

# 2 Timothy



# Summary : Paul's Pastoral Letters

Letter	From	To	Style	Theme
<b>1 Timothy</b>	Paul 5 <sup>th</sup> Mission Journey	<b>Timothy in Ephesus</b>	Official Orders	Proper Leadership, Ministry & Teaching
<b>Titus</b>	Paul 5 <sup>th</sup> Mission Journey	<b>Titus in Crete</b>	Official Orders	Godliness
<b>2 Timothy</b>	Paul Final Imprisonment (Rome)	<b>Timothy in Ephesus</b>	Personal Sharing	Perseverance

# Introduction *( first 2 verses )*



**DURING** : Paul's Final Imprisonment in Rome

**FROM** : Paul in Prison in Rome

**TO** : Timothy at Ephesus *(as in 1 Timothy)*

**DATE** : approx A.D. 64 or 67 *(31 years after Christ's death)*

**STYLE** : - Very Personal

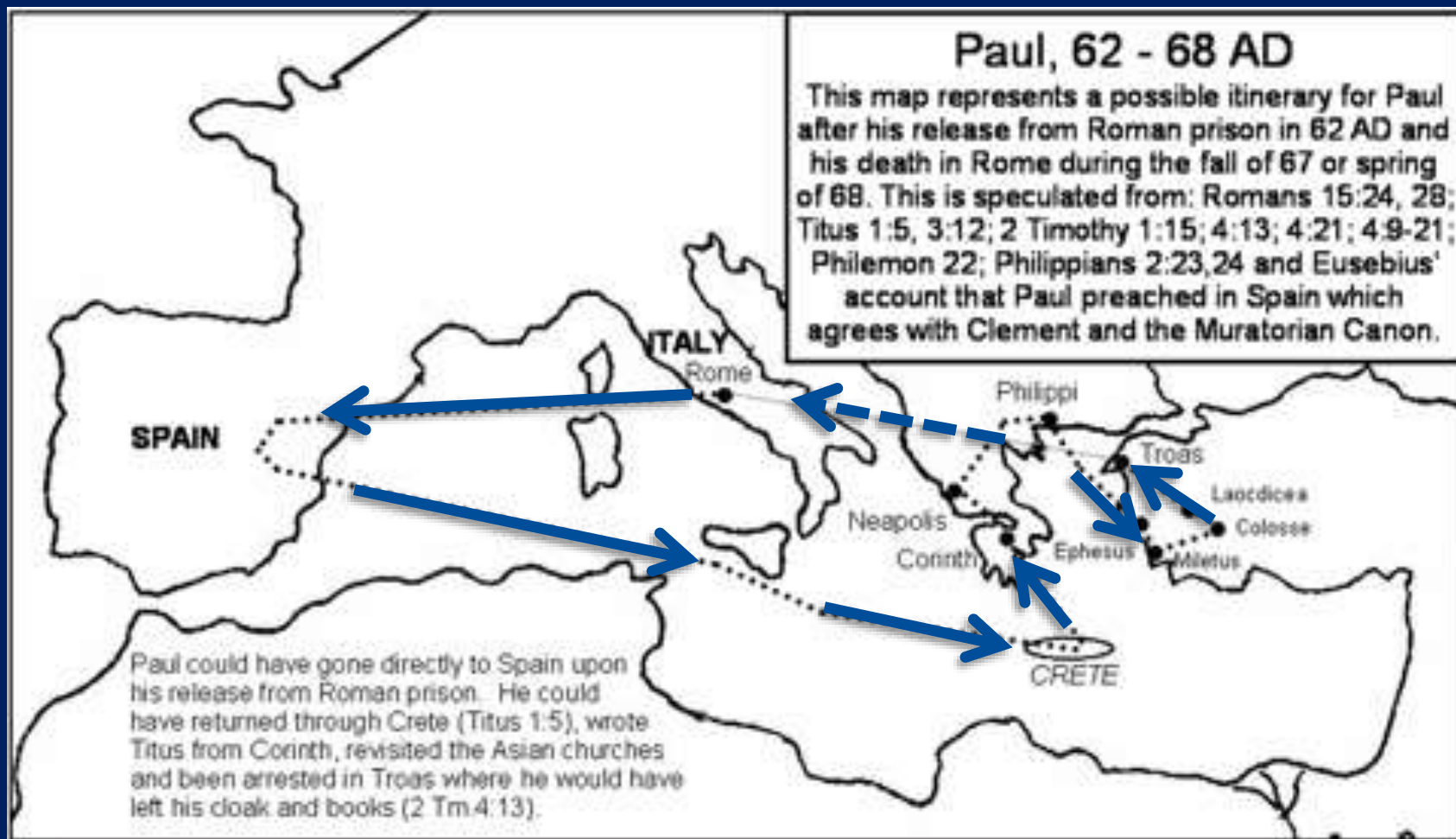
- From Aged Apostle to young co-worker

A.D. 62 = Paul released from Imprisonment in Rome

A.D 62 to 64 (or 67) = Paul's 5<sup>th</sup> Mission Journey

**A.D. 64 (or 67) = Paul Arrested : Imprisoned in Rome**

A.D. 64 (or 67-68) = Paul Executed : Beheaded



# Paul's Situation



- Paul on 5<sup>th</sup> mission journey
- Paul arrested suddenly by Roman Authorities when mass persecution under emperor Nero (exact place & date unclear)
- Paul taken to Rome – imprisoned in chains in cell (2 Tim.1:16-17,2:9)
- Deserted by co-workers + others left the faith (1:15, 2:18,4:10)
- 1<sup>st</sup> part of trial - Defended himself but no support (4:16)
- Awaiting Execution in near future – expecting to die soon (4:6)
- His final letter to Timothy + request him to come visit him
- [ Later : Beheaded - according to historical record ]

