

## 2 Timothy 1:1-18 **Hold fast to doctrine – Be not ashamed of the testimony**

### Paul's Apostleship

<sup>1</sup> Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God, according to the promise of life which is in Christ Jesus, <sup>2</sup> To Timothy, a beloved son:

Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

### Praise for Timothy's faithfulness

<sup>3</sup> I thank God, whom I serve with a pure conscience, as my forefathers did, as without ceasing I remember you in my prayers night and day, <sup>4</sup> greatly desiring to see you, being mindful of your tears, that I may be filled with joy, <sup>5</sup> when I call to remembrance the genuine faith that is in you, which dwelt first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice, and I am persuaded is in you also.

### Stir up the gift in you – We have power, love, and a sound mind by the Spirit of God

<sup>6</sup> Therefore I remind you to stir up the gift of God which is in you through the laying on of my hands. <sup>7</sup> For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.

### Be not ashamed of the Testimony of our Lord – Share in the sufferings for the Gospel

<sup>8</sup> Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, nor of me His prisoner, but share with me in the sufferings for the gospel according to the power of God, <sup>9</sup> who has saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace which was given to us in Christ Jesus before time began, <sup>10</sup> but has now been revealed by the appearing of our Savior Jesus Christ, who has abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel, <sup>11</sup> to which I was appointed a preacher, an apostle, and a teacher of the Gentiles. <sup>12</sup> For this reason I also suffer these things; nevertheless I am not ashamed, for I know whom I have believed and am persuaded that He is able to keep what I have committed to Him until that Day.

### Hold fast the pattern of sound words you heard from me

<sup>13</sup> Hold fast the pattern of sound words which you have heard from me, in faith and love which are in Christ Jesus. <sup>14</sup> That good thing which was committed to you, keep by the Holy Spirit who dwells in us.

### Deserted by those from Asia

<sup>15</sup> This you know, that all those in Asia have turned away from me, among whom are Phygellus and Hermogenes.

### Faithfulness of Onesiphorus

<sup>16</sup> The Lord grant mercy to the household of Onesiphorus, for he often refreshed me, and was not ashamed of my chain; <sup>17</sup> but when he arrived in Rome, he sought me out very zealously and found me. <sup>18</sup> The Lord grant to him that he may find mercy from the Lord in that Day--and you know very well how many ways he ministered to me at Ephesus.

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Facts Revealed:

### Paul's Apostleship [2 Timothy 1:1-2]

✚ Paul begins his letter with his usual identity of himself.

- ✧ An Apostle of Jesus Christ is one originally commissioned by Christ to preach the Gospel.
- ✧ Paul received his commission by the will of God. according to the promise of life.
- ✧ We are promised Eternal Life through faith in Jesus Christ. [John 3:14-16, 17:1-2, 6:23, Titus 1:1-2, 1 John 2:25, 5:11-13]
- ✠ Paul's address and greeting is a blessing:
  - ✧ Addressed to Timothy whom Paul views as a beloved son.
  - ✧ Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.
  - ✧ Timothy is a true son of Paul in the faith, because he was an early convert of Paul when on his first missionary journey Paul preached in Timothy's home town of Lystra. [Acts 14:1-20, 16:1-5]
  - ✧ Timothy was the son of a believing Jewess and his father was Greek. [Acts 9:1-3]

#### Praise for Timothy's faithfulness [2 Timothy 1:3-5]

- ✠ As a loving Spiritual father, Paul encourages Timothy by expressing his thankfulness toward God in his prayers for the fruit of faithfulness he sees in his spiritual son.
  - ✧ Paul reminds Timothy that he is following the zeal in service toward God of his forefathers, with a clear conscience of faithfulness.
  - ✧ Remembering the tears at their parting, Paul expresses a yearning desire to see Timothy again that he might be filled with joy.
  - ✧ Paul remembers the evidence of genuine faith in Timothy's grandmother Lois and his mother Eunice, and is persuaded the same genuine faith is in Timothy also.

#### Stir up the gift in you – We have power, love, and a sound mind by the Spirit of God [2 Timothy 1:6-7]

- ✠ Timothy is young and tends to be timid, so Paul encourages him that God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power, love, and a sound mind.
  - ✧ Therefore the good advise is to stir up the gift of God that is in him, indicating that the Spirit in us responds to our choice in exercising Spiritual gifts. [1 Corinthians 14:32]
  - ✧ The gift was imparted to Timothy through prayer and the laying on of Paul's hands and the hands of the eldership. [1 Timothy 4:14]

#### Be not ashamed of the Testimony of our Lord – Share in the sufferings for the Gospel [2 Timothy 1:8-12]

- ✠ Timothy, a young man left by Paul in Ephesus to establish the church leadership, was faced by the Jews who opposed the work and defamed Paul.
  - ✧ Aware of the pressure from the opposition, and the timidity of Timothy in his young age, Paul advised him to be courageous and not to be ashamed of the testimony of the Lord, nor of Paul who was in prison for preaching the Gospel message.
  - ✧ Paul then called on Timothy to share with him in the sufferings for the Gospel.
  - ✧ Our strength to stand firm is according to the power of God on whom we depend.
  - ✧ It is God Who has saved us and called us with a holy calling.
  - ✧ We are not called because of our works.
  - ✧ We are called according to God's purpose and grace, which was appointed for us in Christ Jesus before time began. The call to Salvation was established by God before creation began.
  - ✧ God's plan of Salvation was revealed by the appearing of our Savior Jesus Christ.
  - ✧ Jesus abolished death, and revealed life and immortality through the Gospel message.
  - ✧ Paul was appointed by Jesus to be a preacher, apostle, and teacher of the Gentiles of the Gospel message.
  - ✧ Because of that appointment, Paul was willing to suffer the things he endured throughout his ministry.

- ✧ Paul was not ashamed because, as he said, "I know whom I have believed and am persuaded that He is able to keep what I have committed to Him until that Day." [2 Timothy 1:12]
- ✧ It is the knowledge of the Gospel and the rewards that await the faithful on the Day of Judgment that enables us to stand fast in faith through whatever comes our way in this life. [Hebrews 12:1-2]

#### Hold fast the pattern of sound words you heard from me [2 Timothy 1:13-14]

- ✧ Of utmost importance is the advise to, "Hold fast to the sound words of the Gospel message as originally given by Paul and the other Apostles, beginning with Jesus.
- ✧ We stand firm in faith and love provided in Christ Jesus.
- ✧ That good thing (the Gospel message) which was committed to you, keep by the Holy Spirit who dwells in us. The enablement is from the Holy Spirit.
- ✧ The Holy Spirit will bring the things needed to our remembrance at the time needed. [Mark 13:11, Luke 12:11-12, John 14:26]

#### Deserted by those from Asia [2 Timothy 1:15]

- ✧ Paul in prison feels deserted by all from Asia who have accompanied him throughout his ministry and were with him in his imprisonment, but now have left him.

#### Faithfulness of Onesiphorus [2 Timothy 1:16-18]

- ✧ Paul specifically mentions Onesiphorus for commendation because of his ministry to Paul in Roman prison and the effort he expended in finding Paul.
- ✧ Timothy was acquainted with the helpful ministry of Onesiphorus when Paul was in Ephesus.
- ✧ The blessing mentioned is pertaining to an eternal reward from God in the day of Judgment and reward of the Saints.