher to point sinners towards the Saviour.No one will look for a Saviour if they think they have no need of one.

**And if there be any other thing that is contrary to sound doctrine:**The law is against those that would teach any unsound doctrine.

**11 According to the glorious gospel of the blessed God, which was committed to my trust.**

**The glorious gospel of the blessed God, that was committed to my trust:**It was not committed to Peter and the eleven’s trust, because they already preached the gospel of the kingdom. Paul preached the gospel of the grace of God. Acts 20:24.

**12 And I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who hath enabled me, for that he counted me faithful, putting me into the ministry; 13 Who was before a blasphemer, and a persecutor, and injurious: but I obtained mercy, because I did it ignorantly in unbelief.**

**Christ Jesus our Lord, who hath enabled me:**He equipped Paul for his ministry.

**He counted me faithful, putting me into the ministry:**God forgave Saul, and was willing and able to use him, who was before a blasphemer.

 Paul would blaspheme Jesus as the Christ as he persecuted to true believers in the kingdom church, and he would cause them to blaspheme him:

***Acts 26:11 And I punished them oft in every synagogue, and compelled them to blaspheme; and being exceedingly mad against them, I persecuted them even unto strange cities.***

**But I obtained mercy, because I did it ignorantly in unbelief:**The Jews that had crucified Jesus were forgiven also because they didn’t know what they were doing:

***Luke 23:34 Then said Jesus, Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do.***

**14 And the grace of our Lord was exceeding abundant with faith and love which is in Christ Jesus.**

 To forgive your chief rival takes grace, and God's grace exceeds whatever amount sinful mankind could ever need. Jesus Christ is the personification of God's grace and love.

***Ephesians 2:7 That in the ages to come he might shew the exceeding riches of his grace in his kindness toward us through Christ Jesus. 8 For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: 9 Not of works, lest any man should boast.***

**15 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.**

**This is a faithful saying:**These very same words are used by the apostle Paul three other times: 1st Timothy 4:9, 2nd Timothy 2:11 & Titus 3:8. The saying that we are about to examine in this verse and the next should be accepted by all, but they are not.

**Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am chief:**The word chief means first, lead, or head. When you go onto a Reservation and see the Chief, you have seen the head of the tribe.

 Saul (later called Paul) was the leader of the rebellion of sinners against God at that time because he was persecuting and opposing the very thing that God was doing at that time with believers in the nation of Israel.

 Saul was literally the leader of the rebellion. He was Satan's right-hand man if you will, although he did this ignorantly, and in unbelief as stated above.

**16 Howbeit for this cause I obtained mercy, that in me first Jesus Christ might shew forth all longsuffering, for a pattern to them which should hereafter believe on him to life everlasting.**

**For this cause, I obtained mercy:**Because Saul was the chief (leader) of sinners God wanted to use him to show the world that if Saul could be saved anyone could be.

**That in me first Jesus Christ might shew forth all longsuffering:**This means something started with Paul. Jesus Christ is now showing the world through Paul's salvation God's longsuffering for sinners.

Paul is the first in this age that God chose to do this with in such a fashion. God could have immediately ushered in the tribulation period and His Wrath upon a Christ rejecting nation and world, but He didn't.

 Instead, he chose to be longsuffering, and to show the world how gracious he really was in spite of Israel's fall. God begins to save Gentiles before Israel is risen to its promised position as head of all nations during her prophesied kingdom.

 God now institutes something new, the body of Christ, were there is no distinction between Jew and Gentile during this un-prophesied time period whichwas a mystery kept hidden from before the foundation of the world. Romans 16:25.

**For a pattern to them which should hereafter believe on him:**Paul was the first that God saved by grace through faith in this age, and he serves as a pattern for all who should believe hereafter.

**17 Now unto the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only wise God, be honour and glory for ever and ever. Amen.** 1st Timothy 6:16.

**The King eternal:** 1st Timothy 6:16.

**Immortal:**Cannot decay or die.

**Invisible:**Cannot be seen.

**The only wise God:** Jude 25. Because God has chosen to use the apostle Paul in this way as a pattern to all who should believe hereafter.

 God will receive the glory and honour throughout all eternity for showing his great longsuffering and love for all humanity in saving His chief enemy.

**18 This charge I commit unto thee, son Timothy, according to the prophecies which went before on thee, that thou by them mightest war a good warfare;**

**This charge:**Timothy was to educate all who should believe on Christ from then on of the longsuffering of God.

 He showed that to the world in the example of his saving Saul of Tarsus, the chief of sinners, and making him the apostle of the Gentiles.

 Timothy had that charge committed unto him by the Apostle Paul, and as he was faithful in his ministry, he in turn would recommit that charge to us to make all men see what is the fellowship of the mystery.

**According to the prophecies which went before on thee:**Paul laid hands on Timothy before and prophesied that he would help make all men see what is the fellowship of the mystery.

***2nd Timothy 1:6 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.***

**19 Holding faith, and a good conscience; which some having put away concerning faith have made shipwreck:**

**Which some having put away concerning faith have made shipwreck:**There are those who teach from this verse that a person can lose their salvation by neglecting their faith long enough.

 People who no longer hold to the doctrine of salvation by grace through faith which saved them, can now hold to a works doctrine of justification through the deeds of the law, but it doesn't alter their salvation one bit.

 Many people have gotten confused by Satan’s seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils after having been saved, and they started to teach things that are contrary to sound doctrine.

 That is the equivalent of a ship that is sinking. People who hear their wrong understanding of salvation will not be saved because they will not be trusting solely in Christ for their salvation.

**20 Of whom is Hymenaeus and Alexander; whom I have delivered unto Satan, that they may learn not to blaspheme.**

**Hymenaeus and Alexander:** 2nd Timothy.

 Their selfish pride led them to turn a blind eye to the significance of Paul's ministry, as many still do today, because of their blind obedience to the traditions of others, and they have made themselves hirelings and not true servants.

**Delivered unto Satan:**This has to do with administering church discipline on an individual who refuses to repent of his wickedness, and then the whole matter is given over to God for His chastening hand to administer correction as he sees fit.

 Paul could not deliver someone over to Satan for the destruction of the body unless they were God's child in the first place.

 They were God's children, and they went away from the truth and began to teach contrary to sound doctrine regarding salvation and God disciplines his children and that is what Paul was doing in turning these two over to be disciplined.

 They are both mentioned in the fourth chapter of Paul's second epistle to Timothy.

**Chapter Two**

**The two-fold will of God**

**1 I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men; 2 For kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty. 3 For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour;**

**Supplications:**Petitions.

**Intersessions:**Prayers for others.

**4 Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth.**

**Who will have all men to be saved**: It is God’s will that all be saved, but we have a choice to accept or reject salvation.

**And to come to the knowledge of the truth:** Once a person gets saved it is God's will that they all come unto the knowledge of the truth.

 The truth is the revelation of the mystery that has been kept secret since the world began but has now been made known by the apostle Paul to us ward who believe.

 The knowledge of the truth has to do with God's plan for this age and our part in it.

 We have to be able to divide our mystery program which had been kept secret from the foundation of the world but now has been given to the us, from Israel's prophecy program which has been spoken about since the foundation of the world by Israel's prophets.

 Why do not more believers understand the mystery program? We are not praying for them to be saved, nor are we making all men see what the fellowship of the mystery is.

 Pray for them to be saved, and then tell them about the mystery revealed to Paul, for this is acceptable in the sight of God.

 There are divisions precisely because we "all" have not come unto the knowledge of the truth for this age. We need to pray for "all" men to see what the fellowship of the mystery is.

**5 For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus;**

**One mediator:** A go between. There is only one way these leaders are ever going to get saved and that is when they realize that God exists and that there is only God, and he has one mediator that stands between Him and them and that is the man Christ Jesus.

**6 Who gave himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time.**

**Who gave himself a ransom for all:** All of humanity was being held by the captor (Satan) and there was no ransom that we could afford to pay because the price was perfection.

 Christ who knew no sin became sin (not a sinner) for us, and tasted death for us, to ransom all who would call upon him. 2nd Corinthians 5:21.

**To be testified in due time:** This means that this message was not preached before the cross by the twelve, nor by John the Baptist, nor any of the prophets.

 It was the unsearchable riches of Christ which were made known unto us by the apostle Paul by the risen Christ only after the cross. 1st Corinthians 15:8.

**7 Whereunto I am ordained a preacher, and an apostle, (I speak the truth in Christ, and lie not;) a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and verity.**

**I am ordained a preacher:** One who proclaims God’s word.

**An apostle:** Paul was ordained as apostle of the Gentiles to let all of us Gentiles know how to be saved in this dispensation of grace.