# Comparing

## Paul's 1<sup>st</sup> >> 2<sup>nd</sup> Imprisonment in Rome

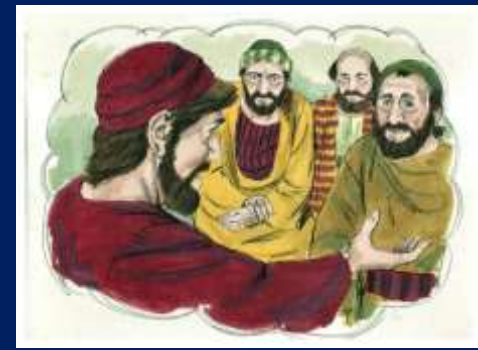
1 <sup>st</sup> Imprisonment	2 <sup>nd</sup> Imprisonment
Accused by the JEWS of HERESY & sedition	Accused by the ROMANS of sedition
GOOD living conditions in a rented house (Acts 28:30-31)	POOR living conditions in a cold dark cell
Many friends visited	Few friends visited
Had many opportunities to witness	Had few opportunities to witness
Expected FREEDOM (Phil. 1:24-26)	Expected EXECUTION (2 Tim. 4:6)

# From : Paul in Prison in Rome

## To : Timothy in Ephesus



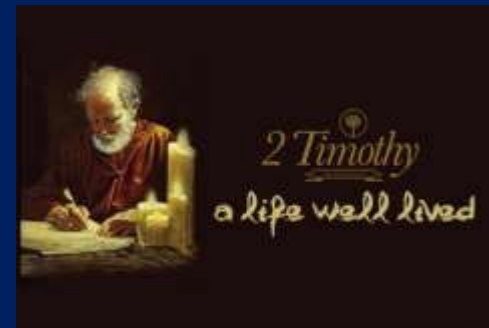
# Timothy



- One of Paul's most trusted co-workers
- Joined Paul onwards from 2<sup>nd</sup> mission journey
- Sent by Paul to deal with difficult problems / issues in Thessalonica, Corinth and now here in Ephesus.
- Sent to Ephesus – to Resolve problems of Jewish False Teaching + build up solid leadership
- Character (2 Tim.1:7) = young, timid, in need of encouragement.
- Received Prophecies + Gift + Calling from God (1 Tim.1:18 + 2 Tim.1:6)
- Paul believed in the work of God in Timothy to delegate to him this challenging work
- Final letter from Paul – encouraging him to persevere in his calling



# Summary



- Final letter
- Intensely Personal
- From Paul in the last months of his life before execution
- To Timothy – one of his most trusted co-missionary
- Urging Timothy to persevere in his ministry and calling just as Paul had since being saved
- Letter from Paul as one of the passing generation of pioneer missionaries – to Timothy as the next generation of missionaries

