

Bible Study 101:
17. Outline of II Timothy

Chapter One

1–2: Salutation and blessing

3–5: Thanking God for Timothy, his grandmother, and his mother, for their unfeigned faith

6–14: Verbal parentheses, verses 6 and 14, around exhortation for Timothy to be bold in his faithfulness to his calling, even in face of the afflictions of the gospel

Caution: how to stir up gift not specified, but not a fleshly matter, as through the stimulating effect of arousing music, which can certainly stir something up, but what is stirred up may not be anything very spiritual! We have seen what it can stir up!

Gospel in a nutshell:

- Saved and called not according to our works but by grace
Cf. Ephesians 2:8–9

- Saved for God's purpose, established before the world began
Cf. Ephesians 2:10; Philippians 2:13; II Corinthians 5:14–15

Notice: what I have committed to God, God is able to keep; now Timothy is to keep what has been committed unto him: verse 13, the form of sound words, in other words, sound doctrine

15: Rejection by those in Asia

Paul not to spend time in Asia during his second journey

In his third journey, "all who were in Asia" heard the gospel; but, those of Asia were the cause of Paul's arrest in Acts 21.

Could Phygellus and Hermogenes have been some of those Jews which were of Asia, who stirred up the people in Acts 21:27?

16–18: Prayer for blessing on house of Onesiphorus

Not to be taken as suggestion the Onesiphorus had fallen away.

Chapter Two:

1–2: Passing the torch; preparing others to pass the torch in turn
This includes believing God to raise up someone in the following generation with the same burden for God's work to go on.

3–4: Need for consecration in those who follow in Jesus' steps
Sometimes it is not matter of good or evil, but just the time taken by things that really do not contribute to our walk.

Any interest or activity more important in your life than following Jesus can destroy you spiritually if you do not forsake it.

Think about this question: Why do we often see in the church the men and boys not being as serious spiritually as women?

Think of things men and boys get into; put two and two together.

5–6: Like any worldly activity must be done the proper way, so the Christian walk has to be God's way; we do not have the option to make Christianity whatever we like. It has to be God's way.

Verse 6: Occasion for a minister to demand compensation?

Better: Those who labor will partake of the fruit, no suggestion of material reward. Ministers look for proof texts to seek money!

Best: next verses indicate fruits include suffering for Christ's sake.

7–13: Suffering for Christ's sake

Result of suffering for Christ's sake is salvation with eternal glory.

Warning against denying Christ.

14–18: Warning against striving and debating, but applying oneself to be approved of God, rightly dividing the Word of truth

Doctrinal truth to be received, not debated.

There will be a time when the resurrection is past, but that time is still future, and when it comes, no one will be debating it.

19–21: How can there be good and bad vessels in the body?

There are both elect and non-elect in the body; a vessel of honor is used by God to bless and benefit the elect; but, He can use vessels of dishonor to reveal, expose, and confirm those who are not elect in their lost condition (verses 17–18).

22–26: Specific applications: flee youthful lust; follow what is right; avoid debating, but be ready to minister to sincere seekers

Verse 26: rather, "taken captive into his will," or "to do his will."

Chapter Three

1–9: Warning about end-time perils, but evil will be made manifest

10–13: The truth, suffering for it, deliverance, persecution as a way of life for follower of Christ; increase of evil in spite of gospel

14–17: Answer: continue in sound doctrine and study of the Word

Chapter Four

1–5: Importance of true Biblical preaching, to counter false "itching ears" ministries that would turn people to fables

6–8: Paul has finished his course, is ready to be offered (as martyr)

9–15: Asking Timothy to come to him; what has happened to Paul recently, along with instructions and warnings

Do not assume any other than Demas and Alexander left Paul.

Clear evidence of restoration of favor with Mark (John Mark).

16–18: Account of Paul's trial (unclear how far back this goes)

19–22: Closing comments, salutations, and benediction