

The Book of 2 Timothy
Lesson 7 - 2 Timothy 4:9-22
Prescription for a Healthy Church
Personal Needs

Why was Timothy to hurry? Demas had forsaken Paul. Crescens and Titus were away ministering; Tychicus had been sent to Ephesus; and only Dr. Luke was with him. As he waited patiently for the Lord to call him home, Paul yearned for the Christian companionship of his son in the faith. In vs. 21 Paul urged him to “*come before winter*” because the shipping season would soon end; it was likely that Paul would be dead if Timothy waited too long.

We first met Dr. Luke in Acts 16:10. It was at this point that Luke joined Paul’s party. He was a Gentile and was the author of the Gospel of Luke and the Book of Acts. Luke is mentioned with Demas in Col. 4:14 and the contrast is clear: Demas was unfaithful while Luke was faithful to Christ and Paul.

John Mark had been rejected by Paul but now was accepted. Mark had proved himself in his ministry with Barnabas. Paul was willing to forgive and forget, the mark of a great man.

Paul asked for the cloak he had left at Troas; winter was coming, and he would need it in his Roman prison. The “*books*” were probably some of his own writings; the “*parchments*” would be his copies of the Old Testament Scriptures. While awaiting trial, Paul would spend his time studying the Word. What an example to follow!

He warned Timothy about Alexander, who withstood his words. At Paul’s first defense, no believer stood with him; but the Lord was still with him, and that is all that mattered! This had always been his encouragement in difficult times.

Though facing certain death, Paul still thought about others. How like Christ when He was hanging on the cross. “*Grace be with you!*” says Paul, and closes his part of the New Testament writings. “*Grace*” was the key word in his ministry. May it be the key word in our lives as well.

Read 2 Timothy 4:9-22 and answer the following questions:

1. What did Paul urge Timothy to do? (See 4:9)
2. What did Demas do? (See 4:10) What does it mean to “*Love this present world*”?
3. Who is still with Paul and what do we know about him?
4. What things did Paul want Timothy to bring? What does this tell you about Paul’s needs and interests?
5. Who did Paul warn Timothy about? (See 4:14). Why? What warning did he give about this man?
6. What can we learn about naming individuals and warning other people to avoid them and their sin?
7. What troubled Paul about his first defense? What can we learn? (See vs.16)

8. What hope did Paul have? What kind of deliverance did he have in mind? (See vs.18)

9. Who did Paul greet in 4:19? What do we know about each of these people?

10. After reading this whole letter, what caused Paul to persevere despite the emotional setback of some of these hard situations?

11. What is the most important lesson you learned from our study in 2 Timothy about:

- a. God's Character
- b. The Christian life
- c. The character of a Christian leader
- d. The responsibilities of a Christian leader
- e. Obstacles to healthy church growth
- f. Reasons for godly leadership

12. Have you noticed any areas (thoughts, attitudes, opinions, behavior) that you have changed as a result of studying 2 Timothy? Note those changes for discussion.

Take some time to pray and thank God for His amazing Grace.....