**A teacher of the Gentiles:** Paul taught the body of Christ their role in God’s eternal plan for them in heavenly places.

**8 I will therefore that men pray every where, lifting up holy hands, without wrath and doubting.**

**Lifting up holy hands:** This verse speaks more to the holiness of your hands than it does to the position of your hands in prayer. He would rather your hands be free from sin than at a particular elevation.

 Now Paul tells us how we are to pray for all men. We are to pray without wrath towards any or all men who are lost. We are to pray, believing that God will save people, and that he will bring men to a knowledge of the truth.

**9 In like manner also, that women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with shamefacedness and sobriety; not with broided hair, or gold, or pearls, or costly array; 10 But (which becometh women professing godliness) with good works.**

**Women adorn themselves in modest apparel:** Paul is saying that it is God’s will that women adorn themselves in modesty not worldly excess.

**11 Let the woman learn in silence with all subjection. 12 But I suffer not a woman to teach, nor to usurp authority over the man, but to be in silence. 13 For Adam was first formed, then Eve. 14 And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived was in the transgression.** *Genesis 2 & 3.*

**Let the woman learn in silence with all subjection:** It was Eve that Satan directed his question to for a reason, and it was Eve who answered for Adam in the garden when Adam was standing right there with her, and he never said a word. Genesis 3:1-6.

 God has given us an order for the church, the home, and God has set the man to be the spiritual leader of both. Eve's sin was due to her being deceived, but Eve’s sin didn't plunge all mankind into sin, Adam’s did.

***Romans 5:12 says, Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:***

 Adam just flat out rebelled, while Eve was deceived. Adam should have corrected Eve, but he did not.

**15 Notwithstanding she shall be saved in childbearing, if they continue in faith and charity and holiness with sobriety.**

**She shall be saved in childbearing:** This verse does not mean that a woman can be saved by having children, because that would mean hundreds of other very clear scriptures which teach contrary to that fact are wrong.

 No single scripture is of any private interpretation. The woman that recognizes her God given roll as a help meet to her husband, and who adorns herself modestly, and has good works will save her own life, and that of her husband and children from one of despair and destruction.

 That is, if she raises them up as a good example to them, teaching them, and not her husband.

**Chapter Three**

**Officers in the Church**

**1 This is a true saying, If a man desire the office of a bishop, he desireth a good work.**

**The office of a bishop:** It is a good office to desire to have according to God's word. There is no better job in the world if you rejoice in taking broken lives and putting them back together again.

 The title bishop is synonymous with that of elder and pastor, they are all considered as overseers of the house of God.

 Notice it does not say that a person will hear a call from God to be a bishop. We are not a Prophet of Israel under the law. God is operating differently under grace today.

**2 A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, vigilant, sober, of good behaviour, given to hospitality, apt to teach;**

**Blameless:** A person to qualify for the office must be blameless in the eyes of his congregation, and God as well in the following areas:

 He is to be the husband of one wife: A husband is a man, not a woman. Not one wife at a time either. That, along with other comments made by Paul to Timothy concerning women in the church lets you know that a woman is not to be the spiritual leader over men.

**Vigilant:** One who is not lazy concerning the responsibilities of the office.

**Sober:** Rational in their thinking and actions.

**Of good behaviour:** They are to be someone who is known as a good person.

**Given to hospitality:** Because they will spend much of their time with other people, and they should be as concerned for them as they are for their own families.

**Apt to teach:** This has nothing to do with a great voice, but a person who can deliver God’s truth without compromise.

**3 Not given to wine, no striker, not greedy of filthy lucre; but patient, not a brawler, not covetous;**

**Not given to wine:** Paul had to force Timothy to take "a little wine" for his oft infirmities because a minister is not to allow himself to be under the control of these harmful spirits.

 Wine deadens a man's ability to make good decisions. Given to wine, means that he does it often, and in excess.

**No striker:** A bishop must be gentle, not someone who believes that might is right.

**Not covetous:** He is not to be greedy, always trying to make extra money in excess.

**Patient:** He must realize that mature Christians don’t occur overnight. Babies make mistakes.

**4 One that ruleth well his own house, having his children in subjection with all gravity; 5 (For if a man know not how to rule his own house, how shall he take care of the church of God?)**

**One that ruleth well his own house:** His children are a reflection on how effectively he implements the principles found in the word of God in his own family.

**With all gravity:** Titus 2:7.

**6 Not a novice, lest being lifted up with pride he fall into the condemnation of the devil.**

**Not a novice:** The biggest problem a young bishop with no experience can fall into is pride, and pride comes before a fall.

**Fall into the condemnation of the devil:** 1st Timothy 3:7, James 1:2 & 5:12.

**7 Moreover he must have a good report of them which are without; lest he fall into reproach and the snare of the devil.**

**A good report of them which are without:**The bishop must have, and maintain a good reputation if he is to be effective.

**8 Likewise must the deacons be grave, not doubletongued, not given to much wine, not greedy of filthy lucre;**

**The deacons:** Plural, as contrasted with the bishop (singular) above.

**Grave:** The deacons must be serious (grave) about the position they hold and not use it as a position of power to get their agenda approved in the church.

**Not doubletongued:** They ought to speak in unison with the decisions of the church, not saying one thing to one person and another to someone else to gain favor with them.

**Not given to much wine:** Drinking an excessive amount of wine for the purpose of becoming intoxicated. Deacons should not be sought out from those just interested in power and riches.

**Not greedy of filthy lucre:** Lucrative schemes to defraud others of their money for your own benefit.

**9 Holding the mystery of the faith in a pure conscience.**

**The mystery of the faith:** This is talking about men serving who know the revelation of the mystery which was given to Paul to give to us in the body of Christ. Ephesians 3:8-9.

**10 And let these also first be proved; then let them use the office of a deacon, being found blameless.**

**Let these also first be proved:** They should have been serving the church already in another capacity before considering them to this office.

**The office of a deacon:** There are two officers in the church today, bishop and deacon. Apostles and prophets ceased when the sign gifts for Israel ceased in Acts 28.

**11 Even so must their wives be grave, not slanderers, sober, faithful in all things.**

**Not slanderers:**The deacon’s wives may hear of a problem in the church that is being dealt with correctly in private, and then tells a bunch of people and can slander an innocent person.

**12 Let the deacons be the husbands of one wife, ruling their children and their own houses well.**

**The husbands of one wife:** They have the same qualification as the bishop of not being divorced.

**13 For they that have used the office of a deacon well purchase to themselves a good degree, and great boldness in the faith which is in Christ Jesus.**

**Purchase to themselves a good degree, and great boldness in the faith:** They acquire boldness as soul winners, and servants, and can teach those that oppose themselves.

**14 These things write I unto thee, hoping to come unto thee shortly: 15 But if I tarry long, that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth.**

**The house of God:** God wants us to understand that there are rules that God himself has given to us so that we may know how to behave ourselves in the house of God, the church of the living God.

 If you don't have someone qualified to fill one of these positions, then you don't need them yet. Pure and simple.

**The pillar and ground of the truth:** The church not the truth! The church supports it (the truth) like a pillar supports a building. The word is the truth, and the church has the job to defend it, and to propagate it.

**16 And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory.**

**Without controversy:** The Pauline revelations prove the mystery beyond a shadow of a doubt.

**The mystery of godliness:** Notice the word godliness has a small "g" because it concerns a mystery concerning us in the body of Christ being godly. See the doctrine according to godliness in 1st Timothy 6:3.

 It is about how we can do that today in the dispensation of grace, which was revealed through Paul by revelation.

 The mystery of godliness deals with us being Christ like, as Christ is in us believers today, he manifests himself through us as we put on Christ as the one new man. Ephesians 2:15.

 That fact that the Christ that is spoken about throughout all of the old testament is Immanuel, God with us, in human form (God became a man) is not a mystery in the scriptures. Psalm 110:1 & Isaiah 7:14.

 Jesus is now being preached unto the Gentiles ever since Israel's fall that he died for their sins, was buried, and rose again from the dead the third day according to the scriptures.

**Chapter Four**

**Doctrines of devils**

**1 Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils;**

**The Spirit speaketh expressly:**Very descriptively. 1st Samuel 20:21 & Ezekiel 1:3.

**The latter times:** Paul is not speaking about the last days of Israel's prophecy program, but the latter times of the dispensation of grace leading up to the blessed hope, also known as the rapture by believers today.

 The last days of Israel's prophecy program ended with their blinding as a nation in the early Acts period as the dispensation of grace was ushered in with Paul and his epistles for the body of Christ.

 Those last days will resume only after the church is taken away in the rapture, and the time of Jacob's trouble begins.

**Some shall depart from the faith:** Their faith has not left them, but they are now preaching something that will not save the hearers of their new message.

