

I & II TIMOTHY AND TITUS

PREPARED BY TREVOR BOWEN

SYLLABUS

#	Date	Book	Chapter	Lesson Title
1	2011-07-03	I Timothy	1	By Grace, Teach No Other Doctrine
2	2011-07-10	I Timothy	2	Prayers For And From All Men
3	2011-07-17	I Timothy	3	The Pillar and Ground of Truth
4	2011-07-24	I Timothy	4	Continuing In The Doctrine
5	2011-07-31	I Timothy	5	Honoring Older Members
6	2011-08-07	I Timothy	6	Fight The Good Fight of Faith
7	2011-08-14	Titus	1	Maintaining Truth
8	2011-08-21	Titus	2	Sound Doctrine for a Special People
9	2011-08-28	Titus	3	Maintain Good Works
10	2011-09-04	II Timothy	1	Suffer With Me
11	2011-09-11	II Timothy	2	Endure With Me
12	2011-09-18	II Timothy	3	Be Persecuted With Me
13	2011-09-25	II Timothy	4	Gain A Crown With Me

OUTLINE OF I TIMOTHY

- I. Salutation (1:1-2).
- II. Seriousness: The responsibility to preach and uphold truth (1:3-11).
 - A. Danger and wandering of false teachers, twisting the law.
 - B. True intent and purpose of the law and command.
- III. Comfort: Jesus' demonstration of longsuffering and enabling Paul to preach truth (1:12-17).
- IV. Urgency: The importance of "*waging the good warfare*", avoiding shipwreck (1:18-20).
- V. Remedy: Prayers for all men and from all men (2:1-15)
 - A. God desires all to be saved, and provided one Mediator and ransom for all (2:1-7).
 - B. Leadership: Men in prayer (2:8).
 - C. Submission: Quiet place of women and their unhindered prayers (2:9-15).
- VI. Need: Office of Elders and Deacons (3:1-13)
 - A. Qualifications of Elders (3:1-7)
 - B. Qualifications of Deacons (3:8-13)
- VII. Theme: Personal and Congregational Works in Upholding Truth (3:14-16).
- VIII. Preparation: Being a Good Minister of Jesus Christ (4:1-16)
 - A. Coming apostasy of false teachers and correction of their error (4:1-5)
 - B. Teach the truth in advance and diligently strive unto godliness (4:6-11)
 - C. Disarm easy dismissal on account of his youth by giving himself entirely to understanding, obeying, and teaching the truth (4:12-16)
- IX. Honor: Treat each person with the appropriate respect and honor (5:1-6:2)
 - A. Exhort church members as if they were family members (5:1-2)
 - B. Honoring widows (5:3-16)
 - i. Qualifications and Financial Support of Truly Destitute Widows (5:3-10, 16)
 - ii. Younger widows are to remarry (5:11-15)
 - C. Honoring official elders (5:17-25)
 - D. Bondservants honoring their masters (6:1-2)
- X. Guard: Protect the pure truth from false teachers and carnal compromise (6:3-21)
 - A. Withdraw from those who teach and will not accept sound doctrine (6:3-5)
 - B. Avoid the destructive desire to be rich. Learn to be godly and content (6:6-10)
 - C. Pursue godly virtues, fight to keep the faith, be true to your confession (6:11-16)
 - D. Command the rich to generously help others and be rich toward heaven (6:17-19)
 - E. Conclusion: Guard the truth and faith entrusted to you, or go astray (6:20-21)

LESSON 1 – BY GRACE, TEACH NO OTHER DOCTRINE

I Timothy 1:1-20

Who Was Timothy?

We are first introduced to Timothy on Paul's second missionary journey:

Then he came to Derbe and Lystra. And behold, a certain disciple was there, named Timothy, the son of a certain Jewish woman who believed, but his father was Greek. He was well spoken of by the brethren who were at Lystra and Iconium. Paul wanted to have him go on with him. And he took him and circumcised him because of the Jews who were in that region, for they all knew that his father was Greek. (Acts 16:1-3 NKJ)

Most likely because of Timothy's Jewish ancestry, he was circumcised to enable him to more easily associate with conscientious Jews, who would not have readily understood the new liberty regarding old customs (**I Corinthians 7:18-20; 9:19-23; Galatians 2:1-5**). His good reputation among brethren in multiple cities and willingness to accompany Paul in the Lord's missionary work demonstrates a commendable example. Timothy continued to manifest a diligent and trustworthy dedication, often being sent ahead or left behind by Paul to work with established churches (**Acts 17:14-15; 18:5; 19:22; 20:4; I Corinthians 4:17; 16:10-11; I Thessalonians 3:2-6**). Paul clearly held him in high regard, elevating him to special pedestal more than once (**I Timothy 1:2, 18; II Timothy 1:2; Philippians 2:12-20; I Corinthians 16:10**).