# Purpose

- **To Strengthen Timothy** for the arduous ministry ahead over next years, from Paul as he is ending his journey – urging to continue to persevere & stand firm for the Gospel
- **To Instruct Timothy** for the Ephesus church to persevere in leading + correct false teaching + ensure Truth of Scripture is taught
- **Final Letter** to a close friend
- **Request Timothy** to visit him, if he can make it before he is executed

**Theme =**

# Perseverance

- In - Fulfilling his calling + ministry
- In - Teaching Scripture + Godly Leading + Correct False Teaching
- Through – Persecution + Sufferings for the Gospel
- Following – Example of Paul who has Persevered + run the Race

# Structure

## Guard the Gospel

Paul's greeting  
Timothy's life  
God's treasure  
Our responsibility

CHAPTER  
1

## Suffer for the Gospel

Passing on the truth  
Illustrations of the truth  
 (soldier, athlete, farmer,  
 workman, vessel, servant)  
Suffering for the truth

CHAPTER  
2

## Endure for the Gospel

Last days  
Evil people  
Standing firm  
Biblical basis  
Spiritual examples

CHAPTER  
3

## Preach the Gospel

A solemn charge  
Reason for the charge  
Personal conclusion

CHAPTER  
4

<b>Perspective</b>	The past	The present	The future	
<b>Tone</b>	Gratitude	Compassion	Warning	Command
<b>Theme</b>	Paul's passing of the ministry torch to Timothy and encouraging him to stay faithful in the midst of hardship			
<b>Key Verses</b>	1:14	2:3	3:14	4:2
<b>Christ in 2 Timothy</b>	Jesus is the Judge of the living and the dead, who strengthens us in times of weakness and rescues us in times of danger (3:11; 4:1, 17).			

## Chapters

- Greeting + Thanksgiving
  1. Persevere in Guarding the Gospel
  2. Persevere in Suffering for the Gospel
  3. Persevere in Enduring for the Gospel
  4. Persevere in Preaching the Gospel

# Ch. 1. Greeting + Thanksgiving (1:1-7)



- **Same structure as all letters** – Introduction + Thanksgiving + Main Message + Final Greetings
- **Paul is a father in the Lord to Timothy** – mentoring, discipling & INTERCEDING for him . Very close bonds of fellowship (1:2-3)
- **Hopes Timothy** can come to see him before he is executed (1:4)
- **Call to Persevere USING** the Gifts + Ministry he has been given – ‘fan into flame’ (1:6-7)
- **Responds to Timothy’s TIMID** character & lack of confidence against such challenging walk in Ephesus (1:7)
- **By Reminding** Timothy that God has given us HIS SPIRIT for – Power + Love + Self Discipline (1:7)

## Ch. 1 = Key Verses



- “For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands.
- For the Spirit God gave us does not make us timid, but gives us power, love and self-discipline.”

(2 Timothy 1:6-7 NIV)

# Ch. 1. Persevere in Guarding the Gospel (1:8-18)

- **CHARACTER OF THE GOSPEL**

- It is the Power of God for salvation for all believers to receive eternal life (1:8-12)

- **RESPONSE TO THE GOSPEL**

- Therefore Never be ashamed (or turn away from) of the Gospel – following Paul's example (1:8-12)
- Whereas all fellow-workers in Asia have turned away from the Gospel faith
- Keep to the pattern (or creed / doctrine) of the Gospel teaching he received from Paul – don't compromise it (1:13).



## Ch. 1 = Key Verses



- *“So do not be ashamed of the testimony about our Lord or of me his prisoner. Rather, join with me in suffering for the gospel, by the power of God.*
- *He has saved us and called us to a holy life - not because of anything we have done but because of his own purpose and grace.”*

*(2 Timothy 1:8-9 NIV)*

## Ch. 2. Suffer for the Gospel

- Just as Paul has suffered for the Gospel which resulted in being imprisoned again – urging Timothy to also persevere in suffering for the Gospel
- *“Paul had a realistic view of Gospel ministry. He understood that the gospel was offensive to people and that it brings persecution. But he was more willing to endure those troubles” (Benware 1990: 260)*
  - > for the gospel to bring all people to be saved and have eternal life (2:10)