 This does not mean they lose their salvation, but rather they now are preaching a doctrine that has departed from what is correct for this age and in that sense, they have left "the faith".

**Seducing spirits and doctrines of devils:** People would leave sound doctrine when enticed by seducing spirits working through people who bewitched them with their doctrines of devils.

**2 Speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron; 3 Forbidding to marry, and commanding to abstain from meats, which God hath created to be received with thanksgiving of them which believe and know the truth. 4 For every creature of God is good, and nothing to be refused, if it be received with thanksgiving: 5 For it is sanctified by the word of God and prayer.** *Acts 10:15.*

**Speaking lies in hypocrisy:**The identifying characteristics of these false teachers is their doctrines that forbid marriage and their commanding of God's people to abstain from meats which God had created to be received with thanksgiving.

**Conscience seared with a hot iron:** To render their conscience unsensitive. Priests are forbidden to marry today in some groups which is totally contrary to the scriptures as even Peter himself had a wife, and a mother in-law.

 Priests rarely question this teaching because their conscience has been seared by their seducing spirits that give them their doctrines of devils.

**6 If thou put the brethren in remembrance of these things, thou shalt be a good minister of Jesus Christ, nourished up in the words of faith and of good doctrine, whereunto thou hast attained.**

**A good minister of Jesus Christ:** We are to warn our people as pastors about the fallacies of these people who have been deceived in order to be considered in God's eyes as a good minister of Jesus Christ.

**Good doctrine:** We are to nourish the church up in the words of faith and the good doctrine that Timothy received from Paul. 2nd Timothy 1:13-1 4 & Acts 20:25-31.

**7 But refuse profane and old wives' fables, and exercise thyself rather unto godliness. 8 For bodily exercise profiteth little: but godliness is profitable unto all things, having promise of the life that now is, and of that which is to come.**

 Spiritual exercise is the studying of God's word concerning doctrine as well as how we ought to behave and the refusing of false teachings and profane old wives’ fables that are constantly passed down from generation to generation.

 We have too many people today who are spiritual wimps because they do not exercise their faith in defending it and they let the devils spread their doctrines without so much as a challenge.

**9 This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptation. 10 For therefore we both labour and suffer reproach, because we trust in the living God, who is the Saviour of all men, specially of those that believe. 11 These things command and teach.**

**The Saviour of all men, specially of those that believe:** Whether the lost receive Christ as their Saviour or not, it does not change the fact that that is Jesus is the Saviour of men.

 He is more of a Saviour to those of us who have believed and received the salvation that he has wrought for us than he can be to someone who has rejected it.

**12 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.**

 Timothy was not to let those who would claim he was too young to know any better, to despise his youth as long as he was a living example of what a bishop/pastor ought to be.

 He was put in that position by God and unless he was immature and irresponsible those who were his senior were to respect the office he held and follow their leader.

**13 Till I come, give attendance to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine.**

 Bishops should be avid readers of the scriptures. Should we read other men's writings? Yes, of course! But the amount of scripture being read should far outweigh the amount of man's writings we read.

 Commentaries can be good, but never come to the place in your ministry that you skim through the scriptures in a commentary to get to what man has written.

 Ask God what his word means and do searches throughout the scriptures on different subjects. No nugget of truth is more precious than the one you dug out yourself.

**14 Neglect not the gift that is in thee, which was given thee by prophecy, with the laying on of the hands of the presbytery.**

**The gift that was given thee:** *2nd Timothy 1:6.*

**The laying on of the hands of the presbytery:**These gifts were not being given to the body of Christ after Israel's blindness was set in only before.

 This gift was needed by the church there and God gave the presbytery the knowledge that they were to bestow it on a younger Timothy.

**15 Meditate upon these things; give thyself wholly to them; that thy profiting may appear to all.**

 Do you meditate on what God's word means? Do you give yourself wholly unto them? If you do not it will show, and it will appear obvious to all that hear you.

 It is a profitable thing to give the word of God its proper place in your studies and in your ministry. You will profit, and your people will profit because of it.

**16 Take heed unto thyself, and unto the doctrine; continue in them: for in doing this thou shalt both save thyself, and them that hear thee.**

**Thou shalt save thyself, and them that hear thee:** They could save them and their people a lot of trouble if they would take heed to these things. Salvation is not in consideration here.

**Chapter Five**

**Denying the faith**

**1 Rebuke not an elder, but intreat him as a father; and the younger men as brethren; 2 The elder women as mothers; the younger as sisters, with all purity.**

**An elder:** An older person.

**3 Honour widows that are widows indeed. 4 But if any widow have children or nephews, let them learn first to shew piety at home, and to requite their parents: for that is good and acceptable before God. 5 Now she that is a widow indeed, and desolate, trusteth in God, and continueth in supplications and prayers night and day. 6 But she that liveth in pleasure is dead while she liveth.**

**Honour widows that are widows indeed:** Pastors should teach their congregation to take care of their family members, and to seek assistance if needed.

 They are to honour them with financial assistance if they are widows indeed (those who meet the qualifications listed below).

**Let them learn first to shew piety at home:**Children were to shew respect to their widowed mother or aunt to take care of their needs (to requite them) as they once did them.

**7 And these things give in charge, that they may be blameless. 8 But if any provide not for his own, and specially for those of his own house, he hath denied the faith, and is worse than an infidel.**

**He hath denied the faith:** He hath denied what God has said he should do in this area, and he is treating his own family worse than the lost (infidels) treat their widows.

**9 Let not a widow be taken into the number under threescore years old, having been the wife of one man, 10 Well reported of for good works; if she have brought up children, if she have lodged strangers, if she have washed the saints' feet, if she have relieved the afflicted, if she have diligently followed every good work.**

**Taken into the number:** Taken into the number of widows that the church has to help, because there is no family who can do it.

**Three score years old:** 60 years old.

**11 But the younger widows refuse: for when they have begun to wax wanton against Christ, they will marry;**

**To wax wanton against Christ:**They begin to adopt sensual ways to attract men instead of being a godly example.

**12 Having damnation, because they have cast off their first faith. 13 And withal they learn to be idle, wandering about from house to house; and not only idle, but tattlers also and busybodies, speaking things which they ought not. 14 I will therefore that the younger women marry, bear children, guide the house, give none occasion to the adversary to speak reproachfully. 15 For some are already turned aside after Satan.**

**Having damnation because they have cast off their first faith:**They cast off (turned aside after Satan) their biblical teachings to get their needs met by becoming worldly.

 This is not speaking about one losing their salvation in the dispensation of grace. We are sealed unto the day of redemption. Ephesians 4:30.

**Give none occasion to the adversary to speak reproachfully:** The adversary is ultimately the devil.

 It can also mean the infidels who would use this to criticize believers in Christ who will not take care of their own family.

**16. If any man or woman that believeth have widows, let them relieve them, and let not the church be charged; that it may relieve them that are widows indeed.**

**Let not the church be charged:**They should not let the church take care of their family when they can.

**17 Let the elders that rule well be counted worthy of double honour, especially they who labour in the word and doctrine. 18 For the scripture saith, Thou shalt not muzzle the ox that treadeth out the corn. And, The labourer is worthy of his reward.**

**Let the elders that rule well:** This is speak of a bishop who is an elder. Most elders are not bishops.

 A bishop/elder who does his job well should receive double that of what it would take to support a widow indeed, because he has more responsibilities to take care of such as a wife and children.

 Paul is definitely speaking to those with a leadership position in the church because he makes it clear that they are those who "rule well", it can also imply here that the pastor is someone with a few years on them.

**19 Against an elder receive not an accusation, but before two or three witnesses. 20 Them that sin rebuke before all, that others also may fear.** *Deuteronomy 17:6 & Matthew 18:16.*

**21 I charge thee before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, and the elect angels, that thou observe these things without preferring one before another, doing nothing by partiality.**

 Paul charges believers before three witnesses in verse twenty-one to observe these commandments.

**The elect angels:**These were the angels that chose not the rebel against God and follow Lucifer in his rebellion, so God chose them bear witness to what Paul was telling us.

**22 Lay hands suddenly on no man, neither be partaker of other men's sins: keep thyself pure.**

**Lay hands suddenly on no man:** Don't rush to give a new person a position of responsibility in the church, but rather wait a while to see if their spirituality matches up with their zeal.

**23 Drink no longer water, but use a little wine for thy stomach's sake and thine often infirmities.**

**Drink no longer water:** This command was for Timothy, and it was purely for medicinal purposes.

**Use a little wine for thy stomach’s sake:**A little wine was good for his stomach because the water was not filtered in those days. This is in contrast to Paul’s commands for a Bishop not to be given to “much wine”.

