

II Timothy - Chapter Two

v.1,2 – Paul tells Timothy to be strong in the grace of Jesus Christ. This is not salvation grace, this is enabling grace, the power of God. He also tells him to entrust the gospel to FAITHFUL MEN who will be able to teach others. IN MINISTRY WE SHOULD DUPLICATE OURSELVES.

v.3-6– This is the first of four analogies that are given in this chapter: SOLDIER, ATHLETE, FARMER and a VESSEL. First be tough and suffer like a good soldier, making being a soldier a first priority that he may please the captain of our souls, the one who chose us to be a soldier. 5) Be like a disciplined athlete who trains and strives, that he may be crowned at the end of the race (lawfully) 6) the farmer the labors must be the first partaker of the fruit, even before the harvest.v.7,8 – Understand who Jesus Christ is, of the seed of David, resurrected from the dead.

v.9, 10 – The reason I am bound but the gospel is not bound, so I endure (gladly) for the saints sake, for the gospel's sake (this is the example that I give to you)

v.11-13 – Here is a faithful saying (maybe even a hymn): Dead with him, we shall also live with him; suffer with him, we shall also reign with him; deny him, he also will deny us; but believe not in him, yet he remains faithful, for he cannot deny himself (he is who he is)

v.14 -16 – We should read this all together: don't argue over words in vain arguments, they are fruitless. And tell those you teach Timothy to do the same. Instead, do your best (study) to be a workman not ashamed, but rather tried and tested by God, and thus approved. SHUN PROFANE AND VAIN BABBLINGS: they just push people away from God. False and empty talk (I Timothy 6:20) Those that follow make foolish decisions.

Study (Greek: spoudazo) is not the normal word you think of as a student but a word used of a workman meaning "give diligence," "endeavor," or "exert oneself." A workman is to give diligence or endeavor to show himself approved unto God. Approval means one has been put to the test and measures up, thus winning the approval of the person testing him. The workman here is one who is handling the Word of God well (rightly dividing the word of truth)

v. 17, 18 - That kind of talk is like a cancer. HYMENAEUS and PHILETUS are engaged in this kind of talk. 18) they say the resurrection has already happened, and thus discourage the faith of some. v.19 – Regardless of the foolishness of man, the foundation of God stands sure (I Cor. 3:11- For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ.) God knows those that are His, and those who are His depart from iniquity (Ref: John 10:1-15; Rom 6:1-19; I Cor. 6:18-20).

v.20-22 – We as part of a great house can be vessels of honor and vessels of dishonor. We should strive to be ones of honor. If we purge ourselves from the vessel of dishonor then we shall be vessels of honor (II Cor. 6:16, 17), We will be sanctified and fit to be used by God. Run from youthful lusts – fun, fame, riches, but run after RIGHTEOUSNESS, FAITH, CHARITY AND PEACE. v. 23-26 – Servant of the Lord MUST BE GENTLE WITH ALL MEN, INSTRUCTING IN MECKNESS. Maybe God will stir their hearts to turn toward him. They are bound by the devil.