

A Tour Through the Divine Library
(2 Timothy)

I. General Introduction to 2 Timothy

-Title and Recipient: “Second to Timothy” (1:2)

-Author, Occasion, and Date: the apostle Paul (1:1); written near the close of his second Roman imprisonment, shortly before his death, ~ AD 66 or 67

-Purpose: to ask Timothy to come from Ephesus and visit Paul in Rome as soon as possible (4:8, 21); to encourage Timothy to be a faithful minister of Christ (1:13; 2:15; 3:14; 4:5)

-Structure:

I. Perseverance in Present Difficulties (chs. 1, 2)

II. Perseverance in Future Difficulties (chs. 3, 4)

II. General Overview of 2 Timothy

-Greeting (1:1, 2)

-Thanksgiving/prayer (1:3-5); stand firm (1:8-18); suffer hardship (2:1-13); be a good student of the Word (2:14-18); be a pure and useful servant of Christ (1:19-23); graciously reprove (2:24-26)

-Growing apostasy and degeneracy (3:1-9); encouragement [Paul’s example (3:10, 11); general maxim (3:12); Scripture (3:14-17)]; preach the Word (4:1-5); Paul’s example (4:6-8); personal matters (4:9-21)

-Conclusion (4:22)

III. Prominent People and Themes in 2 Timothy

-People: Paul, Timothy, Luke (4:11), Mark (4:11), Onesiphorus (1:16-18; 4:19), and Prisca and Aquila (4:19)

-Themes: God’s Character [faithfulness (1:1); power (1:8); role as Judge (4:1, 8)]; Salvation by Sovereign Grace (1:9; 2:10); Christian Ministry [sound doctrine (1:13, 14; 2:14-18, 23; 4:3); preaching (4:1, 2); ministerial suffering for Christ (1:8, 12, 15; 2:3-13; 3:10-12; 4:5); ministerial perseverance (3:14); training of gospel ministers (2:2); Doctrine of Scripture (3:15-17)]

IV. Christ in 2 Timothy

-Giver of life, grace, mercy, peace (1:1, 2); the One in whom grace and salvation are granted to believers from all eternity (1:9); abolished death, brought life and immortality to light (1:10); faith and love in Him (1:13); resurrected Lord, descendant of David (2:8); salvation in Him (2:10); Judge of the living and the dead (4:1, 8)

V. Practical Lessons in 2 Timothy

- 1) All true disciples of Christ will suffer for His sake (2 Tim. 3:12).

- 2) The key to suffering well for Christ is faith in Christ (2 Tim. 1:12).