**24 Some men's sins are open beforehand, going before to judgment; and some men they follow after. 25 Likewise also the good works of some are manifest beforehand; and they that are otherwise cannot be hid.**

 Again, Paul warns Timothy to watch out for those who just show up and want to help immediately, that he should not put them into positions of authority until some time has passed by and they have proven themselves.

 It is the long-term health of the church that we are to be more concerned with rather than some perceived quick gain we might receive from someone who has just showed up.

**Chapter Six**

**Lay hold on Eternal life**

**1 Let as many servants as are under the yoke count their own masters worthy of all honour, that the name of God and his doctrine be not blasphemed. 2 And they that have believing masters, let them not despise them, because they are brethren; but rather do them service, because they are faithful and beloved, partakers of the benefit. These things teach and exhort.**

**Servants:**Slaves.

**Under the yoke:** Under bondage.

**Count their masters worthy of all honour, that the word of God and his doctrine be not blasphemed:** If they refuse to honour their masters, they are blaspheming the name of God, and the doctrine of God will not be believed by that servant who is not following it.

**Do them service:** They were to honor them as they served them.

**Partakers of the benefit:**They are partakers of the good deed done.

**3 If any man teach otherwise, and consent not to wholesome words, even the words of our Lord Jesus Christ, and to the doctrine which is according to godliness; 4 He is proud, knowing nothing, but doting about questions and strifes of words, whereof cometh envy, strife, railings, evil surmisings, 5 Perverse disputings of men of corrupt minds, and destitute of the truth, supposing that gain is godliness: from such withdraw thyself.**

**The doctrine according to godliness:** See the mystery of godliness in 1st Timothy 3:16 about Christ living out his word in us and through us.

**6 But godliness with contentment is great gain. 7 For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out. 8 And having food and raiment let us be therewith content. 9 But they that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and hurtful lusts, which drown men in destruction and perdition. 10 For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows. 11 But thou, O man of God, flee these things; and follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, meekness. 12 Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses.**

 Paul is describing a hireling which doesn't care about the Church, but about themselves, their stomach, and their comfort. An elder that is over a congregation should be like Christ and be willing to give himself for his church instead of looking for what he can get out of them.

**They have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows:**This is speaking about erring from the truth in regards to monetary gain.

 They no longer teach sound doctrine in this area, and they are producing much sorrow in those who keep trying to follow their false teachings in this area who end up destitute.

**Man of God:**A term given by others to God’s servants such as Timothy, not self-imposed on us for our exaltation.2nd Timothy 3:17.

**Lay hold on eternal life:** A person today lays hold on eternal life the moment he believes the gospel, he then begins to fight the good fight of faith, because he now possesses faith. Verse 19.

**Whereunto thou art also called:** All who have believed the gospel of the grace of God are called to fight the good fight of faith and to have eternal life.

**13 I give thee charge in the sight of God, who quickeneth all things, and before Christ Jesus, who before Pontius Pilate witnessed a good confession; 14 That thou keep this commandment without spot, unrebukeable, until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ: 15 Which in his times he shall shew, who is the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings, and Lord of lords; 16 Who only hath immortality, dwelling in the light which no man can approach unto; whom no man hath seen, nor can see: to whom be honour and power everlasting. Amen.**

**Who quickeneth all things**: He makes alive.

**Which in his times he shall shew:**When he returns to set up his kingdom.

**The blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings, and Lord of lords:**While Christ is the head of the body of Christ, he is also going to be seen as the only Potentate, King, and Lord of all on the earth as well.

**17 Charge them that are rich in this world, that they be not highminded, nor trust in uncertain riches, but in the living God, who giveth us richly all things to enjoy; 18 That they do good, that they be rich in good works, ready to distribute, willing to communicate; 19 Laying up in store for themselves a good foundation against the time to come, that they may lay hold on eternal life.**

**Willing to communicate:** This is in reference to supporting the work of God, as Paul said of the Philippians who alone communicated unto him (financially). Philippians 4:15.

**That they may lay hold on eternal life:**Verse twelve.

**20 O Timothy, keep that which is committed to thy trust, avoiding profane and vain babblings, and oppositions of science falsely so called: 21 Which some professing have erred concerning the faith. Grace be with thee. Amen.**

**Keep that which is committed to thy trust:** Paul committed to Timothy the gospel of the grace of God and the fellowship of the mystery. (Ephesians 3:8 & 9).

**Oppositions of science falsely so called:**Things which are called science, when there is no science to back them up, like evolution. Theories are just that, theories, they are not science.

 Evolution is a religion based only on blind faith. These people have erred concerning the faith of God, and are now teaching theories of men.

**The End**

**I Timothy I Test**

**Chapter One**

1. Who led Timothy to the Lord?

2. Why does Paul add Mercy in to his usual mention of Grace and Peace?

3. Who does Grace, Mercy and Peace come from? Paul or God?

4. When in Paul's ministry does he write this epistle to Timothy? Be specific

5. Why did Paul leave Timothy in Ephesus?

6. What was the problem with those who wanted to be teachers of the law?

7. How can we use the Law lawfully?

8. Who was the Law made for?

9. Into whose trust was the gospel of grace entrusted?

10. For what two reasons regarding Paul's past was he able to obtain mercy?

11. What faithful saying is worthy of all acceptation?

12. For what future purpose did Paul obtain mercy according to verse 16?

13. What does verse 16 mean to us today in the body of Christ?

14. What charge did Paul commit unto Timothy?

15. What does it mean to have shipwrecked faith?

16. What does it mean to be delivered over to Satan?

**Chapter Two**

1. What two groups of men (mankind) are we to pray for?

2. Who does God will to be saved?

3. What is God's will for all who get saved to come to understand?

4. Who is our one mediator between God and man?

5. How was Christ made a ransom for all men?

6. What is meant by the words "in due time"?

7. Why was Paul ordained an Apostle of the Gentiles?

8. How should men pray?

9. What are some reasons women should adorn themselves as Paul stated?

10. What does it mean that a woman would be saved in childbearing if she continues in those things of the faith that Paul mentions?

**Chapter Three**

1. What two other words are synonymous with the word Bishop?

2. What is the main responsibility of the Pastor/Shepherd/Bishop to the flock?

3. What are the qualifications that are listed to be a Bishop/Pastor?

4. Can a Pastor be divorced?

5. Why does a Pastor need to have his own house in order to be considered?

6. Why should a Pastor not be a novice?

7. What are the qualifications of a Deacon?

8. Can a Deacon be divorced?

9. What does it mean to hold the mystery of faith in a pure conscience?

10. What does a faithful Deacon purchase?

11. What is the pillar and ground of the truth? Explain your answer.

12. What is the mystery of Godliness?

**Chapter Four**

1. What is the difference between the latter times and the later days?

2. What did the Spirit say people would depart from in the latter times?

3. Who does the Holy Spirit say will seduce people in the latter times?

4. What do they use to deceive people?

5. What does it mean to "depart from the faith"?

6. Why may have Paul thought he was living in the latter times?

7. What two teachings identify those who have departed from the faith?

8. What Church still holds these doctrines today?

9. How does Paul say Timothy can be a good minister of Jesus Christ?

10. What 3 things is Timothy to give attendance to?

11. When did supernatural gifts cease?

12. What is meant that continuing in doctrine would save Timothy and others?

**Chapter Five**

1. What are we not to do with an Elder according to verse one?

2. What are the qualifications to be a "Widow Indeed"?

3. What does Paul tell us a person is that doesn't care for his widowed mother?

4. What does it mean to be worse than an infidel?

5. How old should a widow be before she is taken care of by the Church?

6. What is a ruling elder?

7. How much should a Pastor/Elder receive for a salary?

8. How should an accusation against an Elder be received?

9. Why should you wait to lay hands (approve of) on someone you just met?

10. What was Paul's reason for telling Timothy to use "a little" wine?

**Chapter Six**

1. How should a servant treat his master/employer?

2. What does Paul tell us about hirelings who strive over words?

3. What does Paul tell Timothy for the Rich to do with their riches?

4. What was the main thing that was committed to Timothy's trust by Paul?

# **Second Timothy**

**Chapter One**

**God’s Eternal Purpose**

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

**An apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God:** An apostle is a sent one. Paul became the apostle of the Gentiles, not by choice, or by the will of man, but by the will of God, and he was sent to the Gentiles by Christ.

***Romans 11:13 For I speak to you Gentiles, inasmuch as I am the apostle of the Gentiles, I magnify mine office:***

**The promise of life:** This is the promise of eternal life that God who cannot lie promised to himself before the world began.