Introduction and Theme

The opening of this first epistle finds Timothy again entrusted with the work of preaching and teaching for a local church, Ephesus, in this case. Paul wrote this letter to Timothy, most likely in the fall of 63 A.D., after Paul's first Roman imprisonment and before his second, which ended with Paul's execution. He indicated that the theme or purpose of his writing was so “*that you may know how you ought to conduct yourself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth*” (**I Timothy 3:15**). Throughout the letter, truth is emphasized. Whether the application is knowing it, practicing it, or teaching it, holding fast to the truth is the principal theme and purpose. Although much of Paul's instruction for Timothy pertains to his specific work as an evangelist, when we read what Timothy was supposed to teach and set in order, then we can learn what we need to do and teach as the church of the Lord.

Bible Reading With Questions

Greeting – I Timothy 1:1-2

1. Why might it have been important for Paul to designate himself as “*an apostle of the Lord Jesus Christ*”?
2. How might a “*true son*” be different than just a “*son*”? What does this say about Timothy?

No Other Doctrine – I Timothy 1:3-11

3. What doctrine was to be avoided? Why?
4. Are we not supposed to have any “*disputes*”? Explain.

5. What is God's command supposed to produce? List some alternative methods that men use in trying to achieve the same goal?
6. Why do some become teachers? Lessons?
7. How might one use the law "*unlawfully*"?
8. For whom is the law? For whom is it not intended? What does this mean?
9. How do we know what qualifies as "*any other thing that is contrary to sound doctrine*"?

Glory to God For His Grace – I Timothy 1:12-17

10. What did Paul need to become a preacher of Jesus' gospel?
11. Why might Paul have considered himself, "*chief of sinners*"?
12. Why did Paul receive such mercy?
13. By implication, what would Timothy need to fulfill his charge? How should this have made Timothy (and by extension, us) feel?

Fight the Good Fight – I Timothy 1:18-20

14. How was Timothy to use prophecies about him to "*wage the good warfare*"?
15. What was the "*good warfare*" that he was supposed to "*wage*"? What does this phrase mean?
16. What does it mean to "*deliver one to Satan*"?

LESSON 2 – PRAYERS FOR AND FROM ALL MEN

I Timothy 2:1-15

Summary

Chapter 1 closed with a powerful charge, “*wage the good warfare*”. But, it also closed with an ominous warning. The faith of some had “*suffered shipwreck*”, and as a consequence, Paul “*delivered them to Satan*”. In light of this charge and warning, chapter 2 opens with the need for prayers to be raised for all men, especially for leaders in government. The aim of these prayers was to secure a “*quiet and peaceable life*”, which would allow Christians to grow and Christianity to spread more easily. Paul reminds them of God's natural desire for all to be saved, and the Ransom and Mediator that God provided to procure this salvation. After reminding Timothy of his mission and authority as an apostle, Paul provides instructions on men leading prayer and women learning quietly. Emphasis is placed on the woman's inner “*adornment*”, as opposed to her outer decorations. Although her role may have extra physical challenges, her spiritual salvation is assured based on her spiritual character.

Bible Reading With Questions

Desire For All To Be Saved – I Timothy 2:1-2

1. Paul begins the chapter with, “*Therefore, I exhort first of all that supplications ... be made for all men.*” The logical conjunction, “*therefore*”, indicates that the point of verse 1 is a logical result or conclusion of the previous verses in chapter 1. How does chapter 1 produce this command in chapter 2, verse 1?
2. How is God's desire for all to be saved helped or realized by these prayers for all men?

One Desire and Mediator for All – I Timothy 2:3-7

3. The false doctrine of “limited atonement” teaches that Jesus only died for a small part of humanity, thereby limiting the people who could be saved. Do verses 4-6 support this belief?
4. What does it mean to be a mediator? How is Jesus uniquely qualified in our case?
5. Can we pray to Jesus' mother, Mary, as additional mediator? Why or why not?
6. What was unexpected or troubling about Paul's mission that may explain his interruption, “*I am speaking the truth in Christ and not lying*”?

Unhindered Prayers and Woman's Role – I Timothy 2:8-15

7. Why the “*therefore*” in the opening of verse 8? How do you logically connect verse 7 to 8?

8. Are men required to physically hold up their hands while praying? What does this phrase mean?
9. Paul says this was "*his desire*". Does that mean the instructions on women were his personal opinion, not a command? Explain.
10. Do verses 9-10 forbid women from wearing braids, earrings, necklaces, or expensive clothing? Explain.
11. May a woman answer questions in Bible class, or can she not make a sound ("*be in silence*")?
12. What is the basis for Paul's command on the woman's relative role?
13. What does it mean, "*she will be saved in childbearing*"? Does a woman have to bear children to be saved? If a woman dies in childbearing, can we conclude that she was either unfaithful, unloving, unholy, or undisciplined? Explain.

LESSON 3 – THE PILLAR AND GROUND OF TRUTH

I Timothy 3:1-16

Summary

In this chapter, we are introduced to the purpose of Paul's writing, “so that you may know how you ought to conduct yourself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth.” Under this broad umbrella and theme, we can fit each of the topics we have discussed and will discuss. In this chapter, Paul gives Timothy the qualifications for the two offices that should be filled in every local church, elders and deacons. The basic gist of the grand truth upheld by the church is summarized as a “*great mystery*”, once kept secret, but now revealed (**Colossians 1:26**).

