

Charge From A Veteran Warrior
Veterans Day Message
2 Timothy 4:1-8 **November 12, 2017**

Paul was constantly having to defend himself as an Apostle, and even as a true believer in Christ! Everywhere Paul went one of two things would happen. A **Riot** or a **Revival**. Sometimes both!

2 Corinthians 11:23-28 Are they servants of Christ? I am a better one-- I am talking like a madman-- with far greater labors, far more imprisonments, with countless beatings, and often near death. ²⁴ **Five times** I received at the hands of the Jews the forty lashes less one. ²⁵ **Three times** I was beaten with rods. **Once** I was stoned. **Three times** I was shipwrecked; a night and a day I was adrift at sea; ²⁶ on **frequent journeys**, in danger from rivers, danger from robbers, danger from my own people, danger from Gentiles, danger in the city, danger in the wilderness, danger at sea, danger from false brothers; ²⁷ in toil and hardship, through many a sleepless night, in hunger and thirst, often without food, in cold and exposure. ²⁸ And, apart from other things, there is the **daily pressure** on me of my anxiety for all the churches.

Ephesians 6:12 For our battle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the **world powers of this darkness**, against the **spiritual forces of evil** in the heavens.

Paul was a seasoned Veteran of ministry. He poured his life experiences into young men like Timothy.

Here we see Paul **Charges Timothy** and he pulls no punches. This charge was recorded in God's Word not just to show us how Paul encouraged Timothy in his ministry but for us to be **Charged to faithfully fulfill our ministry** as well!

We are at War!

It's a **Daily** moment by moment Battle!

Accept that we are at war instead of being surprised whenever evil rears its ugly head!

I. **Paul Appeals to Our Final Authority** (1) | charge you in the presence of **God and of Christ Jesus**, who is to judge the living and the dead, and by his appearing and his kingdom:

II. **Paul Allocates Our Foreseen Assignment** (2) **preach** the word; **be ready** in season and out of season; **reprove**, **rebuke**, and **exhort**, with **complete** patience and teaching.

III. **Paul Anticipates Our Future Adversity** (3-4) For the time is coming when people will not **endure sound teaching**, but having itching ears they will accumulate for themselves **teachers to suit their own passions**,⁴ and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander off into myths.

I believe we are seeing this time unfolding right before our very eyes!

IV. **Paul Ascribes to Our Faithful Actions** (5) As for you, always be **sober-minded**, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, **fulfill your ministry**.

V. Paul Acknowledges His Own Fading

Adventure (6-7) For I am already being **poured out as a drink offering**, and the time of my **departure has come**.⁷ I have **fought the good fight**, I have **finished the race**, I have **kept the faith**.

VI. Paul Announces His Own Forthcoming

Accolades (8) Henceforth there is laid up for me the **crown of righteousness**, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will **award to me** on that Day, and not only to me but also to **all** who have loved his appearing.

There are **five heavenly crowns** mentioned in the New Testament that will be awarded to believers. They are the

1. The **Imperishable Crown** **1 Corinthians 9:24-25**
2. The Crown of **Rejoicing** **1 Thessalonians 2:19**
3. The Crown of **Righteousness** **2 Timothy 4:8**
4. The Crown of **Glory** **1 Peter 5:4**
5. The Crown of **Life** **Revelation 2:10**

Losing Our Rewards by Randy Alcorn

1. We can **forfeit rewards** from God by seeking them from men.

"How can you believe if you **accept praise from one another**, yet make no effort to obtain the praise that comes from the only God?" (John 5:44)

2. **We can have rewards taken** from us because of **our unfaithfulness.**

"Take the talent from him and give it to the one who has the ten talents. For everyone who has will be given more, and he will have an abundance. **Whoever does not have,** even what he has will be taken from him" (Matthew 25:28-29).

3. **We can become disqualified** for rewards because of **moral and spiritual compromise.**

"No, I beat my body and make it my slave so that after I have preached to others, **I myself will not be disqualified** for the prize" (1 Corinthians 9:27).

4. **We can lose rewards** because of an **unproductive life.**

"If it is **burned up,** he will suffer loss; he himself will be saved, but only as one escaping through the flames" (1 Corinthians 3:15).

5. **We can lose rewards** by **carelessness & waste.**

"Watch out that **you do not lose** what you have worked for, but that you may be rewarded fully" 2 John 8

6. **We can have our rewards** taken from us because of **lack of attention to the obedient life.**

"I am coming soon. Hold on to what you have, so that no one will take your crown" (Revelation 3:11).

Are you actively using your gifts in Ministry?

Praise Team Takes the Platform