***Titus 1:2 In hope of eternal life, which God, that cannot lie, promised before the world began;***

 Paul was an apostle according to that promise as the one who would be God's pattern of his grace to all who should believe on Christ after him.

***1st Timothy 1:15 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. 16 Howbeit for this cause I obtained mercy, that in me first Jesus Christ might shew forth all longsuffering, for a pattern to them which should hereafter believe on him to life everlasting.***

 Paul no longer was able to stay in his own hired house in Rome under house arrest but was now in the infamous Mamertine prison awaiting his last day when he would be beheaded for his faith.

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

 Timothy was saved under Paul’s ministry as he mentioned in his first epistle, and over the years he has become his dearly beloved son in the faith, because of all that they had gone through together.

**Grace, mercy, and peace:** Paul adds the word mercy in all three of his pastoral epistles because Timothy and Titus needed to hear about God’s mercy as they had suffered along with Paul for the defense of the gospel.

***Titus 3:5 Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost;***

**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;**

**I thank God:**Paul said he thanked God nine times in six different epistles. You should look up each occurrence sometime to see why Paul thanked God. Romans 1:8, 7:25, 1st Corinthians 1:4, 14, 14:18, Philippians 1:3, 1st Thessalonians 2:13 & Philemon 1:4.

 Paul tells Timothy that he continually prayed for him every day. That is the effect that working with someone on such a great cause can have with one another.

**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.**

**Being mindful of thy tears:** When Paul had last seen Timothy, it was with much tears because they knew that it could be the last time that they would ever see one another.

 Paul was in prison, and Timothy had his failing health, and the ever-present danger of persecution around every corner.

**The unfeigned faith that is in thee:**Timothy’s faith was sincere. It lasted through all the trials and tribulations that he experienced ministering with the apostle Paul.

 Sadly, there is no mention of any men in Timothy’s family possessing faith. Paul was the strong male role-model that Timothy needed in his life since his father and grandfather were not sadly.

**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.**

**Stir up the gift of God:** The gift of God is not speaking about the gift of salvation, which is also mentioned in scripture, because no one can impart salvation to another by the laying on of an apostle’s hands.

 Salvation is a gift of God given by grace through faith. Ephesians 2:8-9. We do not have apostles today to give us these gifts as they are no longer necessary, because we have all the scripture we need for this age.

 We have all the hidden wisdom of God's mystery program because it was given to Paul to give to us.

***1st Corinthians 7:7 For I would that all men were even as I myself. But every man hath his proper gift of God, one after this manner, and another after that.***

 This gift had to do with an inner boldness that he possessed when times get tough. Timothy needed to be able to minister, not out of fear, but with of a sound mind that trusted in God's will.

**The putting on of my hands:** Paul, as an apostle, had put his hands on Timothy in the early days, and he had imparted unto him a supernatural gift that Timothy would need to accomplish the job that God had called him to do.

**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;**

**Be not thou therefor ashamed:** Paul knew that Timothy was fearful because of all the battles that had been raging with Paul concerning Nero’s persecutions.

 Because all of the churches of Asia had turned their backs on Paul doctrinally because of the new revelations he had received from Christ. People were teaching other things, and refuting things that Paul had taught them previously.

 Paul and Timothy were preaching to the Gentiles, and proclaiming the blinding of Israel, which you can understand would not be very popular with the Jews.

**The afflictions of the gospel:**The main reason that dispensationalism hasn’t grown as much as it should today, is because many of us are not willing to be a partaker of the afflictions of the gospel.

**According to the power of God:**The power of God is defined for us in verse seven as “the spirit of power” that is within each believer at the moment they believe the gospel which reminds us not to fear circumstances, but trust in God’s will.

**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,**

**An holy calling:** According to God’s own purpose he called before the world began, all who were going to be saved with an holy calling to fulfill his will making all men see what the fellowship of the mystery is, he did not predestine anyone to be saved.

***Ephesians 3:8 Unto me, who am less than the least of all saints, is this grace given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ; 9 And to make all men see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the world hath been hid in God, who created all things by Jesus Christ:***

***1st Timothy 2:3 For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour; 4 Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth.***

**In Christ Jesus before the world began:**When we are saved, we are placed into Jesus Christ. He is the head, and we are his body.

 His eternal purpose was eternally in Christ before we were born or before the world began because it was his eternal purpose, it was just not revealed until Christ revealed it to the apostle Paul.

**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:**

**But is now made manifest:** The grace that was given before the world began is now being made manifest because of the cross, and what happened three days later on our behalf.

 Paul had to remind Timothy that Christ has abolished death and given eternal life to all who believe the gospel that was given to Paul. Romans 16:25-26.

**By the appearing of our Saviour Jesus Christ:** This refers to Jesus’ appearing to him on the road to Damascus.

 And at later times when he made manifest to him the mystery which had been kept secret from the foundation of the world, but now was made manifest. Ephesians 3:1-10.

**Who hath abolished death:**Jesus died our death for us.Death had no hold over Jesus because he was not guilty of any sins.

***Hebrews 4:15 For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was tempted in all points as we are, yet without sin.***

***2nd Corinthians 5:21 For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.***

***Romans 6:23 The wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.***

**Hath brought life and immortality to light through the gospel:**The gospel is the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ, not the gospel of the kingdom that was preach solely to Israel by the John the Baptist, Jesus and the twelve apostles to the nation of Israel.

***Romans 6:23 but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.***

Jesus died that we might have eternal life if we believe the gospel of the grace of God that is found in Paul’s epistles alone:

***1st Corinthians 15:1 Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand; 2 By which also ye are saved, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain. 3 For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; 4 And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures:***

 This gospel Paul calls “my gospel” in numerous places:

***Romans 2:16 In the day when God shall judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ according to my gospel.***

***Romans 16:25 Now to him that is of power to stablish you according to my gospel, and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery, which was kept secret since the world began,***

***2nd Timothy 2:8 Remember that Jesus Christ of the seed of David was raised from the dead according to my gospel:***

 This gospel was committed unto Paul as the apostle of the Gentiles:

***Galatians 2:7 But contrariwise, when they saw that the gospel of the uncircumcision was committed unto me, as the gospel of the circumcision was unto Peter;***

***1st Timothy 1:11 According to the glorious gospel of the blessed God, which was committed to my trust.***

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

**I am appointed:** Paul was appointed to be all the above things so that he could fulfill God’s will for us today, which was determined before the world began, to preach the gospel to all the world so that God’s creation can have communion with him for eternity.

 If you are a preacher today, you did not have a Damascus road experience like Paul did. You volunteered. People are not appointed today by a vision, but by a desire to reach people with the gospel.

***1st Timothy 3:1 This is a true saying, If a man desire the office of a bishop, he desireth a good work.***

**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.**

**For the which cause I suffer these things:**The cause for which Paul was suffering was the will of God for this dispensation.

**That which I have committed unto him:** Paul had committed his life to preaching the message that God gave to him until his death.

**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.**

**Hold fast the form of sound words, which thou hast heard of me:**The sound doctrine of Pauline truths concerning the mystery program that Jesus Christ revealed unto the apostle of the Gentiles.

**That good thing which was committed unto thee:** Paul put into Timothy’s trust the mystery program of God that had been revealed unto him, and he now had the responsibility to keep it alive by sharing it with others.

**Keep by the Holy Ghost:** The only way he could do that was by the power of the Holy Ghost because Satan was around every corner trying to discourage Timothy to quit or to trim his message.

 Be a person of prayer, so you will have the strength to stand against doctrinal compromise.

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

**All they which be in Asia be turned away from me:** The church started to reject Paul’s unique message concerning the mystery because of the Judaizers trying to bring them into the bondage of the law.

 Paul’s message was quickly finding little room in the churches because it called people to action regardless of the danger, and to confront those bringing in other doctrines, instead of welcoming them.

**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.**

**That he might find mercy in that day:** Paul is telling Timothy to pray for Onesiphorus that he would be strong in that day, which is when Onesiphorus would face the executioner’s axe.

 It is very possible that they were both killed at the same time.

**Chapter Two**

**Rightly Dividing the Word of Truth**

**1 Thou therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. 2 And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also.**

**The things that thou hast heard of me:** The things are the gospel of the grace of God (Acts 20:24), which is found in 1st Corinthians 15:1-4.

**The same commit thou to faithful men:** One of the biggest mistakes we can make in the ministry is that of not training others to do what we have been trained to do. Notice the plural form "men" instead of "a man" chosen by Paul.

 Paul literally trained lots of men in his twenty-five-year ministry and he taught them to do the same thing. He wasn't trying to keep everyone in one spot to build a big church, he had a global vision.

 We are to follow Paul as our pattern for planting churches. 1st Timothy 1:15-16, 1st Corinthians 4:16, 11:1, Philippians 3:17 & 1st Thessalonians 1:6.

