

Sunday Morning in the Word



2 Timothy 2:1-7

October 14, 2018

**Christmas
Edition**

JESUS

NO GREATER LOVE

Coming to Grace December of 2018

**Easter
Edition**

JESUS

NO GREATER LOVE

Coming to Grace April of 2019

Guard

Persevere

Proclaim

2 Timothy
2:1-7

**THE
GOSPEL**

A wooden cross stands in the center of a field of tall, dry grass. The background is a soft, warm glow from a setting or rising sun, creating a hazy, golden atmosphere. The cross is made of two weathered wooden beams, one vertical and one horizontal, joined at their centers. The grass in the foreground is out of focus, showing the texture of the blades and some small seed heads.

Consider what I say, for the Lord will give you understanding in everything.

2 Timothy 2:7

CSB

You, **therefore**, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus.

2 Timothy 2:1

CSB

2 Timothy 1:8-18

The Apostle Paul is urging Timothy to follow the example of Onesiphorus and **stand tall** for the gospel and to **be loyal** to both the Gospel and Christ's Church!



John Stott

“But what would happen to the gospel when he (Paul) was dead and gone? The emperor Nero, bent on suppressing all secret societies, and misunderstanding the nature of the Christian church, seemed determined to destroy it. Heretics appeared to be on the increase. There had recently been an almost total Asian apostasy from Paul’s teaching (2 Tim. 1:15).”



John Stott

Bishop Moule goes so far as to write that '*Christianity ... trembled, humanly speaking, on the verge of annihilation*'. Who, then, would do battle for the truth when Paul had laid down his life? This was the question which dominated and vexed his mind as he lay in chains, and to which in

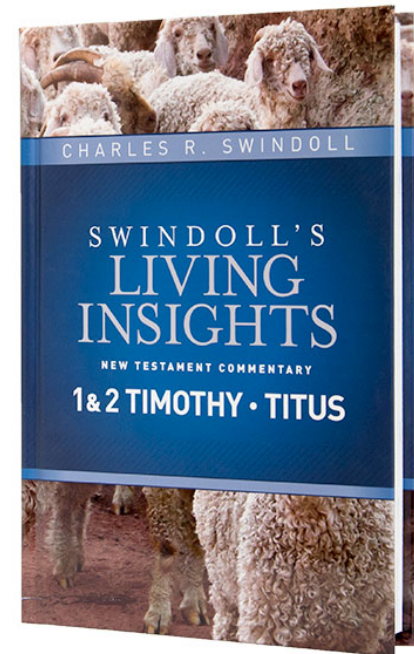
You, therefore, my son, **be strong** in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. **2** What you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses, **commit** to faithful men who will be able to teach others also. **3 Share in suffering** as a good soldier of Christ Jesus. **4** No one serving as a soldier gets entangled in the concerns of civilian life; he seeks to please the commanding officer. **5** Also, if anyone competes as an athlete, he is not crowned unless he competes according to the rules. **6** The hardworking farmer ought to be the first to get a share of the crops. **7 Consider** what I say, for the Lord will give you understanding in everything.

You, therefore, my son, **be strong** in the
grace that is in Christ Jesus.

2 Timothy 2:1

CSB

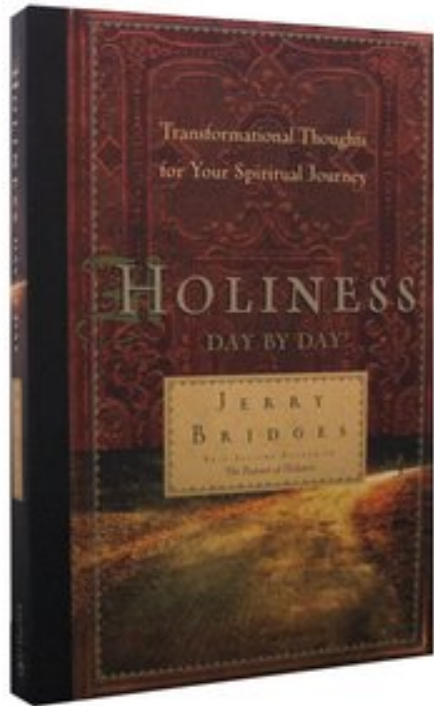
“Theologians call this kind of passive verb a “divine passive,” because it strongly implies divine agency. In other words, God does the empowering, so our responsibility is to submit to His work and to cooperate with it.”
(Chuck Swindoll)



