

**Subject: *Know Your Bible – Part 26***

**Scripture: *2 Timothy 1:1-12***

**Time, Place, and Purpose of 2 Timothy**

1. This is the second of Paul's three pastoral epistles (along with 1 Timothy and Titus). These letters were written to pastors, fellow-workers, and apostolic deputies. The pastoral epistles should be studied for several reasons:

- A. These epistles shed much light on church administration
- B. These epistles stress sound doctrine
- C. These epistles demand godly living
- D. These epistles reveal some of Paul's final words and acts
- E. These epistles give insight into the early church

2. Paul wrote this second letter to Timothy in 66-67 A.D. This was Paul's last letter, written from a Roman prison shortly before he was martyred. Prison is the last place from which to expect a letter of encouragement.

3. This letter is more personal than 1 Timothy and Titus. Paul referred to nearly 25 people by name.

4. Paul expressed his gratitude for Timothy's godly home training (1:5; 3:14-15).

5. Paul encouraged Timothy to be fervent and steadfast in his service for Christ (1:6-8). Timothy has Paul's example to guide him and God's Word to strengthen him as he faces opposition and opportunities in ministry.

6. Paul challenged Timothy to be a faithful steward of God's truth (1:13-14). Every Timothy needs someone like Paul as a mentor and encourager and every Paul needs someone like Timothy as a disciple and servant-in-training.

7. In 1 and 2 Timothy we see the personal needs of both Timothy and Paul. Timothy needed Paul's wisdom and encouragement because he was young, timid, and faced persecution and false teaching. Paul needed comfort, companionship, and the clothing, books, and parchments that Timothy could bring.

8. In Paul's second letter he recorded his last testimony including the victory and satisfaction he experienced as he faced execution.

9. A key phrase is "in Christ Jesus"

- In Christ there is the promise of life (2 Tim. 1:1)
- In Christ God's grace was given to us before the world began (1:9)
- In Christ there is faith and love (1:13)
- In Christ there is grace that supplies strength (2:1)

- In Christ there is salvation (2:10; 3:15)
- In Christ there is persecution and suffering for godly living (3:12)

### **Key Passages in 2 Timothy**

2:1-15, 20-26	A call to <u>firm commitment</u>
2:22-26; 4:1-5	A charge to <u>faithful ministry</u>
3:1-7	A description of the <u>last days</u>
3:14-17	A tribute to the <u>holy scriptures</u>
4:6-8	A model of <u>finishing well</u>

### **Outline of 2 Timothy**

#### **I. Faithfulness in Present Testing (1:1—2:26)**

- A. Thanksgiving for Timothy's Faith (1:1-5)
- B. Reminder of Timothy's Responsibility (1:6-18)
- C. Characteristics of a Faithful Minister (2:1-26)
  - 1) Disciple-making teacher (2:1-2)
  - 2) Tough-minded soldier (2:3-4)
  - 3) Disciplined athlete (2:5)
  - 4) Enduring farmer (2:6-13)
  - 5) Diligent workman (2:14-19)
  - 6) Sanctified vessel (2:20-23)
  - 7) Gentle servant (2:24-26)

#### **II. Faithfulness in Future Testing (3:1—4:22)**

- A. Approaching Days of Apostasy (3:1-17)
  - 1) Coming of apostasy (3:1-9)
  - 2) Confronting apostasy (3:10-17)
- B. Charge to Preach the Word (4:1-5)
- C. Approaching Death of Paul (4:6-22)
  - 1) Paul's hope in death (4:6-8)
  - 2) Paul's situation in prison (4:9-18)
  - 3) Paul's closing greetings (4:19-22)

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