



2 Timothy 1:1-2

# LIVING FEARLESSLY IN THE LAST DAYS

**When death nears, priorities change.** In light of mortality, what used to seem significant may dim in comparison to one's ultimate fate. That is why we listen to a person's "last words." When all is said and done, everyone wants to know what gave that person hope in the face of death. Second Timothy is Paul's "last words." From a cold, lonely Roman prison, the aged apostle Paul wrote his final instructions to his protégé Timothy. Paul knew that this letter might well be his final contact with Timothy; his execution was most likely imminent. He implored Timothy to come quickly to his side. But in case he did not make it, Paul imparted his last words of encouragement to his "son" in the faith. —Earl D. Radmacher

## WHY STUDY SECOND TIMOTHY?

- It teaches us the most difficult \_\_\_\_\_ that we will face in the world, especially in the last days.

*But know this: Difficult times will come in the last days. (3:1)*

*But evil men and impostors will grow worse and worse, deceiving and being deceived. (3:13)*

- It teaches us the most important \_\_\_\_\_ that we must have as a church, especially in the last days.

*Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needs not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. (2:15)*

*Preach the word! Be ready in season and out of season. (4:2a)*

- It teaches us the most secure \_\_\_\_\_ that we need in our hearts, especially in the last days.

*For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind. (1:7)*

## FROM PAUL, THE APOSTLE OF JESUS CHRIST

- Paul is an Apostle by the \_\_\_\_\_ of God.

*Then He appeared to James, then to all the apostles. Last of all, as to one born at the wrong time, He also appeared to me. For I am the least of the apostles, not worthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. (1 Corinthians 15:7-9)*

*Paul had before his eyes the death which he was prepared to endure for the testimony of the gospel. All that we read here, therefore, concerning the kingdom of Christ, the hope of eternal life, the Christian warfare, confidence in confessing Christ, and the certainty of doctrine, ought to be viewed by us as written not with ink but with Paul's own blood. —John Calvin*

*The Apostles gave us the authoritative teaching by which the church continues to live to this day, and that is the only teaching we will need until Jesus returns. We know that new apostles won't appear since Paul specifically says he was the last apostle (1 Cor 15:8). And when James, the brother of John, died (Acts 12:2), he wasn't replaced. Apostles, in the technical sense, are restricted to those who have seen the risen Lord and have been commissioned by Him [Acts 1:21-22; 10:39-41; 1 Cor. 9:1] and no one since apostolic times fits such criteria... There is no warrant, then, for saying there are still apostles today. Indeed, if anyone claims to be an apostle today we should be concerned, for such a claim opens the door to false teaching and to abuse of authority. —Thomas Schreiner*

- Paul is an Apostle for the \_\_\_\_\_ of life.

*For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.* (John 3:16)

*Most assuredly, I say to you, he who hears My word and believes in Him who sent Me has everlasting life, and shall not come into judgment, but has passed from death into life.* (John 5:24)

*I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.* (John 10:10b)

*Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me."* (John 14:6)

*And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent.* (John 17:3)

## TO TIMOTHY, PAUL'S BELOVED SON

- Timothy was a young disciple of the apostle Paul (Acts 16:1-3).
- Timothy was a faithful co-worker in ministry (Romans 16:21). He had served in the churches of Thessalonica (1 Th. 3:2), Corinth (1 Cor. 16:10-11); and Philippi (Ph. 2:19-24). At this time, Timothy was pastoring the church at Ephesus (1 Tim. 1:3).
- Timothy had a tender heart and nervous stomach (1 Tim. 5:23).

## GRACE, MERCY, AND PEACE

- We need \_\_\_\_\_ for our salvation from sin and death.

*For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast.* (Eph. 2:8-9)

- We need \_\_\_\_\_ for our situation in trials and suffering.

*Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.* (Heb. 4:16).

- We need \_\_\_\_\_ for our solution to fear and anxiety.

*Peace I leave with you; My peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.* (John 14:27)

## A CHRONOLOGY OF PAUL'S LIFE

AD 30	Crucifixion of Jesus
32	Stoning of Stephen (Acts 7)
34	Conversion of Paul (Acts 9)
47-48	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Missionary Journey</b> <i>Galatians</i>
49-51	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Missionary Journey</b> <i>1 &amp; 2 Thessalonians</i>
52-56	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Missionary Journey</b> <i>Romans, 1 &amp; 2 Corinthians</i>
56	Arrested in Jerusalem (Acts 21)
60	Imprisoned in Rome (Acts 28) <i>Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, Philemon</i>
62	Released— <b>Possible 4<sup>th</sup> Journey</b> <i>1 Timothy, Titus</i>
64	Great Fire of Rome (Nero)
66	Imprisoned-Executed in Rome <i>2 Timothy</i>

*As with the resurrection and the Holy Spirit, present participation in life in Christ is the "first fruit" or "down payment" of the promised fullness of life that is yet to be.*  
—Gordon D. Fee

*Paul mentioned Timothy in all 13 of his inspired epistles except Galatians, Ephesians, and Titus.*  
—Thomas Constable

*Grace is associated with men in their sins; mercy is associated with men in their misery... Grace looks down upon sin as a whole, mercy looks especially upon the miserable consequences of sin.*  
—D. Martyn Lloyd-Jones

*Although everybody needs mercy, ministers need it more than anybody else; and so we do, for if we are not faithful, we shall be greater sinners even than our hearers, and it needs much grace for us always to be faithful, and much mercy will be required to cover our shortcomings.*  
—Charles H. Spurgeon