Bible Reading With Questions

Qualifications of Elders – I Timothy 3:1-7

1. Should a man be “guilted” or pushed into becoming an elder?
2. Is this an honorary position? What kind of office is that of elder?
3. Are these list of qualifications optional? In other words, may an elder “grow into” these qualifications after being appointed? How do you know?
4. Given these qualifications (NKJV), explain why these might be necessary:
 - ♣ blameless
 - ♣ husband of one wife
 - ♣ temperate
 - ♣ sober-minded
 - ♣ of good behavior
 - ♣ hospitable
 - ♣ able to teach
 - ♣ not given to wine
 - ♣ not violent
 - ♣ not greedy for money
 - ♣ gentle
 - ♣ not quarrelsome
 - ♣ not covetous
 - ♣ rules his own house well, having children in submission with all reverence
 - ♣ not a novice
 - ♣ good testimony among those who are outside
5. Can we make any exceptions to these qualifications, even temporarily? Why or why not?

Qualifications of Deacons – I Timothy 3:8-13

6. Are the qualifications the same for deacons as they are for elders? Then, why did Paul say, “***likewise, deacons must be ...***”? What is the connection? How are deacons to be like elders?
7. Given these qualifications for deacons (NKJV), explain why these might be necessary:
 - ⌘ reverent
 - ⌘ not double-tongued
 - ⌘ not given to much wine
 - ⌘ not greedy for money
 - ⌘ holding the mystery of the faith with a pure conscience

 - ⌘ first be tested ... being found blameless
 - ⌘ reverent wives
 - ⌘ wives not slanderers
 - ⌘ temperate wives
 - ⌘ wives, faithful in all things.
 - ⌘ Husbands of one wife
 - ⌘ ruling children and houses well
8. What two things does a deacon's service obtain for him? How might this happen?
9. May a woman serve as a deacon, a “*deaconess*” (**Romans 16:1**, see NRS, RSV, and TNIV)?

Conduct in the House of God, the Pillar and Ground of Truth – I Timothy 3:14-16

10. How is the church to be “*the pillar and ground of truth*”?
11. To whom and to what events do these components of the “*mystery of godliness*” refer?
 - ⌘ Manifested in the flesh
 - ⌘ Justified in the Spirit
 - ⌘ Seen by angels
 - ⌘ Preached among the Gentiles
 - ⌘ Believed on in the world
 - ⌘ Received up in glory

LESSON 4 – CONTINUING IN THE DOCTRINE

I Timothy 4:1-16

Summary

Timothy has already been entrusted to charge others to “*teach no other doctrine*”, but now Paul explicitly warns him that there will be false teachers, who will “*depart from the faith*”. Specific false doctrines are foretold, warned against, and corrected. Timothy is again admonished to keep faithfully – in both teaching and practice – to the “*good doctrine*”. Emphasis is placed on developing the spiritual body through godly exercise, which provides benefit now and after death. This spiritual benefit is the point of all teachers' and believers' work and suffering. Timothy is directed to be an example to believers in every aspect of his life: teaching, living, attitude, and character. Continual reading, meditation, and devotion to the doctrine would be key to his spiritual growth as a person and teacher. He would need to guard himself and his teaching, if he was to save himself and his hearers.

Bible Reading With Questions

Departure From the Faith by False Teachers – I Timothy 4:1-5

1. What does it mean to depart from “*the faith*”? Did these false teachers lose their personal faith?
2. What kind of character did these people have?
3. How does one's conscience become “*seared over with a hot iron*”? Lessons?
4. How do you reconcile the false doctrine of these false teachers in **I Timothy 4:3** (“*forbidding to marry*”) with Paul's statement, “*Do not seek a wife*” (**I Corinthians 7:25-40**)?
5. Many believed that all flesh is inherently corrupt, so minimal contact and indulgence of fleshly desires were preferable. How does Paul address that false notion here?
6. How is food “*sanctified by the word of God*”?

Teaching as a Good Minister of Jesus Christ – I Timothy 4:6-11

7. What enabled Timothy to “*instruct the brethren*” and “*be a good minister of Jesus Christ*”?
8. Does Paul condemn physical exercise? What is the point of verses 7-8?
9. Why did Paul and Timothy “*labor and suffer*” (verse 10)?
10. How is God the “*Savior of all men, especially of those who believe*”? Is this teaching universalism, the notion that all people will be saved, regardless of their conduct?

Take Heed to Yourself and the Doctrine – I Timothy 4:12-16

11. How would we prevent anyone from “*despising our youth*”?
12. How do we make “*evident progress*” in our spiritual growth?
13. Why was it important for Timothy to “*take heed to himself and the doctrine*”? Lessons?