**3 Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. 4 No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of this life; that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier.**

**Endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ:** Here Paul encouraged Timothy like a good soldier that endures the hardness of long costly battles and who keeps on fighting.

 Paul didn't want Timothy to be entangled with the affairs of this life so that he could be engaged in the spiritual battle that was in front of him. You do not win battles without getting into the fight in the first place.

 Who hath chosen him to be a soldier of Jesus Christ: All believers have been chosen to be a good soldier before the world began. This is not speaking of only a select group of people that are Pastors who God alone has chosen to be soldiers.

**5 And if a man also strive for masteries, yet is he not crowned, except he strive lawfully.**

**If a man also strive for masteries:** Paul chose a metaphor of an athlete that wants to master his sport, and to be crowned for doing it without taking any short cuts.

 Pursue understanding God’s word today like an athlete trying to win an Olympic medal with no doctrinal compromises along the way.

 A soldier must learn how to fight the enemy and master his skill. We fight the enemy today, not with carnal weapons, but with the word of God rightly divided, which is what is meant by striving lawfully.

**6 The husbandman that laboureth must be first partaker of the fruits.**

**The husbandman that laboureth:** Paul wants Timothy and us to know that just as a farmer is the first to eat part of his own crop so the minister that labours in the word should be taken care of first out of the offerings of God's people.

 Why did Paul have to teach this to Timothy? Sadly, many churches give their pastor a meager salary, or none at all.

**7 Consider what I say; and the Lord give thee understanding in all things.**

**Consider what I say:** If this verse were to be followed today, we wouldn't have all these denominations each saying something else because they would all be listening to the same voice.

**The Lord give thee understanding in all things:** Paul says that if you will consider what he says, (the message that God gave him to give to us for today) that the Lord will give you understanding in "all" things.

 All things that a local church needs to know is found in the epistles of Paul, who is the apostle of the Gentiles in this dispensation of grace.

 Paul received an abundance of revelations that was kept hidden in God from before the foundation of the world, but now has been made manifest, and people are ignorant of most it. Romans 16:25-26 & Ephesians 3:8-9.

**8 Remember that Jesus Christ of the seed of David was raised from the dead according to my gospel:**

**Jesus Christ of the seed of David was raised from the dead according to my***(Paul’s)***gospel:**Not according to the gospel of the kingdom that the twelve were preaching to Israel.

 Peter when preaching on the day of Pentecost and afterwards mentions the cross and Christ's resurrection, but not as the good news that his hearers must trust in to receive the forgiveness of their sins.

 When Peter preaches of Jesus crucifixion, he condemns his countrymen as the killers of their Messiah and tells them they should repent of their wickedness.

 Peter tells his hearers that their King is in exile now until his enemies be made his footstool, whereas Paul's gospel declares the cross as good news to the world and that Christ is now the head of the church, which is his body.

 Peter declared God's wrath against Israel and his enemies in Acts 2 and 3, whereas Paul is preaching that God is dispensing grace to his hearers and forgiveness.

 These are two different gospels to two distinct groups of people. One was Israel with the gospel of the circumcision, and the other was to the whole world with the gospel of the uncircumcision.

**9 Wherein I suffer trouble, as an evil doer, even unto bonds; but the word of God is not bound.**

 Paul was suffering imprisonment (bonds) because he was proclaiming the gospel of grace (Acts 20:24) that many Jews would have nothing to do with it and fought Paul reaching out to the Gentiles at every turn.

 Jail may have bound Paul physically, but the word of God was still going forth. Paul was still able to get his epistles out to Timothy, Titus, and Philemon.

**10 Therefore I endure all things for the elect's sakes, that they may also obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory.**

**I endure all things for the elect’s sakes:** Paul instructed Timothy to keep on serving the Lord even if it meant he would end up in the prison as Paul was, and even if it meant his life.

 Paul told Timothy that he endured all things so that others could be saved if they would only believe what he was teaching them. Romans 8:33.

**11 It is a faithful saying: For if we be dead with him, we shall also live with him: 12 If we suffer, we shall also reign with him: if we deny him, he also will deny us: 13 If we believe not, yet he abideth faithful: he cannot deny himself.**

**It is a faithful saying:** Paul, then says four things that are true, or faithful in this dispensation of grace.

**If we be dead with him, we shall also live with him:** Paul is talking about believing his gospel in verse eleven in that if we by faith trust in his death, burial, and resurrection then we died with Christ (Romans 6:3), and we now live with him that was raised from the dead.

**If we suffer, we shall also reign with him:** In verse twelve Paul is talking about receiving a reward for our suffering.

 We are not persecuted because we do not take the same stands for Christ anymore when confronted with darkness (the lies of the devil).

**If we deny him, he also will deny us:**This is speaking of those who have not believed the gospel in the first place.

**If we believe not, yet he abideth faithful: he cannot deny himself:**God is faithful, and the truth is still the truth, and he will never deny himself even if we personally quit believing in Christ.

 He is faithful when we are not, if you get saved and later become angry about some injustice, and you begin to doubt his existence, he is still faithful in keeping you saved because you are in him, and he cannot deny himself.

**14 Of these things put them in remembrance, charging them before the Lord that they strive not about words to no profit, but to the subverting of the hearers.**

**Of these things put them in remembrance:**These were the doctrinal teachings concerning the mystery program that were delivered unto the apostle Paul.

**Strive not about words to no profit:** We are to charge them not to strive with others in the church about things that will take us off the course that God wants us on of rightly dividing the word of truth.

 It will be of no profit except for the devil as the hearers of that striving will be subverted in their faith instead of built up.

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

**Study to shew thyself approved unto God:** Paul uses the metaphor here of a workman that must study long and hard to learn his craft so that he may build something that his employer would approve of.

**Rightly dividing the word of truth:** The craftsman must learn what tools and building material will be necessary to do the job.

 We cannot build the Church on Israel’s kingdom program and expect it to be approved by God, but that is what everyone is doing who does not rightly divide the word of truth.

**16 But shun profane and vain babblings: for they will increase unto more ungodliness. 17 And their word will eat as doth a canker: of whom is Hymenaeus and Philetus; 18 Who concerning the truth have erred, saying that the resurrection is past already; and overthrow the faith of some.**

**Shun profane and vain babblings:** Paul gives Timothy an example of two people who didn't study enough of what Paul had told them.

 They came up with the wrong conclusion that the resurrection was already past, and it had disastrous effects.

**Hymenaeus:**He was one of two that Paul delivered over to Satan to learn not to blaspheme. This was a reference to turning him over to God who would allow Satan to destroy him.1st Timothy 1:20.

**Their word will eat as doth a canker:**Canker is the Greek word “gaggraina” where we get the word Gangrene from.

 Their doctrines turn into a cancer like plague in every church they spew their messages, having no clue as Paul once did, that they are actually working against God and not on his behalf. Zeal without knowledge is dangerous.

**The resurrection is already past:** The Resurrection for a believer in the dispensation of grace is the rapture for those who have died already.

 The dead in Christ shall rise first from the dead, and we which are alive and remain will simply be caught up to meet the Lord in the air, and our bodies will be changed at that time without dying. 1st Thessalonians 4:16-17.

**And overthrow the faith of some:** What would a person was taught the rapture came after they trusted Jesus Christ? They would think that they must not be saved, and they would become discouraged.

**19 Nevertheless the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, The Lord knoweth them that are his. And, Let every one that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity.**

**The foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal:** If a person knows how to rightly divide the word of truth, he will not fall prey to Satan's false teachers. Satan thrives on ignorance.

**The foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal:**The foundation of God is the gospel of the grace of God.

**The Lord knoweth them that are his:** Even when we don’t feel like we are saved, he can see his seal upon us. We cannot.

***2nd Corinthians 1:22 Who hath also sealed us, and given the earnest of the Spirit in our hearts.***

***Ephesians 1:13 In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise,***

***Ephesians 4:30 And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption.***

**Let everyone that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity:**If we want to build ourselves and others up in Christ, we should depart from iniquity which will only tear down what Christ wants to build.

**20 But in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and of silver, but also of wood and of earth; and some to honour, and some to dishonour. 21 If a man therefore purge himself from these, he shall be a vessel unto honour, sanctified, and meet for the master's use, and prepared unto every good work.**

**Prepared unto every good work:** Here Paul uses the metaphor of a vessel in someone’s home. Our sin will dishonor the vessel of our body and make it useless in the battle.

 We should look to be used in every good work, which is everything that God is doing today in the dispensation of grace, we cannot be used as effectively if we have not purged the dishonorable things from our lives.

