



2 TIMOTHY

REMAIN FAITHFUL

Motivation to Endure
2 Timothy 2:8-13

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2 Timothy 2:8–13: Four Motivations to Endure

Remember Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, descendant of David, according to my gospel, for which I suffer hardship even to imprisonment as a criminal; but the word of God is not imprisoned.

For this reason I endure all things for the sake of those who are chosen, so that they also may obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus and with it eternal glory.

It is a trustworthy statement:

For if we died with Him, we will also live with Him;

If we endure, we will also reign with Him;

If we deny Him, He also will deny us;

If we are faithless, He remains faithful,

for He cannot deny Himself.

1. Undeclared Messiah (v.8)

2 Timothy 2:8 Remember Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, descendant of David, according to my gospel.

Remember – this is not a one-time act but is an ongoing duty (Heb. 12:1-2).

Why remember Jesus Christ?

- Jesus went through the same type of suffering we face (Heb 4:15).
 - Jesus was an example for us on how to suffer well (1 Pt. 2:21) .
- ⇒ Jesus' endurance through suffering won the victory for us!

risen from the dead – Christ's resurrection guarantees our resurrection (1 Cor. 15:20)!

descendant of David – this was a well-known requirement for the Messiah (Mt. 1:1; Jer. 23:5-6)

⇒ **Remembering Jesus Christ means to remember that He has won the victory and is the reigning King! Since this is true, we too will be resurrected one day!**

2. Unbound Message (v.9)

2 Timothy 2:9 for which I suffer hardship even to imprisonment as a criminal; but the word of God is not imprisoned.

For which – Paul saw his imprisonment as linked to his proclamation of the gospel (2 Tim. 1:8).

imprisonment as a criminal – to be labeled a “criminal” was shameful; it was reserved for those who had committed heinous crimes worthy of death (Luke 23)

the word of God is not imprisoned – although Paul was in chains, the Word of God was not chained!

⇒ Just as in Acts 28:30-31, they can hinder Paul, but they can't hinder God's Word!

⇒ **The Word of God that Paul preached is the same Word we have today – the living and active Word of God (Heb. 4:12).**

A Mighty Fortress is Our God

*Let goods and kindred go
This mortal life also
The body they may kill
God's truth abideth still
His Kingdom is forever*

3. Undeserved Privilege v. 10

2 Timothy 2:10 For this reason I endure all things for the sake of those who are chosen, so that they also may obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus and with it eternal glory.

Endure – literally “to remain under;” to remain faithful or to withstand with courage

⇒ The shift here is from suffering to endurance. It is how we respond to the suffering that matters!

What did Paul see as his purpose in suffering?

for the sake of those who are chosen – literally “the elect”

2 Timothy 2:10 For this reason I endure all things for the sake of those who are chosen, so that they also may obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus and with it eternal glory.

Scripture teaches that God
has elected people to
salvation
(Eph. 1:4; Rom. 8:30).

Scripture teaches that it is
through faith and repentance
that a person is saved
(Jn. 3:16; Rom. 10:9).

These truths are often presented together!

- **Acts 13:48** . . . as many as had been appointed to eternal life believed.
- **2 Thess. 2:13** . . . God has chosen you from the beginning for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and faith in the truth.

2 Timothy 2:10 For this reason I endure all things for the sake of those who are chosen, so that they also may obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus and with it eternal glory.

endures all things for the sake those who are chosen . . .

⇒ **This include both those who are chosen and not yet saved and those who have already demonstrated that they are chosen by their faith.**

- Paul's endured hardship for the unbeliever: “. . . I do all things for the sake of the gospel, so that I may become a fellow partaker of it” (1 Cor. 9:19–23).
- Paul's endured hardship for the church: “Now I rejoice in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I do my share on behalf of His body, which is the church. . . ” (2 Cor. 1:6; Col. 1:24; Eph. 3:13).

2 Timothy 2:10 For this reason I endure all things for the sake of those who are chosen, so that they also may obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus and with it eternal glory.

that they also may obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus

- Salvation is not limited to just the initial coming to faith in Christ. It includes ...
 - ⇒ Saved in the past from the penalty of sin
 - ⇒ Saved in the present from the power of sin
 - ⇒ Saved in the future from the presence of sin

The future aspect of salvation is the promise of future glory (2 Cor. 4:17-18; Rom. 8:18; 1 Pt. 5:10)! This will be the reality for us if we are in Christ. It will also be the reality for those who may one day come to faith in Christ through us.

It is an undeserved privilege to be able to be used by God to proclaim the gospel.

4. Undeniable reward vv.11-13

2 Timothy 2:11-13 It is a trustworthy statement: For if we died with Him, we will also live with Him; If we endure, we will also reign with Him; If we deny Him, He also will deny us; If we are faithless, He remains faithful, for He cannot deny Himself.

For if we died with Him, we will also live with Him

- We have all died spiritually with Christ (Romans 6:3–5, 8, 11; 7:4–6; Galatians 2:20; Colossians 2:20; 3:3).
⇒ We are promised that this spiritual death guarantees eternal life!

If we endure, we will also reign with Him

- Endurance must be ongoing – faithfully trusting and obeying the Lord through trials.
⇒ The reward for endurance is not just life, but reigning with Christ (Matt. 19:28; 1 Cor. 6:2-3; Rev. 20:4-6)!

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If we deny Him, He also will deny us

- Jesus stated this very truth, “whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny him before My Father who is in heaven” (Mt. 10:33).
- But what about Peter? We know that Peter’s denial was temporary as he later repented and was restored.
 - ⇒ Unrepentant denial of Christ, including a failure to submit to His Lordship in all things, will result in Christ’s rejection in the end times.

If we are faithless, He remains faithful, for He cannot deny Himself

- This likely refers to temporary faithlessness that can be followed by repentance.
 - ⇒ God is faithful to forgive and restore because that is His character!

Application

1) We have an undefeated Messiah.

- Therefore, remember Jesus Christ and His victory over death!

2) We hold to an unbound message

- Therefore, trust that God's Word will do the work in other's hearts!

3) We enjoy an undeserved privilege.

- Therefore, make sacrifices to proclaim Christ to others.

4) We anticipate an undeniable reward.

- Therefore, let us endure to the end that we might reign with Him!