LESSON 5 – HONORING OLDER MEMBERS

I Timothy 5:1-25

Summary

Although Timothy was to “*let no one despise his youth*”, he was not free to bully others. Paul provides instructions for how Timothy was to privately exhort older men, older women, and younger women, as if they were his own family members. Widows who are truly abandoned and unable to sustain themselves, are qualified and authorized for regular church support. Younger widows are admonished to marry again and resume their work of women, wives, and mothers. Elders are authorized for financial and spiritual honor. They could be paid for their work as elders, and they were to be treated respectfully. Accusations were to be received only by two or three witnesses, but unrepentant elders were to be ultimately rebuked publicly. Finally, Timothy is exhorted to act carefully and without prejudice, realizing that some men's true character is not evident at first.

Bible Reading With Questions

Exhorting Others – I Timothy 5:1-2

1. What is the difference between “*exhorting*” and “*rebuking*”, as discussed in this context?
2. Why would “*purity*” be important for Timothy as he corrected “*younger women*”?

Qualifications of Supported Widows – I Timothy 5:3-10

3. Who are “*widows indeed*”, or women who are “*really widows*”? What makes a woman really a widow?
4. Is it more important for me to devote my extra resources to supporting preachers or our parents?
5. Were Timothy's instructions for others merely optional, suggested, or advised?
6. How could someone “*not providing for his own*”, make him “*worse than an unbeliever*”?
7. What is the “*roll*” or “*number*” into which a widow may be added (verse 9)?
8. List the qualifications of these “*widows indeed*”?

Support of Younger Widows – I Timothy 5:11-16

9. Why are younger widows to be refused into the “*number*”?
10. What is the condemnation that Paul wants them to avoid?
11. Why might “*the adversary speak reproachfully*”? Who is “*the adversary*”?

12. Does the local church and its individuals have different priorities, missions, and authority? How do you know?

Honorable Treatment of Elders – I Timothy 5:17-25

13. Is this text about older men in general or men holding the office of elder, bishop, and pastor? Explain.

14. What is “*double honor*” in this context?

15. What two passages are quoted in verse 18? Based on this verse, if someone asserted that the gospel of Luke was not inspired, who else would necessarily also not be inspired? Explain.

16. Does verse 19 prohibit a single individual from approaching an elder with a question or concern?

17. How might prejudice or partiality interfere with Paul's instruction to Timothy?

18. How might “*laying hands*” on someone cause you to share in their sins?

19. Why would Paul have to command Timothy to “*use a little wine for your stomach's sake*”?

20. How do verses 24-25 relate to this context?

LESSON 6 – FIGHT THE GOOD FIGHT OF FAITH

I Timothy 6:1-21

Summary

Chapter 6 begins by closing a theme of honoring those due honor from chapter 5, specifically masters of bondservants. The letter's conclusion begins in verse 3 with instructions again on how the church is to deal with stubborn, false teachers. Greed is noted as a common motivator for false teachers, which serves as a reminder and warning for all Christians to learn to be content. Unable to carry earthly treasures to heaven, Paul warns those who seek riches, that they might not reach heaven with such misplaced, vulnerable desires. Instead, Paul admonishes Timothy and us to pursue a spiritual life of godliness, which will be a spiritual fight and struggle, won by faith. Paul lifts a standard of perfection for Timothy and us to pursue, worthy of the exalted One Who secured for us mercy. Final instructions are resumed and given for the rich to be trusting, generous, and spiritual. Lastly, Paul reminds Timothy to guard the truth given him and to avoid the destructive “*knowledge*” offered by false teachers.

Bible Reading With Questions

Exhorting Others – I Timothy 6:1-2

1. Why were bondservants to be respectful to their masters?
2. Why might believing bondservants, who had believing masters, have despised them?

Withdraw from False Teachers – I Timothy 6:3-5

3. Do all people who believe or profess false doctrine maintain the character described by Paul in verses 4-5? Explain. (Hint: Look carefully at the stipulation in verse 3.)
4. If the stipulations of verse 3 are satisfied, is there any other explanation for these false teachers' behavior beside the character that Paul asserts in verses 4-5?
5. Why would the church need to withdraw from such people?
6. What kind of gain do these people seek?

Godliness with Contentment – I Timothy 6:6-10

7. What might we have to sacrifice to live by the contentment described in verses 6 and 8?
8. Why is it foolish to chase after earthly gain?
9. What are two types of consequences that befall those who “*desire to be rich*” and maintain a “*love of money*”? Lessons?