**22 Flee also youthful lusts: but follow righteousness, faith, charity, peace, with them that call on the Lord out of a pure heart. 23 But foolish and unlearned questions avoid, knowing that they do gender strifes.**

**Foolish and unlearned questions avoid:** Preach and teach sound doctrine, and if someone challenges you to try to get you to go in a different direction, respond to them and their challenge briefly, but get back on track with God’s message.

**24 And the servant of the Lord must not strive; but be gentle unto all men, apt to teach, patient, 25 In meekness instructing those that oppose themselves; if God peradventure will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth; 26 And that they may recover themselves out of the snare of the devil, who are taken captive by him at his will.**

**In meekness instructing those that oppose themselves:** The attitude of a Pastor is to be one of not striving with people over things in a way that will cause people to fear you.

 Some of those people can be turned around with a little work studying on our part. Do the same for others as Paul is admonishing Timothy to do. This is sorely missing by many grace believers on the internet.

**If God peradventure give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth:**The knowledge of the truth is the hidden wisdom that was revealed to the apostle Paul that had been kept secret since the world began, but now has been made manifest. Titus 1:1-3.

***1st Timothy 2:4 Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth.***

 There are two things mentioned in this verse, not one. Salvation, and a coming to a knowledge of the truth. The knowledge of the truth is not a place where many ever get to, because they never learn to rightly divide the word of truth.

***2nd Timothy 3:7 Ever learning, and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth.***

 You can learn more Bible verses, but never learn to rightly divide the word of truth and never come to the knowledge of the truth by understanding the difference in Israel’s program and ours today.

***Titus 1:1 Paul, a servant of God, and an apostle of Jesus Christ, according to the faith of God's elect, and the acknowledging of the truth which is after godliness; 2 In hope of eternal life, which God, that cannot lie, promised before the world began; 3 But hath in due times manifested his word through preaching, which is committed unto me according to the commandment of God our Saviour;***

**That they may recover themselves out of the snare of the devil, who are taken captive by him at his will:**If have not come unto the knowledge of the truth then you have been taken captive by the devil. You got caught in his snare that says you are “spiritual Israel.”

**Chapter Three**

**The Last Days**

**1 This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come.**

**In the last days:** Paul warns Timothy that at the end of the age of grace that perilous times shall come all over the world and not just in the church. This is how the world will be behaving as the rapture of the church gets closer.

 There are the last days of Israel’s prophecy program which will occur in the tribulation period, known as the time of Jacob’s trouble (Jeremiah 30:7), and there are the last days of the dispensation of grace. Paul is speaking to us here, not Israel.

**2 For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy,**

 It is almost as if God let Paul take a look into the future unto the day that we are living in right now.

 We live in a very selfish society where each looks out for their own self instead of the needs of others. They curse God without any fear of anyone saying anything to them concerning it.

**3 Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good,**

**Without natural affection:** This is that which between a man and a woman. Women who kill their own children in abortion clinics, and then call those who oppose what they are doing as intolerant.

   Satan is the prince of the power of the air, and he unleashed his army of politically correct fallen angels to demonize anyone who would dare to say there was anything that is contrary to his plan to degrade humanity.

**4 Traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God; 5 Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away.**

 Parents today teach this generation that you work hard so that you can travel the world, party, and buy lots of toys, and who cares about going to church and learning about God and his plan for us.

**6 For of this sort are they which creep into houses, and lead captive silly women laden with sins, led away with divers lusts, 7 Ever learning, and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth.**

**Ever learning, and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth:** You may think that these are nice people, but they are leading people away from scriptural Christianity and should be avoided at all cost.

 They despise dispensationalist, and dispensationalism because it is contrary to their tradition that they have be taught and can’t swallow their pride when they are faced with the knowledge of the truth.

**8 Now as Jannes and Jambres withstood Moses, so do these also resist the truth: men of corrupt minds, reprobate concerning the faith. 9 But they shall proceed no further: for their folly shall be manifest unto all men, as theirs also was.**

**So do also these resist the truth:** Moses stood toe to toe with Jannes and Jambres there with Pharaoh and they opposed the truth that was right before their eyes.

 When Moses’ snake devoured the magician’s, they did not repent. When they could not match all of Moses's plagues with their little parlor tricks, they still did not repent but actually fought against God.

 They will give an account for all they have misled, and for all the money they have swindled from little old ladies who truly want the gospel to go out who have been led captive by these charlatans who reject God’s word rightly divided.

**10 But thou hast fully known my doctrine, manner of life, purpose, faith, longsuffering, charity, patience, 11 Persecutions, afflictions, which came unto me at Antioch, at Iconium, at Lystra; what persecutions I endured: but out of them all the Lord delivered me.**

**But thou hast fully know my doctrine:** The world should fully know Paul's doctrine (the mystery program for the church), and his manner of life, his purpose (to make all men see what is the fellowship of the mystery) as Timothy did.

**Persecutions, afflictions, which came unto me at Antioch, at Iconium, at Lystra:** Paul suffered greatly so that we might have the wisdom of God to guide our lives by. Acts 13 & 14.

 Timothy was most likely there when Paul was stoned and left for dead outside the city (Acts 14) and if anyone knew Timothy knew that God gave Paul the strength to get back up and to do it all over again.

**12 Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution.**

 If you live godly, those who promote anti-Christian positions will attack you and call you narrow minded bigots.

**13 But evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving, and being deceived.**

 Churches keep going farther and farther away from the truth, and the world keeps getting worse day by day.

**14 But continue thou in the things which thou hast learned and hast been assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned them;**

**The things which thou hast learned:** These were revealed to Paul almost 2000 years ago by Christ and they still work.

 Unfortunately, the devil has been very successful at keeping the mystery program for the body of Christ a mystery.

**Of whom thou hast learned them:** Timothy knew that the things he learned from Paul were the words of God for this age, and in them we have the mind of God, and the tools necessary to do battle against the forces of hell.

**15 And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.**

**The holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation:** Timothy knew the scriptures, and when he heard about Christ, he recognized that God had fulfilled his promises and gave to the earth their Saviour and the world rejected him and he was saved.

**Through faith which is in Christ Jesus:**This is speaking about a person’s faith, not the faith of Jesus Christ which is found in Galatians 2:16.

**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 perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works.**

**All scripture is given by inspiration of God:** The word inspiration means to be God breathed. Doctrine is God’s word about what we are to believe in this current dispensation. Reproof is similar to correction, but it is a bit harsher correction.

**The man of God:** 1st Timothy 6:11.

**Perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works:** The word “perfect” means a finished product, a fully mature believer, one who understands the manifold wisdom of God. The good works are those things that Paul did to establish believers and churches.

**Chapter Four**

**Follow Paul**

**1 I charge thee therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom;**

**The quick and the dead:** The quick is a reference to the ones who have been made alive in Christ. The dead of course are the dead in Christ. We shall all stand before the judgment seat of Christ to give an account one day.

***Romans 8:11 But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you.***

***Acts 10:42 And he commanded us to preach unto the people, and to testify that it is he which was ordained of God to be the Judge of quick and dead.***

***1st Peter 4:5 Who shall give account to him that is ready to judge the quick and the dead.***

**At his appearing and his kingdom:**At his appearing in the clouds to meet us, and his kingdom which is mentioned in more detail below, and it is not what some would think naturally, it is speaking about us in the body of Christ.

**2 Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine.**

**Preach the word:**Paul charges Timothy to stick with it as long as he lives, regardless of how long he may suffer, whether it is popular or unpopular, preach whatever needs to be preached to whoever listens.

**3 For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; 4 And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables.**

**The time will come:**Paul is speaking about a time in the dispensation of grace when the people would not endure sound doctrine. That day had begun already in Asia with the churches Paul had started many years earlier.

**After their own lusts:** The apostle James says that each man is drawn away of his own lust and enticed, and that is true in any dispensation.

 Something in our flesh is attracted to something being offered up by the devil and people are enticed (drawn away) to people who will say what they want to hear. James 1:14, 2nd Peter 3:3 & Jude 1:16.

 The sign gifts for the nation of Israel ceased near the end of the first century and they will not return until this age ends at the rapture.

 So, these teachers play on people’s desire (lusts) to be healed when it is not for today (it is a fable), and that spreads false hope, and leads to great discouragement.

**5 But watch thou in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, make full proof of thy ministry.**

**Do the work of an evangelist:** Today many Evangelists know little or nothing of Paul's ministry because they are too busy ensnared by the love of money.

**6 For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand.**

**I am now ready to be offered:** Paul was ready to die for his faith and that is exactly what happened not to long after this epistle was written, but that could not shut the mouths of all the faithful men that Paul had poured himself into over the years sharing the fellowship of the mystery with.

