

Paul's  
2nd Letter to  
**Timothy**



**Lesson 2-Living and Sharing the Truth of God!**

**Focus: 2 Timothy 2:1-26**

- **Doing a faithful work for the Master (v.1-5)**
  - (v.1,2) *The truths that we know as Christians are not for ourselves only. We are to teach and share them with others. Not only are we to teach others, but we are also to teach others how to teach these same Holy truths! Timothy was charged to commit to others, faithful people, the very same message of truth and to help them to learn how to share this message. The work of sharing the gospel is not a work for any one person to do, and we are to teach others how to do the same work. In the ancient book of Ezra, we can see that similar principles were followed (See Ezra 7:25; 8:16). Some had become “ready scribes” in the word of God and they who knew well these truths were to commit them and teach them to others who did not know well these truths! Jesus said to Peter, “When you are converted, strengthen your brothers” (Luke 22:32). Once we experience the gospel, then we have a responsibility to share it with others and to commit the task of sharing it to others as well!*
  - (v.3-5) *When doing the work of a soldier one must endure hardships to get the task done correctly and faithfully! A person must **remain focused** upon their special mission and work! They cannot settle down and take ease, thus disregarding their all important task, assignment and mission! If they simply took ease then they would fail in their mission. It is also true with Christian soldiers for God—gospel workers! To please the Lord, we must do His will lawfully, or rightfully, and **we must carry out a faithful work of sharing the gospel and not being sidetracked by the distractions of the world!***
- **Tasting first and sharing the blessings of God under the eyes of a faithful God (v.6-13)**
  - (v.6,7) *The person who is in charge of the fields must work patiently and diligently to prepare a beautiful harvest! When the fruit begins to grow, then he is the first one to taste of the delicious harvest! If he tastes it first, then he can be convinced of its goodness and will then be able to share it with many others and to make good sales on it! It is also true in the gospel that we must first be partakers of the heavenly blessings and goodness of God before we can be sharers of those blessings with others! **For the farmer to finally get the fruit to the market though, he sometimes must taste of some difficult or bad experiences along the way!** In the gospel work, because this world is evil, we can be sure that Satan will be sending his evil challenges along our way! Christ suffered persecution in this world, and He promised that we would too, yet we are to rejoice in Jesus for the sure heavenly rewards that are coming our way (See Matthew 5:10-12).*

- (v.8-13). Christ Jesus was raised from the dead! He first did and faithful work for God and He suffered even unto death by the hands of evil men. If they did it to Christ, they are sure to do so to His followers in this world—such is promised to come (2 Tim. 3:12). Yet, in the end, Christ was victorious over the grave! Therefore, we should not fear men who can only kill the body, but we should fear God who can take away even our soul (i.e. our eternal life) (**See Matthew 10:28**). **Paul was laboring diligently for the souls who were perishing outside of Christ!** For their sakes he was laboring, no matter what the cost would be to himself! That is what Christ Jesus did! Not foolishly, but wisely. Jesus' life was not snuffed out early, by some foolish encounter with those seeking to kill him, but, at the time appointed by God the Father, His life was finally taken, and for our sakes. The reward of such sacrificial labor is a wonderful blessing from God! (**See Mark 8:35**). To be "dead" with Christ is to be fully surrendered to God, not following selfishness, but following the will of God and living by His grace! (v.11, see Galatians 2:20).
- **We are to depart from sin and to proclaim the pure word of God (v.14-19)**
  - We are to ever keep focused on the Holy word of God! We are to live by it for it has an incredible sanctifying power through Jesus Christ to produce holiness within our hearts! (See John 17:17; Psalm 119:9-11).
  - We must study diligently and keep focused upon God's Holy word and His holy message!! We should know it and live it very well and carefully! (**See Joshua 1:8**; Deuteronomy 6:6-9). We are not to turn aside to foolish talk, which is not profitable, and which only increases more ungodliness! True Christians are to be very careful about how they use their tongue and about the kind of communication that comes from it! (See **James 1:26,27**; **Ephesians 4:29**). We must depart from sin and then honor the Lord Jesus Christ! **Some have spoken false things and untruths! Such things are evil and do not come from God!** No one should be pushing or even focusing upon what they know is not the truth, but rather is a falsehood!
- **A Pure and Useful servant (v.20-26)**
  - (v.20-23) In a large building you will have both the bad and the good. But, let the bad or evil be put away from our hearts, our minds, and our lives! And then remember that within a large church, there will be evil found among us, but let such be exposed and put out for what it truly is! Let us not allow lies to be undetected and deceiving others. **Flee youthful lusts and foolish talk! Only speak and live the pure truth of God!** If we seek the Lord earnestly and pursue His righteousness with great desire then Jesus say's we'll be filled (v.22, Matt. 5:6).
  - (v.24-26) *Finally, we are not to fight or strive with those who are in opposition to the truth or unknowingly pinned by false teachings! Let us rather pray for them that they may be healed! Do not badger people into a corner by being argumentative! Rather, pray for souls, and be meek and lowly in the face of those who are under the influence of false teachings! Pray for them to be set free and to see the truth of God for what it is! And to not be deceived by lies!*

*Question (s) for the Heart:*

**Will you seek to speak, to uncover through study, and to live the truth of God always? \_\_\_\_\_**