Keep the Commandment – I Timothy 6:11-16

10. Is it easy to go to heaven? Does that affect our responsibilities?

11. What confession did Jesus witness before Pontius Pilate?

12. To Whom do verses 15-16 refer?

Responsibilities of the Rich – I Timothy 6:17-19

13. How do we know if someone rich, maybe us, is being haughty or trusting in uncertain riches?

14. What is the implied consequence of failing to trust our riches with God? How does this make you feel?

Conclusion – I Timothy 6:20-21

15. What was guarded to Timothy's trust?

16. How do we know what is “*knowledge*” versus “*what is falsely called knowledge*”?

OUTLINE OF TITUS

- I. Greeting – An apostle preaching God's truthful, inerrant Word (1:1-4).
- II. Exhort and Convict: Dealing with contradiction – false teaching (1:5-16)
 - A. Lacking: Appoint qualified elders (1:5-9).
 - B. Task: Convict and silence the greedy, false teachers (1:10-16).
- III. Soundness: Teach healthy doctrine for the church's members to live (2:1-10).
- IV. Theme: God's grace and work seeks a serious, spiritual people, zealous for good works (2:11-15)
- V. Reciprocation: Treat others as God has treated us. Maintain good works unto others (3:1-8).
 - A. Be gentle and humble to all (3:1-2).
 - B. God showed us kindness and love in graciously redeeming us (3:3-7).
 - C. Maintain good works, which are good for all (3:8)
- VI. Purity: Avoid useless disputes and divisive men (3:9-11)
- VII. Closing: Personal instructions and restatement of theme: Maintain good works (3:12-15).

LESSON 7 – MAINTAINING TRUTH

Titus 1:1-16

Who was Titus?

Titus was a traveling companion of Paul, who was much like Timothy. He was young enough to be considered “*a son*”, like Timothy (**Titus 1:4; I Timothy 1:2**). Like Timothy, he also carried epistles for Paul to cities, cared for congregations, and carried reports back to Paul (**II Corinthians 2:13; 7:6-16; 8:6, 16-24; 12:17-19**). Unlike Timothy, Titus was a Greek and was not circumcised (**Acts 16:1-3**):

Then after fourteen years I went up again to Jerusalem with Barnabas, and also took Titus with me. And I went up by revelation, and communicated to them that gospel which I preach among the Gentiles, but privately to those who were of reputation, lest by any means I might run, or had run, in vain. Yet not even Titus who was with me, being a Greek, was compelled to be circumcised. (Galatians 2:1-3).

Beyond this, Titus had left for another city, as Paul approached his execution (**II Timothy 4:10**).

Introduction and Theme

Similar to Timothy, Paul had left Titus in a city to edify a congregation, specifically Crete. Probably written in the fall of 63 A.D., and much like Timothy's letter, Titus' epistle from Paul also focused on the importance of teaching truth, organizing the local church according to God's design, and encouraging people to be faithful as individuals in “*maintaining good works*”. Sound doctrine, wholesome teaching, and self-consistent truth are repeatedly emphasized; however, their goal and application for the people to “*maintaining good works*” is stressed so frequently that we may consider it the theme. Titus was to be careful to both obey and teach sound doctrine, while exhorting the church's members to do the same, which we should also observe and follow. This first chapter focuses on appointing elders to properly deal with false teachers, who would undermine sound doctrine and its application.

Bible Reading With Questions

Introduction and Greeting – Titus 1:1-4

1. Paul's apostleship was consistent with what standards? Lesson?
2. Why is it important to know that God cannot lie?
3. What is God's relationship to time?

Qualifications of Elders – Titus 1:5-9

4. Why was Titus left in Crete?
5. Are the qualifications of elders optional? How do you know?
6. How are the qualifications in **Titus 1** different than those in **I Timothy 3**?
7. How do elders deal with false teachers? By bullying or intimidation? How?

Handling False Teachers – Titus 1:10-16

8. What “aspect” of the false teacher was to be stopped? Why? Lessons?
9. What passage is quoted in **Titus 1:12**? Lessons?
10. Why are these false teachers supposed to get a “*sharp rebuke*”?
11. Explain verse 15.
12. How can someone be “*disqualified for a good work*”?

LESSON 8 – SOUND DOCTRINE FOR A SPECIAL PEOPLE

Titus 2:1-15

Summary

Sound doctrine, or wholesome teaching, is provided for each individual, which is appropriate based on age and gender. Emphasis is placed on older women teaching the younger women, which would help supplement Titus' work to admonish “*younger women as sisters with all purity*”. Like Timothy, Titus is instructed to live his teaching, eliminating the accusers' false charges. Bondservants are admonished to “wear” the Lord's doctrine in relation to their service to their masters. The purpose of God's universal grace is summarized in application to Christians and their new spiritual life. Emphasis is placed on both teaching these things and teaching with the authority granted him.

Bible Reading With Questions

Sound Doctrine For The Individuals – Titus 2:1-8

1. Does “*sound doctrine*” apply only to instrumental music, institutionalism, baptism, and other “*doctrinal*” issues? Explain.
2. What are old men and women to develop? Why do you think there is a difference in instruction?
3. Why would older women have to teach younger women to love their husbands and children?
4. How could young women's behavior cause “*the word of God to be blasphemed*”?
5. What 3 things was Titus to show in himself?
6. How were Titus' opponents to become ashamed of their opposition?

Exhortations for Bondservants – Titus 2:9-10

7. How were bondservants to wear or “*adorn the doctrine of God*”?

Redeeming Grace unto Good Works – Titus 2:11-15

8. How has God's “*grace appeared to all men*”? Does that mean that all men will be saved?
9. What 3 things does God's grace teach?
10. Why did God send Jesus? Lessons?
11. How was Titus to “*rebuke with all authority*”?