You, therefore, my son, be strong **in the
grace that is in Christ Jesus.**

2 Timothy 2:1

CSB



“We're brought into God's kingdom by grace; we're sanctified by grace; we receive both temporal and spiritual blessings by grace; we're motivated to obedience by grace; we're called to serve and enabled to serve by grace; we receive strength to endure trials by grace; and we're glorified by grace. **The entire Christian life is lived under the reign of God's grace.**”
(Jerry Bridges)

Principle #1 - **God's grace in Christ is sufficient for the battle!**

But he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is perfected in weakness.”

Therefore, I will most gladly boast all the more about my weaknesses, so that Christ’s power may reside in me. So I take pleasure in weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and in difficulties, for the sake of Christ. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

2 Corinthians 12:9–10

CSB

Principle #1 - **God's grace in Christ is sufficient for the battle!**

What you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses, **commit** to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.

2 Timothy 2:2

CSB

Hold on to the pattern of sound teaching that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. **Guard the good deposit** through the Holy Spirit who lives in us.

2 Timothy 1:13–14

CSB

What you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses, **commit to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.**

2 Timothy 2:2

CSB

Timothy, I gave you the gospel and you
“got it!” I have watched you across the
years and you are now “living it!” Now
you must “give it away!”

The Apostle Paul

What you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses, **commit to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.**

2 Timothy 2:2

CSB

May All Who Come Behind Us Find Us Faithful!
Oh may all who come behind us find us faithful
May the fire of our devotion light their way
May the footprints that we leave
Lead them to believe
And the lives we live inspire them to obey
Oh may all who come behind us find us faithful

Steve Green

Principle #2 – **The key to God's strategy to win the battle is an army of faithful followers!** (Faithful pastors and the sheep of their flocks)

Share in suffering as a good soldier of
Christ Jesus.

2 Timothy 2:3

CSB

*I may never march in the infantry
Ride in the cavalry
Shoot the artillery
I may never fly o'er the enemy
But I'm in the Lord's army!
Yes Sir!*



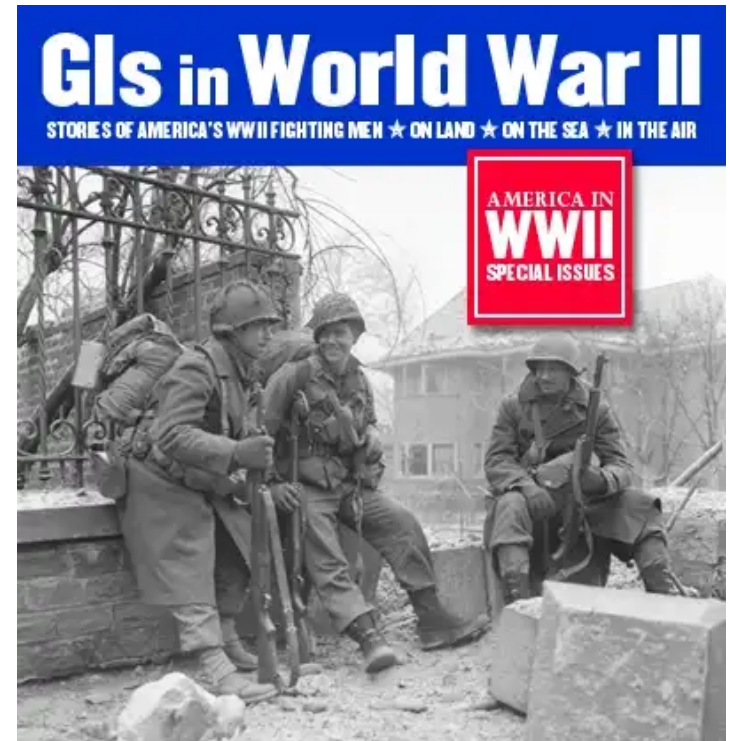
Travail thou as a good knight of Christ Jesus.

