



2 TIMOTHY

REMAIN FAITHFUL

Instructions for a Faithful Life

pt. 4

2 Timothy 1:13-18



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Paul's Condition When Writing 2 Timothy



Imprisoned

2 Timothy 1:16–17;
2 Timothy 2:9



Deserted

2 Timothy 1:15
2 Timothy 4:9–11
2 Timothy 4:16



Facing Imminent Execution

2 Timothy 4:6

Timothy's Difficulties



False Teachers Attacking

2 Timothy 2:16-18;
2:24-26; 3:6-7; 3:13



Unfaithful Church Members

2 Timothy 4:3-4



Mentor's Imminent Execution

2 Timothy 4:6-8



Government Persecution

2 Timothy 1:8; 2:9; 3:12

The primary theme of 2 Timothy:

REMAIN **FAITHFUL**

- Remain faithful when suffering comes upon you.
- Remain faithful in combating false teaching.
- Remain faithful in all the ministry that God has given you.

Outline of 2 Timothy: **Remain Faithful**

- I. Introduction (1:1-5)
- II. **Remain Faithful** to Minister Amidst Suffering (1:6-2:13)
 - A. Instructions for a faithful ministry (1:6-18)
 - B. Illustrations for a faithful ministry (2:1-13)
- III. **Remain Faithful** to Hold Fast God's Word Against False Teaching (2:14-3:9)
- IV. **Remain Faithful** to Proclaim the Word Even When Others Turn Away (3:10-4:8)
- V. Concluding Remarks (4:9-22)

2 Timothy 1:6–11

For this reason I remind you to kindle afresh the gift of God which is in you through the laying on of my hands. For God has not given us a spirit of timidity, but of power and love and discipline.

Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony of our Lord or of me His prisoner, but join with me in suffering for the gospel according to the power of God, who has saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace which was granted us in Christ Jesus from all eternity, but now has been revealed by the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel, for which I was appointed a preacher and an apostle and a teacher.

2 Timothy 1:12–18

For this reason I also suffer these things, but I am not ashamed; for I know whom I have believed and I am convinced that He is able to guard what I have entrusted to Him until that day.

Retain the standard of sound words which you have heard from me, in the faith and love which are in Christ Jesus. Guard, through the Holy Spirit who dwells in us, the treasure which has been entrusted to you.

You are aware of the fact that all who are in Asia turned away from me, among whom are Phygelus and Hermogenes.

The Lord grant mercy to the house of Onesiphorus, for he often refreshed me and was not ashamed of my chains; but when he was in Rome, he eagerly searched for me and found me—the Lord grant to him to find mercy from the Lord on that day—and you know very well what services he rendered at Ephesus.

11 Instructions in the call to faithfulness in the ministry

1. Rekindle your zeal (v.6)
2. Realize what you have received (v.7)
3. Ready yourself for suffering (v.8)
4. Recall God's grace in your life (v.9)
5. Recapture amazement of the work of Christ (v.10)
6. Reflect on the examples of others (v.11)
7. Rely on Christ (v.12a)
8. Resolve to live for eternity (v.12b)

9. Retain the standard of sound doctrine (v. 13-14)

2 Timothy 1:13-14 Retain the standard of sound words which you have heard from me, in the faith and love which are in Christ Jesus. Guard, through the Holy Spirit who dwells in us, the treasure which has been entrusted to you.

Living a life of faithfulness requires fidelity to accurate doctrine. We must faithfully hold to the truth (Jude 3; 1 Tim. 1:18-19; Titus 1:13-14)!

- **sound words** – what aids in spiritual health (2 Tim. 4:3)
- **which you have heard from me** – Paul recognized that he was passing on divine revelation (Gal. 1:11-12; 1 Cor. 14:37; 1 Thes. 4:2; 1 Thes. 4:15)
- **in the faith and love which are in Christ Jesus** – not to be done in a cold and argumentative way, but with humility and love (1 Pt. 3:15)

2 Timothy 1:14 Guard, through the Holy Spirit who dwells in us, the treasure which has been entrusted to you.

⇒ **Just as God is guarding Paul's deposit of his soul (v.12), so Timothy must guard the good deposit of the truth!**

→ The power to guard the truth could not come from Timothy's own strength, it would only be possible through the indwelling Holy Spirit (Acts 1:8; 2 Tim. 1:7).