LESSON 9 – MAINTAIN GOOD WORKS

Titus 3:1-15

Summary

The importance of “*maintaining good works*” is repeatedly stressed in this closing chapter. Saints are encouraged to submit to authorities and to be humble, which stands in sharp contrast to their past character and motivations. This character was dispelled by God's kindness, which He manifested by saving us through grace. (If He could be gracious to His enemies, then how much more should we be gracious to our brothers?) Although we are justified and made heirs by grace, we are to live like our Father, whose life we are to inherit, by maintaining good works, which are helpful to all. Again, divisive people are condemned and are to be rejected. Closing instructions are provided to help Titus hand off his work to incoming helpers, and the critical lesson – maintain good works – is again emphasized.

Bible Reading With Questions

Heirs of Grace – Titus 3:1-8

1. How does one get himself or herself “*ready for every good work*”?
2. Since we are “*to speak evil of no one*”, are we not permitted to tell someone they are doing wrong? Can we not tell anyone else?
3. If we live without God, what can we expect to ultimately happen to our character?
4. How is that character contrasted with the manifestation of God's character?
5. Verse 5 says that we are saved “*not by works of righteousness*”? Does that mean we don't have to be baptized to be saved? Explain.
6. What is the Christian's inheritance? When does that begin?
7. Why might Titus need to “*affirm constantly*” this “*faithful saying*”?

Avoid and Reject Dissension – Titus 3:9-11

8. Is Paul telling us never to argue with other people about God's law (see **Titus 3:9**)? Explain.
9. Does verse 10 mean that we only try twice to persuade people before giving up on them?
10. Who is responsible for the fate of a “*divisive man*”?

Conclusion and Closing Instructions – Titus 3:12-15

11. When was Titus to return to Paul?
12. What were the Christians to do, so “*that they may not be unfruitful*”? Applications?

MY OUTLINE OF II TIMOTHY

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- I. Salutation (1:1-2).
- II. Courage: Do not be ashamed of the truth or me (1:3-18).
 - A. Timothy's and Paul's common faith and afforded, resilient attitude (1:3-7).
 - B. Do not be ashamed – trust the Lord (1:8-12).
 - C. Do not turn away – hold fast to the truth and Paul (1:13-18).
- III. Endurance: Endure with Paul for the sake of the gospel and the elect (2:1-26).
 - A. How to be strong in the grace and endure (2:1-7).
 - B. Endure persecution because the gospel is worthy (2:8-13).
 - C. Be a diligent and forthright worker for God in the gospel (2:14-26).
 - i. Shun profane and idle babblings.
 - ii. Beware destructive error, lusts, and immorality.
 - iii. Avoid foolish and ignorant disputes.
 - iv. Humbly correct those in error.
- IV. Equip: Prepare yourself for persecution by continuing in the Scriptures (3:1-17).
 - A. Beware perilous times and perilous men (false teachers), who must be rejected (3:1-9).
 - B. Timothy's carefulness as a disciple of Paul (3:10-11).
 - C. Increasing danger of persecution, evil men, and false teachers (3:12-13).
 - D. Continue to equip yourself through study of the all-sufficient Scriptures (3:14-17).
- V. Finish: Paul's final words to Timothy (4:1-22).
 - A. Timothy's final charge to faithfully preach God's Word at all times (4:1-7).
 - B. Paul's finished task and life, and his final reward (4:6-8).
 - C. Final instructions – come quickly (4:9-22).
 - i. Come quickly and bring specific items (4:9-13).
 - ii. Beware Alexander (4:14).
 - iii. Confidence and solace in the Lord despite others abandoning Paul (4:10-18).
 - iv. Greetings, come quickly again, and closing prayer for blessing (4:19-22).

Theme: *“Preach the word! Be ready in season and out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching. ... be watchful in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.” (II Timothy 4:2, 5)*

LESSON 10 – SUFFER WITH ME

II Timothy 1:1-18

Historical Background

The book of Acts closed with the beginning of Paul's first Roman imprisonment (**Acts 28:30-31**), which leaves us with little inspired accounting of what transpired next. According to history, the timeline recorded in **Acts**, and Paul's plans mentioned incidentally in his epistles, we can establish that Paul was most likely imprisoned in the spring of 61 A.D. During this first Roman imprisonment, Paul most likely wrote the epistles to the **Ephesians**, **Colossians**, **Philippians**, and **Philemon**. After being released in the spring of 63 A.D., Paul no doubt traveled to various churches and cities, while visiting and preaching. During this time, most likely in the fall of 63 A.D., Paul would have written **I Timothy** and **Titus**. In July of 64 A.D., Rome was burned, and the emperor, Nero, apparently used the Christians as “scapegoats”. He began a fierce persecution against the Christians that would rage off and on under the cruel hand of multiple Roman emperors until 305 A.D, when Diocletian, the last persecuting Roman emperor died. The persecution officially ended in 313 A.D., when Constantine issued his “Edict of Toleration”.