**7 I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: 8 Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing.**

**I have finished my course:** Paul filled full the scriptures that God dispensed to him to dispense to us. He trained men to follow his example in starting churches and equipping them and he made it to Rome to appear before Caesar.

**Unto all them also that love his appearing:**People justify their actions all in the name of Christ because they say they love his appearing. Well, I am not so sure they are going to enjoy that day when they give an account for how much truth verses error they have distributed.

**9 Do thy diligence to come shortly unto me: 10 For Demas hath forsaken me, having loved this present world, and is departed unto Thessalonica; Crescens to Galatia, Titus unto Dalmatia.**

**Do thy diligence to come unto me shortly:** This was said because the time of Paul’s departure was at hand. Paul wanted to see Timothy again before he died but that most likely never happened.

 Paul grew lonely as he got closer to his execution date. People tend to leave when they don't want to have the same fate as you.

**Demas hath forsaken me, having loved this present world:** Demas departed from Christ by departing from Paul, because it got too rough for him, and he wanted to go back to the world he once knew of greater ease. Whether Crescens and Titus left for good reasons or not, we do not know, but Paul was all alone now.

**11 Only Luke is with me. Take Mark, and bring him with thee: for he is profitable to me for the ministry. 12 And Tychicus have I sent to Ephesus.**

**Only Luke is with me:** There was no large entourage following Paul now because it was now up to the churches that they established to carry on the work he had started.

 Why was Luke with Paul at this time? He was there for his trial before Nero, because both Luke and the book of Acts are legal treatises written as a defense for Paul before Caesar. Acts 1 & Luke 1. They are both written to the most excellent Theopolis, a Roman official. No one could stand before Caesar without his case being laid out in advance.

 God is so amazing that he uses Rome's money and machine to get the gospel of Luke and the book of Acts published throughout Rome and who knows where else.

**Take Mark, and bring him with thee:** Mark was a kingdom saint, and Paul was a grace age saint, and he had the authority to tell timothy to bring Mark with him.

 The kingdom program was now set aside for the nation of Israel and the gospel of the grace of God was all that God was offering as hope to the whole world.

**13 The cloke that I left at Troas with Carpus, when thou comest, bring with thee, and the books, but especially the parchments.**

**The cloke that I left at Troas with Carpus, when thou comest, bring with thee:** It is very cold in Mamertine Prison, I know I have been there. Paul knew how to be abased and how to abound, this was not one of those abounding times.

 Paul had very little of his own as he was on death row and many of his supporting churches were now ashamed of him. All of Asia had turned their back on Paul.

**Especially the parchments:** Scrolls of the word of God.

**14 Alexander the coppersmith did me much evil: the Lord reward him according to his works: 15 Of whom be thou ware also; for he hath greatly withstood our words.**

**Alexander the coppersmith:** He is mentioned in Paul's first epistle as one of the two that Paul had delivered unto Satan so that they would learn not to blaspheme.

**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; that by me the preaching might be fully known, and that all the Gentiles might hear: and I was delivered out of the mouth of the lion. 18 And the Lord shall deliver me from every evil work, and will preserve me unto his heavenly kingdom: to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.**

**At my first answer not man stood with me:** This is a reference of the first time Paul stood before the Emperor when no one but the Lord himself stood with him.

 Some could not be there because of the great distance, or they were away on a mission, but there were some who could have been there and were not.

 I am reminded of the forgiving words of Christ as he was breathing his last breaths and he cried out to his Father to forgive them (Israel) for they know not what they do.

 I am also reminded of Stephen and how Paul was an eyewitness of his death and a participant in it as Stephen begged God to not lay his murder to their charge.

 Paul must have been as moved by Stephen's act of forgiveness as Stephen was of Christ's that it compelled him to act in the same manner.

**By me the preaching might be fully known:** Paul mentions that by him the preaching of the mystery might be fully known which implies that it was to be proclaimed clearly and fully by the apostle of grace, and so that all the Gentiles would hear the good news.

 What better place to get the gospel out than at Rome and in the palace where there would be all kinds of people from all over the empire there watching, listening reporting on the things that were going on there.

**Preserve me unto his heavenly kingdom:** Paul’s salvation was secured in Christ, because he was in Christ and there is no safer place to be for anyone today. Are you in Christ today, by trusting in the gospel that Paul preached, or are you still in Adam?

 If you are still in Adam, you will spend eternity in hell separated from God because you did not accept the free gift of God which is eternal life. You don’t have to my friend.

 Trust the finished work of Christ on your behalf as the complete payment for your sins. Christ died for your sins, was buried, and rose from the dead on the third day.

 The earthly kingdom is where Israel under the law was promised to spend eternity with Christ, whereas the heavenly kingdom is the destiny for the church, which is Christ’s body who are saved by grace through faith today.

**19 Salute Prisca and Aquila, and the household of Onesiphorus. 20 Erastus abode at Corinth: but Trophimus have I left at Miletum sick.**

**Prisca and Aquila:** Acts 18:2, 18, 16, Romans 16:3 & 1st Corinthians 16:19.

**Trophimus have I left at Miletum sick:** Why at the end of Paul’s last epistle do we find Paul leaving his companion in his condition? Because he could no longer heal anyone.

 Now the world could see through a glass clearly instead of darkly because all of the scriptures that were needed to bring the body of Christ to maturity were written.

 That which was perfect had come (the word of God was complete), so that which was in part was done away. 1st Corinthians 13.

 Paul could no longer send handkerchiefs out to people that could heal them because Israel had entered into her blindness. The sign gifts that were necessary to provoke the Jews to jealousy were no longer going to be given to a nation that would not repent.

**21 Do thy diligence to come before winter. Eubulus greeteth thee, and Pudens, and Linus, and Claudia, and all the brethren. 22 The Lord Jesus Christ be with thy spirit. Grace be with you. Amen.**

**Do thy diligence to come before winter:** Paul knew he could be executed at any moment, so he wanted to see his beloved Timothy one last time to personally encourage him.

 For Timothy to wait too long would mean he would have to wait until after winter had come and gone. Paul, even in his last days, was busy doing whatever he could do to make more people see what is the fellowship of the mystery.

 Let us pattern our life after the pattern God gave to the body of Christ.

**The End**

**II Timothy I Test**

**Chapter One**

1. How was Paul an Apostle according to the promise of life?

2. Why did Paul probably add the word Mercy to his comments about Grace and Peace?

3. Why did Paul so desire to see Timothy?

4. What was the gift Paul gave Timothy with the laying on of Paul's hands?

5. What does it mean to be a partaker of the afflictions of the gospel?

6. What is each believer called in accordance with?

7. When were we called?

8. How did Christ abolish death?

9. What did Paul commit unto Christ?

10. What was the form of words that Paul taught Timothy called?

11. How do we keep what was committed unto us?

12. Who dwells in believers?

13. Who was Onesiphorus?

**Chapter Two**

1. What was Paul's outline for reaching the world?

2. What 5 metaphors does Paul use to encourage and teach Timothy?

3. What does Paul tell Timothy about the affairs of this life?

4. What does it mean to strive lawfully?

5. Should ministers be paid a sufficient amount?

6. How do we receive understanding in all things?

7. Whose gospel emphasized Christ's resurrection?

8. What does it mean to be dead with Christ?

9. What does it mean to rightly divide the word?

10. How did Hymenaeus and Philetus err concerning the faith?

11. How should we instruct those that oppose themselves?

Chapter Three

1. Name 4 of the characteristics that describe men in the last days?

2. What two men does Paul compare to the charlatans of the last days?

3. What 3 things does Paul say these charlatans both do and are?

4. Why does Paul want Timothy to confront these charlatans according to v:9?

5. What program was a part of Paul's doctrine?

6. What does Paul promise to all who live godly?

7. What does Paul say will happen with evil men and seducers?

8. What 2 things does Paul tell Timothy to continue in?

9. Should Christians study the Old Testament and Israel's Program also? Why?

**Chapter Four**

1. What are the 2 judgments called that Paul mentions here?

2. What does the word quick mean?

3. We are to be \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ concerning our preaching and doctrine:

4. What do the masses run from and to in the last days?

5. What was Timothy to do the work of?

6. Where was Paul about to depart to?

7. What will all who love Christ's appearing receive at the Judgment Seat?

8. Why were Paul's reasons for wanting Timothy to come to see him quickly?

9. Who does Paul mention favorably as serving with him?

10. Who does Paul want Timothy to bring with him?

11. What does Paul request that Timothy brings with him of Paul's?

12. Who did Paul warn Timothy about?

13. Who stood with Paul when he first stood before Caesar?

14. What two reasons did the Lord stand with Paul before Caesar?

15. Why did Paul want Timothy to come before the winter?