

2 Timothy

1 Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by God's will, according to the promise of life which is in Christ Jesus, **2**to my beloved child Timothy: grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

3I thank God (whom I serve from my forefathers with a pure conscience), constantly remembering you in my prayers night and day, **4**longing to see you (remembering your tears) that I may be filled with joy. **5**I remember the sincere faith which is in you, dwelling first in your grandmother Lois, and in your mother Eunice, and I am confident that it is in you also.

6For this cause I remind you to rekindle God's gift, which is yours by the laying on of my hands. **7**God did not give us a spirit of cowardice, but of power and love and good sense. **8**Therefore, do not be ashamed either of the testimony of our Lord, or of me his prisoner, but join with me in suffering for the gospel, according to God's power.

9He saved us, and called us with a sacred calling, not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before times eternal, **10**and has now been revealed through the appearance of our Savior Christ Jesus. He has indeed abolished death, and has brought to light life and immortality through the gospel, **11**for which I was appointed a preacher and an apostle and a teacher. **12**On account of this I am suffering these things, but I am not ashamed, for I know him whom I have trusted, and I am confident that he can guard the deposit which I have entrusted with him until that day.

13Hold the pattern of wholesome words, which you have heard from me in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. **14**Guard the precious deposit entrusted to you through the Holy Spirit who lives in us.

15You know this, that all who are in Asia have abandoned me (of whom are Phygelus and Hermogenes). **16**May the Lord grant mercy to

the house of Onesiphorus, because he often refreshed me, and was not ashamed of my chains. ¹⁷When he was in Rome, he searched diligently and found me. ¹⁸May the Lord grant that he may find mercy from the Lord in that day. You know better than I the ways he served in Ephesus.

2 You, therefore, my child, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. ²The things you have heard from me, through many witnesses, entrust to reliable men, who will be able to teach others also. ³Suffer hardship with me as a good soldier of Christ Jesus. ⁴No soldier involves himself with this life's affairs, that he may please the one who enlisted him. ⁵Also, if one enters an athletic contest, he cannot win, unless he follows the rules. ⁶The working farmer ought to be the first to share in the harvest.

⁷Give attention to what I am saying, for the Lord will give you understanding in everything. ⁸Keep in mind that Jesus Christ, of David's offspring, was raised from the dead according to my gospel, ⁹for which I suffer wicked treatment, even to bonds, as a criminal. But God's message is not bound! ¹⁰Because of this, I endure all things for the sake of the chosen ones, that they may obtain the salvation in Christ Jesus with eternal splendor.

¹¹This saying is reliable: if we die with him, we will also live with him; ¹²If we endure, we will also reign with him; if we deny him, he will also deny us; ¹³if we are unreliable, he continues to be reliable, for he cannot deny himself.

¹⁴Remind them of these things, charging them before God to shun word-battles, which are useful for nothing but which ruin the listeners. ¹⁵Do your best to present yourself approved to God, an unashamed workman, interpreting correctly the message of truth. ¹⁶Avoid profane and empty babblings, for they lead on to more godlessness. ¹⁷Their message will spread as gangrene, of whom are Hymeneus and Philetus, ¹⁸who have deviated from the truth, saying that the resurrection has already taken place; and they are overturning the faith of some.

¹⁹However, God's foundation stands solid, having this certification, "The Lord knows those who are his," and "Let everyone calling on the Lord's name depart from wrongdoing." ²⁰In a great house, there are not only vessels of gold and silver, but also of wood and clay; some indeed are special, and some for every day use. ²¹Therefore, if one cleanses himself from these, he will be a vessel of honor, set apart, useful to the Master, prepared for every good work.

²²Shun youthful lusts, and pursue righteousness, faith, love, and peace with all those who call upon the Lord out of a pure heart. ²³Keep away from foolish and stupid questions, knowing that they breed quarrels. ²⁴The Lord's slave must not be quarrelsome, but be kind to all, able in teaching, patient, ²⁵gently correcting the opponents. Perhaps God may give them a change of heart to the acknowledgment of the truth, ²⁶and that they may regain good sense, and escape the devil's trap, who captured them for his purpose.

3 Know this, that in the last days the times will be difficult. ²Men will be lovers of self, lovers of money, conceited, arrogant, blasphemous, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, ³without love for family, irreconcilable, slanderers, uncontrollable, savage, haters of goodness, ⁴betrayers, headstrong, puffed up, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, ⁵holding to a form of religion, but denying its power. Turn away from these!

⁶Some of these sneak into houses and captivate weak women, overwhelmed in sins, led by various kinds of desires, ⁷always learning, but never able to come to a knowledge of the truth. ⁸These men oppose the truth in the same way that Jannes and Jambres opposed Moses. They are depraved in mind, and worthless concerning the faith. ⁹They will make no further progress, for their stupidity will be apparent to all, as theirs was also.

¹⁰But you have closely followed my teaching, manner of life, purpose, faith, patience, love, and steadfastness ¹¹in persecutions and

sufferings, such as came to me in Antioch, Iconium, and Lystra; which persecutions I endured; and the Lord delivered me from all of them.

¹²All those wanting to live godly in Christ Jesus will be persecuted. ¹³Wicked men and impostors will become worse, deceiving and being deceived. ¹⁴But you stay firm in what you have learned, and in the things of which you have been assured, knowing from whom you have learned them; ¹⁵and that from a child you have known the holy scriptures, which are able to make you wise toward salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. ¹⁶Every scripture is God-breathed and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for instruction in righteousness, ¹⁷that the man of God may be equipped, completely furnished for every good work.

4 I charge you in the sight of God, and of Christ Jesus (who shall judge the living and the dead), and by his appearance and his kingdom: ²proclaim the message! Be ready in good and bad times. Correct, reprove, and encourage with all patience and teaching; ³for the time will be when they will not tolerate wholesome teaching. According to their own desires, they will accumulate for themselves teachers, to have their ears tickled. ⁴They will turn away their ears from the truth, and will go astray after myths. ⁵But you be alert in all things, suffer wicked treatment, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your service.

⁶I am already being poured out as a drink-offering, and the time of my death is near. ⁷I have fought a noble fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. ⁸Therefore, a crown of righteousness is laid up for me, which the Lord, the Righteous Judge, will give to me in that day; yet not to me only, but also to all those who have loved his appearance.

⁹Do your best to come to me right away. ¹⁰Demas has deserted me, having loved this present world, and has gone to Thessalonica, Crescens to Galatia, Titus to Dalmatia. ¹¹Only Luke is with me. Receive Mark and bring him with you, for he is useful to me in the service.

¹²I have sent Tychicus to Ephesus. ¹³When you come, bring the

coat which I left at Troas with Carpus, and the scrolls, especially the parchments. ¹⁴Alexander the coppersmith has harmed me often; the Lord will repay him according to his works. ¹⁵Avoid him, for he has greatly opposed our words.

¹⁶No one stood by me during my first defense, but everyone deserted me. May it not be held against them. ¹⁷But the Lord stood beside me and strengthened me, that the preaching might be fully proclaimed through me, and that all the Gentiles might hear, and I was rescued from the lion's mouth. ¹⁸The Lord will rescue me from every wicked work, and will save me in his heavenly kingdom. To him is the praise forever and ever, amen.

¹⁹Greet Prisca and Aquila, and the house of Onesiphorus. ²⁰Erastus remained at Corinth, and I left Trophimus sick at Miletus. ²¹Do your best to come before winter. Eubulus and Pudens and Linus and Claudia and all the brothers greet you. ²²May the Lord be with your spirit. Grace be with you.