Introduction and Theme

The climate changed dramatically with the instigation of the Roman persecution in 64 A.D. Paul was captured shortly thereafter and beheaded in 65 or 66 A.D. **II Timothy** was written during Paul's second and final Roman imprisonment, shortly before his execution. Although Paul knew that his execution was imminent (**II Timothy 4:6-8**), his final, personal epistle exhibits a hopeful, encouraging, and even triumphant tone (**II Timothy 4:8, 17-18**). Reoccurring themes of security, trust, hope, and faithfulness fill this closing letter, which prompt the primary charge and lesson, as summarized in **II Timothy 4:2, 5**.

Bible Reading With Questions

Do Not Be Afraid – II Timothy 1:1-7

1. Paul's apostleship was according to what promise? Why would that be important for Paul and us?
2. How can we “*serve God with a pure conscience*”? Does that mean we never sin?
3. Why did Paul want to see Timothy?
4. What about Timothy brought joy to Paul?
5. What kind of gifts were bestowed by “*laying on hands*” of an apostle?
6. In view of such oncoming persecution and death, how can someone maintain an attitude of “*power, love, and a sound mind*” and not be overwhelmed by a disposition of “*fear*”?

Do Not Be Ashamed – II Timothy 1:8-12

7. Of what two things was Timothy not to be ashamed? How was he to manifest this?

8. How are we “*called with a holy calling*”? Lessons for Timothy and us?
9. How would it have been comforting to know that “*God's grace and purpose*” had been provisioned “*before time began*”?
10. What did Jesus abolish and bring? Lessons for then and now?
11. How could Paul withstand under such hopeless suffering?

Do Not Turn Away – II Timothy 1:13-18

12. To what was Timothy to “*hold fast*” and how? Why would be this difficult?
13. How did the Holy Spirit dwell in Paul and Timothy? What about us?
14. How would you feel if all the Christians in a given province, including churches you helped established, suddenly turned their back on you and disavowed you? How did it affect Paul?
15. Who had not “*turned away*” from Paul? What was remarkable about his service?
16. Why would such a bold, zealous, and caring man need mercy on “*that day*” (verse 18)?

WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT AND THE WORD OF GOD

<i>SPIRIT</i>	<i>WORK</i>	<i>GOSPEL</i>
Nehemiah 9:20	Instructs	II Timothy 3:16-17
John 14:26	Teaches	Psalms 119:97-102
John 16:8	Convicts	Titus 1:9; Romans 3:9-19
John 6:63	Quickens	Psalms 119:50
John 16:13	Guides	Psalms 119:105
John 3:5	Gives Birth	I Peter 1:23
I Peter 1:2	Sanctifies	John 17:17; II Thessalonians 2:13
Titus 3:5	Saves	James 1:21
I Corinthians 6:11	Washes	Ephesians 5:26
Acts 9:31	Comforts	I Thessalonians 4:18
Ephesians 1:13	Seals	Ephesians 1:13
John 15:26	Testifies	John 5:39
Romans 8:16	Witnesses	Matthew 24:14
Romans 5:5	Gives Love	I John 2:5
Galatians 5:22	Gives Joy	Jeremiah 15:16; I Thessalonians 1:6

<http://www.insearchoftruth.org/articles/irresistiblegrace.html>

LESSON 11 – ENDURE WITH ME

II Timothy 2:1-26

Summary

Great pressure and burden was placed on Timothy. In spite of growing persecution, he was asked to seek faithful men, who could faithfully pass the truth on to others, who would in turn do the same. This would require Timothy to “*endure hardship*”. To help him, Paul instructs Timothy how to be strong and endure this hardship using 3 analogies: a soldier, an athlete, and a farmer. Paul expected Timothy to meditate on these comparisons and learn lessons to help him grow stronger. Paul expresses the hope and promises that drive him to endure through his suffering, which both we and Timothy are to adopt to help us do the same. Again, Paul stresses the importance of focused Bible study, avoiding false doctrine and profitless issues. Hymenaeus and Philetus are specifically mentioned as some who with their false doctrine had “*overthrown the faith of some*”. The security of God's Word and standing on it are stressed, so we can avoid a similar fate. Paul urges Timothy to maintain purity, so that he can serve the Lord. Finally, instruction is provided on how to correct those in error, so that they may have the best opportunity to be rescued by the Lord from Satan.

Bible Reading With Questions

How to Be Strong in The Grace and Endure – II Timothy 2:1-7

1. What was to be the source of Timothy's strength? Lessons?
2. Why would it be important for Timothy to teach others, who could teach others? What is the significance of Paul telling Timothy to “*commit*” the truth to these faithful men, and not just *teach* them?
3. What would be required of Timothy and us to complete such a task?
4. List at least one other passage that discusses the danger of being “*entangled*” in the “*affairs of this life*” and being even “*overcome*”? What is the practical application?
5. How does a Christian “*compete according to the rules*”? About what danger is Paul warning Timothy and us?
6. Why would a Christian want to be a “*hard-working farmer*”? What does this symbol mean?
7. How can verse 7 be comforting to all Bible students?

How to Endure – II Timothy 2:8-13

8. Why did Paul suffer and endure?
9. How is God's Word “*unchained*”?
10. What promises are extended to us in verses 11-13? What does verse 13 mean?

