

OVERVIEW**INTRODUCTION:****What are you passionate about?****Are you passionate about your relationship with Jesus Christ?****"If you were stuck in prison, and had one message to encourage your young disciple in ministry, what would you say?"****AUTHOR:****Paul**—life story found in book of ActsBACKGROUND: From Tarsus (Acts 22:3), Roman citizenJEWISH CREDENTIALS (Phil. 3:5,6)—circumcised on 8th day, tribe of Benjamin, Hebrew of the Hebrews; Pharisee, persecuter of the church; blameless concerning the righteousness in the law.

TRADE—Tentmaker (Acts 18:3); Pharisee, missionary

CHARACTER TRAITS—strong leader—issues viewed as black/white; unwavering faith; sensitivity to God's leading;

MINISTRY—

Acts 7:58—present and approved of stoning of Stephen the apostle

Acts 9:1-31—dramatic conversion

Acts 9:15; Gal. 2:7-10—chosen to bring gospel to Gentiles

Acts 13-20—Paul's ministry—3 missionary journeys

Founded numerous churches in Asia Minor, Greece and possibly Spain

Letters to numerous churches and individuals make up ¼

Of New Testament (Romans - Philemon)

END OF LIFE—imprisoned twice in Rome; taken out of city and beheaded in A.D. 67(?)

LIFE SUMMARIZED—"For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain." Phil 1:21

Paul recaps qualifications and sufferings for Christ—I Cor. 11:21-29

Timothy—means "honoring God" or "honored by God"

name appears more times in Paul's letters than any other

BACKGROUND: from Lystra; Mother—Jewish believer; Father—Greek unbeliever

CREDENTIALS: Probably became a Christian after Paul's first missionary journey to Lystra. Respected Christian in his hometown

TRADE: Missionary; Pastor

CHARACTER TRAITS: teachable; sensitive to things of God; flexible

Timid; people pleaser; easily discouraged

MINISTRY

Acts 16:1— Joined Paul on 2nd missionary journey; assisted Paul during 2nd and 3rd missionary journeys; with Paul during his first imprisonment and went to Philippi after Paul's release.

Sent by Paul to be pastor of church at Ephesus—church

RELATIONSHIP WITH PAUL: Like a son (Phil. 2:20-22) "I have no one else like him (Timothy), who takes a genuine interest in your welfare. For everyone looks out for his own interests, not those of Jesus Christ. But you know that Timothy has proven himself, because as a son with his father he has served with me in the work of the gospel".

Two books bear Timothy's name:

1st Timothy—LEADERSHIP MANUAL—written to equip and encourage Timothy as a young pastor of the Church at Ephesus (A.D. 64-about 4 years after letter to Ephesians written)

2nd Timothy—COMBAT MANUAL—written to give final instructions and encouragement to Timothy, pastor of the Church at Ephesus (A.D. 66-67) Last letter written by Paul—essentially his last will and testament.

EPHESUS—port city; melting pot; heavily influenced by Greek culture—worship of goddess Artemis; believers easily discouraged; felt defeated in their faith; fell into false teaching.

REMINDER (CH. 1)**OVERVIEW (CONT'D)**

Key Word: Endurance/Perseverance (see definitions below)

Key Verses: 2 Tim. 2:3-4; 3:14-17

Key Chapter: 2

Key Topics: Ch. 1—REMINDER/ POWER OF THE GOSPEL

Ch. 2—REQUIREMENTS/PERSEVERENCE OF THE
GOSPEL MESSAGE

Ch. 3—RESISTANCE/PROTECTOR OF THE GOSPEL

Ch. 4—REQUESTS/PROCLAMATION OF THE GOSPEL

Timothy was: sickly (1 Tim. 5:23); timid (1 Tim. 1:7); youthful (1 Tim. 4:12); but was also a gifted teacher, trustworthy and diligent

PERSECUTION—Roman Emperor Nero (ruled A.D. 54-68) responsible for beginning of the Roman persecution of Christians. Half of Rome was destroyed in July, A.D. 64 by a fire, and mounting suspicion the Nero was responsible for the conflagration caused him to use the unpopular Christians as his scapegoats. Persecution of Christians became severe. When Paul was arrested a second time in A.D. 66, he was abandoned by believers who feared for their own lives. Paul's first imprisonment (house arrest—could receive visitors, he had hope of release). This time he was in a cold prison cell, no visitors, and no hope of release.

PERSECUTION (Websters)—To pursue; to harass in a manner to injure; to pester; to cause to suffer b/c of belief

PERSECUTION (Gk)—to put to flight, to drive away, cause to flee, pursue

ENDURE (Websters)—to undergo hardship without giving in=suffer

ENDURE (Gk.-HUPOMENO)—to abide under, to bear up courageously (under suffering)

PERSEVERE (Websters)—To persist (stand firm; remain unchanged in character, condition, or position; to go on resolutely or stubbornly in spite of opposition) in a state, or undertaking in spite of counter influences, opposition or discouragement.

What does it take to persevere? **Courage and self-discipline**

CHAPTER ONE—REMINDER of responsibility

Vs. 1-5—greeting, as a father to a son

Vs. 6—fan into flame the gift of God. He was already gifted for the ministry, ordained as a pastor. This was a REMINDER TO PERSEVERE.