2 Timothy 2:3

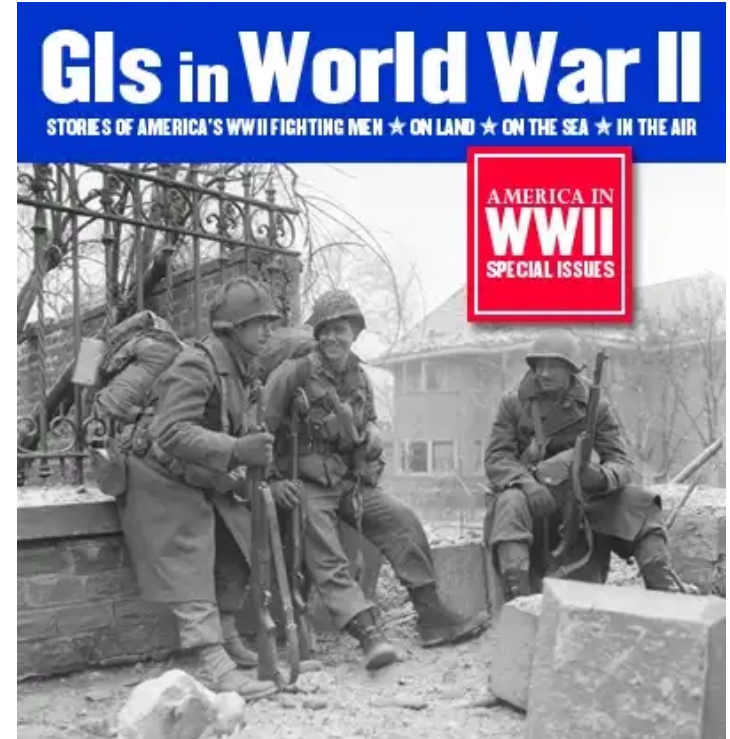
Wycliffe

“I had never had a toothbrush at all. I didn’t take a shower for six months. No change of underwear at all. No change of clothes at all for months.”

(GI in European Theater)



In the mountains of Italy, the men learned to sleep while marching – it was “a kind of coma,” one remembered – and when they got a chance to lie down, they preferred to sleep on rocks rather than bare ground because rocks were relatively dry. For everyone, keeping dry was of the utmost importance.



Share in suffering as a good soldier of
Christ Jesus.

2 Timothy 2:3

CSB

Principle #3 - **God's call to all of us is to share together in the hardships of the battle! (as a band of brothers and sisters!)**

No one serving as a **soldier** gets entangled in the concerns of civilian life; he seeks to please the commanding officer.

2 Timothy 2:4

CSB

Also, if anyone competes as an **athlete**, he is not crowned unless he competes according to the rules.

2 Timothy 2:5

CSB



?

Armstrong was the winner of 7 Tour de France races but . . .



Lance Armstrong



Lance Armstrong

Armstrong was the winner of 7 Tour de France races but . . . was stripped of these titles when an investigation by the United States Anti-Doping Agency (USADA) concluded that Armstrong had used performance-enhancing drugs over the course of his career and named him as the ringleader of "**the most sophisticated, professionalized and successful doping program that sport has ever seen.**"



Lance Armstrong

"The epic downfall of cycling's star, once an idolized icon of millions around the globe, stands out in the history of professional sports."
(CNN)

Also, if anyone competes as an **athlete**, he is not crowned unless he competes according to the rules.

2 Timothy 2:5

CSB

The hardworking **farmer** ought to be the first to get a share of the crops.

2 Timothy 2:6

CSB

Dear friends, although I was eager to write you about the salvation we share, I found it necessary to write, appealing to you to **contend for the faith that was delivered to the saints once for all.**

Jude 3

CSB

Now to him who is able to protect you from stumbling and **to make you stand in the presence of his glory, without blemish and with great joy.**

Jude 23

CSB

We are in a battle!

This is not a time to seek
comfort and convenience!

It IS a time for sacrifice!

As we fight the battle for the
gospel, keep a grip on these
three principles found here in
2 Timothy 2:1-7.



Principle #1 - God's grace in Christ is sufficient for the battle!

Principle #1 - God's grace in Christ is sufficient for the battle!

Principle #2 - The key to God's strategy to win the battle is an army of faithful followers! (Faithful pastors and the sheep of their flocks)

Principle #1 - God's grace in Christ is sufficient for the battle!

Principle #2 - The key to God's strategy to win the battle is an army of faithful followers! (faithful pastors and the sheep of their flocks)

Principle #3 - God's call to all of us is to share together in the hardships of the battle! (as a band of brothers and sisters!)