How to Be an Approved Worker – II Timothy 2:14-19

11. Why should we not “*strive about words*”?
12. What is required of us to “*present ourselves approved of God*”?
13. Why is it important to stop false doctrine?
14. How do we stand securely upon the “*solid foundation of God*”?

How to Be a Vessel of Honor – II Timothy 2:20-26

15. How does one become a “*vessel for honor*”?
16. What is Timothy supposed to run away from? What is he supposed to chase and run down?
17. How should servants of God (does that describe us?) correct those “*who are in opposition*”? To what or to whom are they in opposition?
18. What influence, if any, do we maintain over the success of the correction process?
19. Whose purposes are we serving when we oppose God's Word? Lessons?

LESSON 12 – BE PERSECUTED WITH ME

II Timothy 3:1-17

Summary

In this chapter Paul warns of evil men, who will come and afflict the church. They will have dark, rebellious, and destructive character, and as a consequence, they are to be rejected. Eventually, the Lord will visibly expose the folly of these people, which should satisfy our concerns for justice and soothe our fears for their unchecked influence. Good people, like Timothy, will instead carefully follow the example of spiritual giants, who have gone before us, like Paul. If we live godly, we can expect to suffer persecution, just as did Paul. However, Paul encourages Timothy and us to continue following God's Word, extolling the priceless and irreplaceable blessing its offers.

Bible Reading With Questions

Turn Away From Evil Men – II Timothy 3:1-9

1. When would these evil men appear?
2. How were these evil men going to “*have a form of godliness but deny its power*”?
3. Where was Timothy going to find the evil men described in verses 1-5?
4. How do Christians need to treat these kinds of people? Why?
5. Based on verse 7, how were these people going to hide their resistance of the truth?
6. **Research Question:** Who were Jannes and Jambres?
7. What will be the end of these people?

Continue In The Scriptures – II Timothy 3:10-17

8. How had Timothy “*followed*” Paul?
9. How could Timothy escape such persecutions?
10. Can we expect evil people to become more tolerant of Christians?
11. If evil people will continue to get worse, what are Christians supposed to do?
12. How soon can godly people start learning the Scriptures? When should they start learning?
13. What can the Scriptures do for us? How critical are these blessings?

LESSON 13 – GAIN A CROWN WITH ME

II Timothy 4:1-22

Summary

The final chapter in this epistle to Timothy closes with Paul again formally charging Timothy to fulfill his ministry, preach the word, convince, rebuke, and exhort with all longsuffering and teaching. Timothy is more urgently encouraged to teach in advance, because the time will come when people will not “*endure sound doctrine*”. Paul recognizes that he has fulfilled his ministry, and now the time has come for him to be sacrificed as a “*drink offering*”, which symbolized his coming execution. Confident of his reward and of similar reward for others like minded, Paul offers Timothy some final closing instructions, desiring for Timothy to come to him quickly. Timothy is told to bring specific articles and people, and he is also warned to avoid certain people. Although Paul stood alone at his first defense, he has a few loyal friends who have not abandoned him. Most importantly, the Lord stood with Paul, strengthening him, so that Paul could finish the task given to him (**Acts 9:15**). The book closes with another reminder to come quickly, and it ends with a prayerful blessing that the same Lord be with Timothy, Who had also stood with Paul.

Bible Reading With Questions

Timothy's Ongoing Charge – II Timothy 4:1-5

1. Why might Paul remind Timothy of the witnesses (God and Jesus) of Paul's charge to Timothy (see also **I Timothy 6:13-14**)?
2. Why was Timothy to be ready to patiently preach and teach God's Word at any time?
3. Verses 3 and 4 suggest that people may not just “go bad”. Who do they use to first satisfy their conscience, so they can then more easily “go bad”?
4. Was that supposed to deter Timothy? How do you know?

Paul's Completed Charge – II Timothy 4:6-8

5. Why might Paul have compared his imminent passing to “*being poured out as a drink offering*”? Why not compare himself to some kind of sacrificial offering for atonement?
6. Was Paul worried about his death or what would happen afterward? How can we achieve this same attitude?
7. Was Paul's reward limited to “elite” Christians? Who else could expect such a reward?

Standing Alone with the Lord – II Timothy 4:9-18

8. Why did Timothy need to hurry to get to Paul?
9. Why did Demas forsake Paul?

10. What relationship did Mark have with Paul previously? Lessons?
11. Is vengeance the only explanation for Paul's prayer against "*Alexander the coppersmith*" (v. 14)? Explain.
12. Was Paul reluctant to mention people by name? What kind of people did he call out? Examples?
13. Was Paul angry that his companions abandoned him, leaving him to defend himself alone? Lessons.
14. How could Paul not be angry? What was his strength?
15. What kind of deliverance did Paul expect?

Conclusion and Farewell – II Timothy 4:19-22

16. Why might Paul have wanted Timothy to "*come before winter*"? What was special about winter?
17. Does this book make you feel sad? How did Paul seem to you? Was he sad?