Vs. 7—What H.S. is not = timid (opposite of timid = boldness)
What H.S. is = power, love, self-discipline

Vs. 8—Don't be ashamed of the gospel—speaks to Timothy's timidity

Vs. 12—why is Paul not ashamed?
He KNOWS whome he has believed = relationship
He is convinced HE IS ABLE to “guard against what I have entrusted to him” = trusting in the POWER OF GOD

Vs. 14—Guard the good deposit.....with help of the Holy Spirit
(cf. I Tim. 6:20—good deposit = sound doctrine of the gospel as described in I Tim. 1:10-11)

Vs. 15-18—Onesiphorus-believer in Ephesus—encourage Paul, not ashamed of Paul; faithful follower

REQUIREMENTS (CH. 2)

Chapter 2—ought to be required daily reading for every pastor and full-time Christian worker. Paul lists the keys to an enduring successful ministry: A reproducing ministry (1-2); and enduring ministry (3-13); a studying ministry (14-18); and a holy ministry (19-26).

2 Timothy 2:1-15

1—Be strong in grace—How can we be strong in grace? Aren't they in conflict with one another? Grace is unearned and undeserved favor. Only by relying on the grace of Jesus are we able to be strong spiritually.

8—The main thing is to keep the main thing the main thing!!!

Discipline self like a:

Teacher—vs. 2—multiplication

Soldier—vs. 3-4—*must give up worldly security and endure rigorous discipline; GOAL=victory/freedom* train for worst case scenario. Work with a team, only as strong as weakest member; fire team must function together; must obey commander—your life and entire teams lives depend on it.

ODB-Story

Athlete—vs. 5—*must train hard and follow the rules; GOAL=victory.* How many athletes do you know that compete to come in second? Goal of competition—to win.....according to the rules—makes playing field equal—no steroids to enhance performance—why do they test for drugs if everyone is willing to play by the rules.

Farmer—vs. 6—*work hard and be patient; GOAL=harvest*; long hours; hard physical labor

Workman—vs. 15—*works hard to please the master/employer*

Vessel—vs. 20-21 *what is inside the vessel more important than outside*

Servant—vs. 24—*GOAL—to please his master; do what the master requires;*

PREPARATION FOR SPIRITUAL WARFARE:

Ch. 1 addressed fear—cannot be effective soldier if afraid

CHAPTER 2:

Vs. 1—be diligent

Vs. 3—endure hardship—EXPECT IT

Vs. 15—be diligent to present yourself approved

Bottom Line—(vs. 15)“Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a workman who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth.”

2Timothy 2:14-26

AVOID—(CONTEXT OF FALSE TEACHING—distort truth; dilute it, delete it)

VS. 14—QUARRELING

VS. 16—GODLESS CHATTER

Do not even engage in long discussions with false teachers—it only draws more attention to them and away from Christ—“spread like gangrene”. Focus on speaking the truth in love—our best weapon is scripture—the truth pierces the heart thru the holy spirit (2 Tim. 3:16)

BANK TELLERS—Avoid a counterfeit by focusing on learning about the real thing.

TEST ON CH. 2—Like studying everything else

ADVERTISING—mentioning another brand, even in a negative light, actually helps sales of the other brand.

VS. 22—FLEE—EVIL DESIRES OF YOUTH (Joseph)

PURSUE—righteousness, faith, love and peace—pure heart

EXAMPLES OF GODLESS CHATTER—Gospel of Judas—

DaVinci Code

Vs. 15=OUR RESPONSIBILITY—DILIGENT, CORRECTLY HANDLE THE WORD OF TRUTH + Vs. 25-GENTLY INSTRUCT

Vs. 25=GOD'S RESPONSIBILITY—BRING REPENTANCE IN OTHERS

RESISTANCE (CH. 3)**CHAPTER 3—HARD TIMES ARE COMING**

Vs. 1-4 bad stuff is happening

Vs. 5—Form of godliness—see bible note

Vs. 6-11 what Paul has been through, Timothy has witnessed

Vs. 12 What Timothy has to look forward to

Vs. 14-16 Paul's Charge to Timothy

Bottom Line—Continue in what you have become convinced of through Scripture—
Why? “All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting
and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for
every good work.” Vs. 16

See Eph. 6:13-17—Paul has already told the Ephesian church this

Heb. 4:12—The word of God is living and active.....

TEACH, TRAIN, CORRECT, and

REBUKE (Gk.)—to bring honor to

(implies something has been dishonored—i.e. false teaching brings
dishonor to Christ and truth)

**“My religious beliefs teach me to feel as safe in battle as in bed. God has fixed the
time of my death. I do not concern myself with that, but to be always ready
whenever it may overtake me. That is the way all men should live and all men should
be equally brave.”**

– Thomas “Stonewall” Jackson

REQUESTS (CH. 4)

PAUL'S FINAL CHARGE TO TIMOTHY:

Vs. 2—Preach the Word

Be ready

Correct

Rebuke

Encourage

HOW? With great patience and careful instruction

Vs. 3-5—Harder times are coming

Vs. 7-8—Paul has finished his race

Vs. 9-18—Personal remarks

Vs. 19-22—Final greetings

REVIEW