

The Second Letter
Of
St. Paul
To Timothy

Introduction

Authorship

- St. Paul (2 Tim 1:1)

Recipient

- St. Timothy the Bishop of Ephesus (1:2)

Date

- During second imprisonment (66–67)

Purpose

- To encourage Timothy to:
 - To stand strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus (2:1)
 - To commit to others what St. Paul had taught him (2:2,14)
 - To preach the Word! (4:1)
 - To endure hardship and afflictions (2:3; 4:5)
 - To fulfill his ministry as an evangelist (4:5)

Theme

- Fulfill your ministry (4:5)

Outline

- Chapter 1: Encouragement from a Faithful Apostle
- Chapter 2: Characteristics of a Faithful Bishop
- Chapter 3: Commands for a Faithful Bishop
- Chapter 4: The Hope of a Faithful Apostle

Greetings (2 Tim 1:1, 2)

- According to the promise of life: St. Paul's apostleship is in order to carry into effect this promise.
- This "promise of life in Christ" was needed to give Timothy strength amidst trials, and boldness to go to Rome, which was risky (2 Tim 1:8).

Greetings (2 Tim 1:1, 2)

- St. Paul instructs Timothy as his father
- St. Paul shows love and affection to his spiritual sons
- He also is praying for his spiritual sons
- He is asking for them: grace, mercy, and peace from God. All of us need these three gifts.

Encouragement to Persevere (2 Tim 1:3-7)

- From my forefathers: as my forefathers served Him.
- Although St. Paul was a Jew, but accepting Christ is the following of the hereditary faith.
- He is using this to encourage Timothy to stand firm in the faith that he received from his mother and grandmother.
- Is it right to leave our children to choose their faith?

Encouragement to Persevere (2 Tim 1:3-7)

- The cause of Paul feeling thankful is, not that he remembers Timothy unceasingly in his prayers, but for what Timothy is in faith (2 Tim 1:5)
- "As for me, far be it from me that I should sin against the Lord in ceasing to pray for you" (1 Sam 12:23)

Encouragement to Persevere (2 Tim 1:3-7)

- He desired to see him because:
 - Of Timothy's tears
 - In order to be filled with joy
 - The sincere faith in Timothy
- In order for the faith to dwell in the children, it has to dwell first in the parents (2 Tim 3:15).

Encouragement to Persevere (2 Tim 1:3-7)

- Because of what you inherited, be faithful and stir up the gift of God.
- The ordination is more than a blessing. With it comes responsibility and accountability.
- The ordination is a gift of God given through the laying on of the bishop's hand.

Encouragement to Persevere (2 Tim 1:3-7)

- In ordination, God does not give us the spirit of fear, weakness, and timidity but the spirit of power (Acts 1:8).
- Spirit of love moves the minister while speaking the truth with power, speaks it in love, too (Eph 4:15).
- Love casts out fear (1 John 4:18).
- **Sound Mind**: a duty to which a young man like Timothy especially needed to be exhorted to give up worldly entanglements, which as thorns choke the word.

The Shameless Confidence (2 Tim 1:8-12)

- Seeing that God has given us such a spirit, not that of fear, do not be ashamed of the testimony of God or His prisoner, St. Paul.
- Shame is the companion of fear.
- Many were ashamed of St. Paul, so he is encouraging Timothy not to be one of them.
- Partake in afflictions for the gospel according to the power of God that saved us (2 Tim 1:9).

The Shameless Confidence (2 Tim 1:8-12)

- Think not that you have to bear these afflictions by your own power; no, it is by the power of God. It was a greater exercise of power than His making the heaven, His persuading the world to embrace salvation [Chrysostom].
- The Father called us to live a holy life.

The Shameless Confidence (2 Tim 1:8-12)

- The having “saved us” in His eternal purpose of “grace, given us in Christ before the world began,” precedes his actual “calling” of us in due time with a call made effective to us by the Holy Spirit.
- This grace became manifest through the incarnation of the Son.

The Shameless Confidence (2 Tim 1:8-12)

- **Abolished death:** taken away the power from death.
- **Brought to light:** making visible by the Gospel what was before hidden in God's purpose.
- **Life:** of the Spirit, acting first on the soul here, about to act on the body also at the resurrection.
- **Immortality:** incorruptibility of the new life, not merely of the risen body.

The Shameless Confidence (2 Tim 1:8-12)

- He brings forward his own example in verses 11 and 12, as a pattern for Timothy, as:
 - A public preacher of the Gospel
 - Apostle or missionary from place to place
 - Teacher in private instructing His flock with patient perseverance

The Shameless Confidence

(2 Tim 1:8-12)

- Besides my active work as an apostle, I suffer even being a prisoner and I am not ashamed either because:
 - I know what a faithful, promise-keeping God He is.
 - He is able, in spite of so many foes around me, to keep that which I have committed unto Him, i.e. “my deposit”; the body, soul, and spirit, which I have deposited in God’s safe keeping

Keep Going

(2 Tim 1:13-18)

- In faith (beliefs) and love (behavior)
- We are able to keep the sound words in faith and love only by the Holy Spirit that is in the believers.
- **Asia**: all who are there now because they were ashamed of St. Paul when they were in Rome.
- A hint to Timothy, now in Asia, not to be like them, but to imitate rather Onesiphorus, and to come to him

Keep Going

(2 Tim 1:13-18)

- Phygellus and Hermogenes: specified perhaps, as being persons from whom such conduct could least be expected; or, as being well-known to Timothy, and spoken of before in conversations between him and St. Paul, when the latter was in Asia Minor.
- God blesses not only the righteous man himself, but all his household.

Keep Going

(2 Tim 1:13-18)

- St. Paul in the second, as in his first imprisonment, was bound by a chain to the soldier who guarded him.
- **Found me:** in the crowded city; Rome. So in turn “may he find mercy of the Lord in that day” when the whole universe shall be assembled.

Keep Going

(2 Tim 1:13-18)

- Why do we pray for the dead?
 - Biblical teaching
 - It is a communion of love (we pray for the saints)
 - Forgiveness of sins
 - Rest and repose to their souls

Conclusion

- What things does St. Paul tell Timothy not to be ashamed of?
- Why might he have been ashamed?
- What problems arise from being afraid of what people think of you?
- How might your spiritual maturity and fruitfulness be affected by such fears?
- What benefits can you receive by not being afraid of what people think of you?