

**Subject: *Remember the Gospel, Part 2***

**Scripture: *2 Timothy 2:8-13***

We must remember things that are really important, and nothing is more important than the Gospel of Christ. From the beginning of this letter Paul wanted Timothy to remember the important things. In our text Paul reminded Timothy of the greatest truth of all, the Gospel. The word “remember” (vs. 8) is a command, as are other words in this chapter (vs. 14, put them in remembrance; vs. 15, study; vs. 16, shun (avoid); vs. 22, flee and follow; vs. 23, avoid). These are not options, but commands that are given to Timothy and other believers.

**REMEMBER THE TRUTH OF THE GOSPEL (vs. 8)**

The Gospel is primarily the truth about Jesus Christ (1 Cor. 15:3-4).

- Christ’s humanity (“of the seed of David”)
- Christ’s deity (“raised from the dead”)
- Paul calls it “my gospel”

Paul said it was his gospel because he believed it, treasured it, defended it, preached it and shared it everywhere he went. To Paul the Gospel was personal and powerful. The Gospel was absolutely essential and must never be compromised or altered in any way (Gal. 1:6-9).

***Romans 1:16*** *For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.*

**REMEMBER THE TROUBLE OF THE GOSPEL (vs. 9)**

Paul suffered trouble all because of the Gospel. People considered him a law breaker and an evildoer. He was a prisoner of Rome at the time. This was his second imprisonment in Rome and this was the worst of all.

- Christians were considered members of an illegal association

Christians were considered illegal and met without government approval. They were looked on with suspicion.

- Christians were blamed for setting Rome on fire

In 64 A.D., Rome burned and Nero looked for a scapegoat. He blamed the Christians. Paul was not only a Christian, but he was a leader of the Christians. All Christians may not suffer like Paul, but all will suffer. ***2 Timothy 3:12*** *Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution.*

**REMEMBER THE TRIUMPH OF THE GOSPEL (vs. 10-13)**

Paul was in bonds, but God’s Word was not bound. You can chain the preacher, but you can’t chain the truth he preaches. You can lock up the missionary, but you can’t lock up the message. One of the proofs that the Bible is God’s inspired Word is the fact that nothing has

ever been able to stop it. The French atheist Voltaire once claimed that the Bible would be obsolete within a hundred years. As it turned out, after Voltaire died in 1778, Bibles were printed in his home. The Bible can't be bound. It can't be stopped.

- Be confident about God's purpose (vs. 10)

He was willing to suffer to get the Gospel to lost people because he knew God would use the Gospel to save the lost. The Bible teaches that believers are saved and chosen (elect) by God, but it also teaches that people are saved by hearing and believing the Gospel. The Bible teaches the God's sovereignty and man's responsibility. Believers are responsible to preach and share the Gospel and unbelievers are responsible for hearing and obeying it. Paul was committed to do his work because he knew God was committed to do His. The reference to believers as God's elect is not unusual.

- **Romans 8:33** *Who shall lay any thing to the charge of God's elect? It is God that justifieth.*
- **Colossians 3:12** *Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering.*
- **1 Thessalonians 1:4** *Knowing, brethren beloved, your election of God.*
- **Titus 1:1** *Paul, a servant of God, and an apostle of Jesus Christ, according to the faith of God's elect, and the acknowledging of the truth which is after godliness.*
- **1 Peter 1:2** *Elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through sanctification of the Spirit, unto obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ: Grace unto you, and peace, be multiplied.*
- **2 Peter 1:10** *Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall.*
- **2 John 1:1** *The elder unto the elect lady and her children, whom I love in the truth; and not I only, but also all they that have known the truth.*

Paul was willing to endure all things so that people could have the Gospel of Christ, believe it, and be saved, which ultimately means "eternal glory." Believers are immediately justified, progressively sanctified, and ultimately glorified. Salvation is God's work from election to glorification (Rom. 8:28-30; Phil. 1:6).

- Be confident about God's promise (vs. 11-12)

This was a faithful saying or a trustworthy statement. Paul uses this phrase five times in the Pastoral Epistles. This was used to introduce a statement that was commonly known and believed as absolute truth. If we die with Christ, we will also live with Him. If we suffer with Him, we will also reign with Him. The flip side of this is also true. If we deny Him, He will deny us. If we are not faithful, still yet He is faithful. This speaks of someone who completely denies the Lord and turns away from Him once and for all.