⇒ Be zealous **according to the spirit the Lord has given** (v.7).

⇒ Have courage in suffering **according to the power of God** (v.8).

⇒ Maintain gospel fidelity **through the Holy Spirit who dwells in us** (v.14).

10. Recognize that some will desert you (v. 15)

2 Timothy 1:15 You are aware of the fact that all who are in Asia turned away from me, among whom are Phygelus and Hermogenes.

Paul's focus is on Timothy and not his own situation, but he will speak to his own situation when he believes it will help Timothy.

- **What does Paul mean that all who are in Asia turned away from me?**
 - ⇒ He is not suggesting that all abandoned the faith, but that no one testified on his behalf (2 Tim 4:16 - "At my first defense no one supported me, but all deserted me . . .").
- **Why, in this section, does Paul bring up this painful statement?**
 - ⇒ Timothy needs to recognize that these times will come but he must not allow it to weaken his resolve to remain faithful in ministry.

2 Timothy 1:13-14 You are aware of the fact that all who are in Asia turned away from me, among whom are Phygelus and Hermogenes.

- **Can we avoid not getting hurt by others?**

- ⇒ Only by refusing to love.

- ⇒ C.S. Lewis in *The Four Loves*: “To love at all is to be vulnerable. Love anything and your heart will be wrung and possibly broken. If you want to make sure of keeping it intact you must give it to no one, not even an animal. Wrap it carefully round with hobbies and little luxuries; avoid all entanglements. Lock it up safe in the casket or coffin of your selfishness. But in that casket, safe, dark, motionless, airless, it will change. It will not be broken; it will become unbreakable, impenetrable, irredeemable.”

- **How does Paul respond toward those who forsake him?**

- ⇒ 2 Timothy 4:16–17 - At my first defense no one supported me, but all deserted me; may it not be counted against them. But the Lord stood with me and strengthened me . . .

11. Rejoice in the faithfulness of others (v. 16-18)

2 Timothy 1:16-18 The Lord grant mercy to the house of Onesiphorus, for he often refreshed me and was not ashamed of my chains; but when he was in Rome, he eagerly searched for me and found me—the Lord grant to him to find mercy from the Lord on that day—and you know very well what services he rendered at Ephesus.

This is a “wish-prayer” by Paul, an expression of Paul’s heart toward another that God might bless them.

- **Why does Paul wish God’s mercy upon Onesiphorus’ household?**
 - ⇒ Paul knew that they bore the cost of ministry along with Onesiphorus.

2 Timothy 1:16-18 The Lord grant mercy to the house of Onesiphorus, for he often refreshed me and was not ashamed of my chains; but when he was in Rome, he eagerly searched for me and found me—the Lord grant to him to find mercy from the Lord on that day—and you know very well what services he rendered at Ephesus.

Onesiphorus was a great blessing to Paul!

- ⇒ He often refreshed Paul – like a cool breeze on a hot day.
- ⇒ He was not ashamed of Paul's chain. The proof is that he eagerly searched for Paul until he found him. Paul is hoping Timothy will do the same (2 Tim 4:9).
- ⇒ Paul's wish for God's mercy toward Onesiphorus on "that day" was not a doubt of his salvation, but a recognition that all men depend on God's mercy for salvation.
- ⇒ Timothy was well-acquainted with Onesiphorus' ministry and he provided a wonderful example of service for him.

Application

1) Hold fast to the truth.

- Keep immersing yourself in the Word.
- Study other books on doctrine and theology.
- Keep sitting under the faithful teaching of God's Word.
- Avoid filling your mind with worldly philosophy.

2) Find your strength in the Holy Spirit.

- God to the Lord in prayer for daily strength.
- Be filling your mind with God's promises and trusting that He will be faithful to fulfill them.
- Remind yourself of God's presence rather than giving in to fear or worry.

3) Do not despair when others stumble.

4) Be encouraged by the faithfulness of others