## 4 ANALOGIES (2:2-3-6)

- **SOLDIER** – willing to suffer hardship. Single minded focus on task – not be distracted. Aim to please commander who enlisted him (God)
- **ATHLETE** – play by the rules + play for the prize (eternal life + treasures in heaven)
- **FARMER** – work hard + look ahead confident of the harvest (souls saved & lives transformed)
- **HOUSEHOLD** – church like house + believers like vessels. Some valuable, some common. To become a vessel of value, of honour, of use for God – clean oneself from contamination of lust & false teaching – actively pursue righteousness, faith, love + peace



## Ch. 2 = Key Verses

- *“In a well-furnished kitchen there are not only crystal goblets and silver platters, but waste cans and compost buckets - some containers used to serve fine meals, others to take out the garbage.*
- *Become the kind of container God can use to present any and every kind of gift to his guests for their blessing.*
- *Run away from infantile indulgence. Run after mature righteousness--faith, love, peace--joining those who are in honest and serious prayer before God.”*

(2 Timothy 2:20-22 MSG)



# Ch. 3. Endure for the Gospel

## Because of Vigorous opposition

- Not temporary – permanent + increasing in last days  
- people's evil increasing, both in church & world
- *“In fact, everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted” (2 Timothy 3:12)*
- Just as Paul's example of persevere in gospel conduct & teaching through – suffering + persecution

## Because of Foundation of God's Word

- Because our foundations are on the inspired word of God – which equips us for every good work
- Because God's word is powerful + effective for teaching & training – for changing lives if we persevere for the Gospel

## Ch. 3 = Key Verses

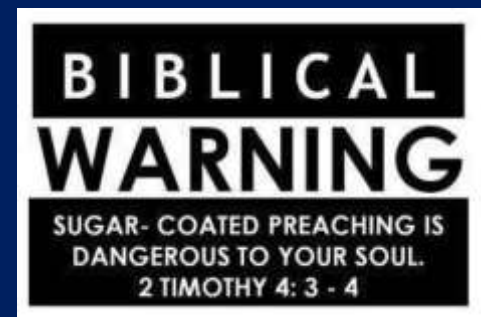
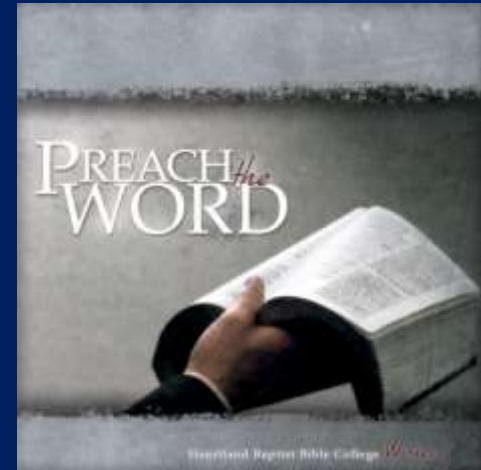
- *“All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.”*

*(2 Timothy 3:16-17 ESV)*



# Ch. 4. Persevere in Preaching the Gospel

- Since the Gospel message is God's inspired word –
- Preach always – on every occasion
  - whether convenient (in season)
  - or inconvenient & difficult (out of season)
- Use scripture to
  - teach, rebuke, correct, train + encourage



## Ch. 4 = Key Verses

- *“Preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, and exhort, with complete patience and teaching.*
- *For the time is coming when people will not endure sound teaching, but having itching ears they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own passions”*

*(2 Timothy 4:2-3 ESV)*





# Personal Messages

1. **Opposition + Persecution against the Gospel Message and turning away from Godly Living will be NORMAL**
2. **Persevere in your Faith through challenges + difficulties**
3. **Persevere using the calling + gifts God has given you**
4. **Persevere in the face of Suffering for Gospel Living + Message**
5. **Base yourself on the foundation of scripture – guided by the truths of the Gospel**
6. **Persevere in Preaching & Teaching the Gospel Message – whether well-received or difficult with much opposition**

# Recommended Books : References

1. Benware. 1990. *Survey of the New Testament*.
2. Berding & Williams. 2008. *What the New Testament Authors Really Cared About*
3. Tenney. 1985. *New Testament Survey*.
4. Zondervan. 1995. *The NIV Study Bible*.
5. Crossway. 2008. *ESV Study Bible*.

# Revision Questions

- What is the style of this letter ?
- Where was Timothy at this time ?
- In which part of Paul's life was this written ?
- What was Paul's situation now ?
- Why was Paul writing this letter ?
- What is the main theme of the letter ?
- What was Timothy urged to persevere in ?
- Who was Timothy to look to as an example of this ?