

SECOND TIMOTHY

Conversational Version

Salutation

1:1Paul, apostle of Christ^{Messiah} Jesus by God's will in regard to the life he promised in Christ Jesus, **2**to Timothy, my dear son. Grace, mercy, *and* peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

2 Tim 1:1-2

Stirring up Timothy's Gift

3As I remember you in my prayers day and night, I thank my ancestors' God that I serve with a good conscience. **4**I really want to see you again because I've been remembering your tears. **5**I remember your sincere faith, *a faith* your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice had first. I'm sure it's been in you, too, ever since. **6**That's why I'm reminding you to stir up the spiritual gift you have from the laying on of my hands. **7**God hasn't given us a timid mentality, but power, love, and self-discipline. **8**So don't be ashamed of the Lord's mystery or of me his prisoner; suffer with me for the good news as God gives you strength. **9**He has saved us and called us with a holy calling. What we can do ourselves doesn't define *that calling*. His purpose and grace define it, which he gave us in Christ Jesus before time began. **10**The coming of our Savior Christ Jesus now has revealed that purpose and grace. He destroyed death and brought life and immortality to light through the good news. **11**He's appointed me as a preacher, apostle, and teacher *of that good news*. **12**That's why I'm suffering what *I am*. But I'm not ashamed; I know who I've trusted, and I'm confident that he can keep what I entrusted to him till that day. **13**Hold onto the sound form of the message you've heard from me about the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. **14**By the Holy Spirit who lives in us, keep what he's entrusted *to you*.

2 Tim 1:3-14

Paul Abandoned in Rome

15Be aware that everybody in Asia has deserted me, including Phygelus and Hermogenes. **16**May the Lord show mercy to the family of Onesiphorus. He has cheered me up so many times and hasn't been ashamed of my chains. **17**When he got to Rome, he went all out to find me. **18**May the Lord show him mercy on *judgment* day. You know very well how much he ministered in Ephesus.

2 Tim 1:15-18

Provisions for Going Forward

2:1So, my son, you be strong in the grace that Christ Jesus *gives*. **2**What you've heard from me among many witnesses entrust to faithful men that can teach others. **3**Endure hardship with *me* like a good soldier of Christ Jesus. **4**A soldier doesn't get mixed up in the affairs of daily

life while he's a soldier. That way he can please his recruiter. ⁵An athlete doesn't win the garland unless he competes by the rules. ⁶A laboring farmer should be first to share in his crops. ⁷Think about what I'm saying; the Lord will help you understand.

2 Tim 2:1-7

⁸Remember Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, descendant of David according to the gospel I preach, ⁹that I endure hardship for—even to the point of being in chains like a criminal. But God's word is not in chains. ¹⁰So I endure everything for the ones he has chosen so they can obtain the salvation that Christ Jesus gives with endless glory. ¹¹Here's a reliable saying:

"If we've suffered with him, we'll live with him."

¹²If we endure, we'll reign with him.

If we deny him, he'll deny us.

*¹³If we're not faithful, he'll stay faithful
because he can't deny himself."*

2 Tim 2:8-13

Staying on Course

¹⁴Remind the saints of that, and solemnly charge them in front of God not to argue about words. That doesn't accomplish anything, and it ruins people that listen to it. ¹⁵Be diligent about presenting yourself to God as a worker that's not ashamed, who correctly interprets the truth that's in the message. ¹⁶Avoid worldly, foolish talk; it'll lead to more ungodliness ¹⁷and eat away like gangrene. Hymenaeus and Philetus are like that; ¹⁸they've wandered off from the truth and say the resurrection has already happened. They're overturning the faith of some. ¹⁹But, God's foundation stands firm with this seal: "**The LORD knows who's his**" [Num 16:5]; and "*Everybody that commits themselves to the LORD must quit sinning*" [Num 16:26]. ²⁰A big house has gold and silver containers, but wood and clay ones too. ²¹If people keep themselves clean *from foolish worldly ideas*, they'll serve as containers for the Householder's honorable uses—set aside for good uses. ²²Run away from youthful desires and run after goodness, faith, love, and peace with those who call on the Lord with a pure heart. ²³Stay away from foolish, ignorant speculation, because you know it produces conflict. ²⁴The Lord's servant must not quarrel; he must be kind toward everyone, able to teach, not reacting when he's wronged. ²⁵*He needs to correct gently those who oppose the truth*, because God may allow them to change to *knowing* the truth ²⁶and to come to their senses out of the devil's trap, who's held them captive under his will.

2 Tim 2:14-26

Future Apostasy

^{3:1}Be aware that difficult times will come later on. ²People will be selfish, money-loving, proud and arrogant, slanderous, disobedient to parents, ungrateful, unholy, ³without natural affection, heartless, slanderous gossips, without self-control, vicious, not loving what's good, ⁴treacherous, reckless, conceited, loving pleasure more than God. ⁵They'll have the trappings of religion but deny its power. Avoid people like that. ⁶They're the kind that sneak into families and

seduce morally weak women that are weighed down with sins and lured on by various desires,
⁷*who^{mas} are* always learning but never able to find the truth. ⁸Those who oppose the truth are like Jannes and Jambres, who opposed Moses. They're corrupt in mind; they're rejected as far as the faith is concerned. ⁹They won't get anywhere because their foolishness will be obvious to everybody just like the foolishness of those *men* was.

2 Tim 3:1-9

Expecting Persecution

¹⁰But you have followed my teaching, manner of living, faith, endurance, love, perseverance, ¹¹persecutions, and sufferings like what happened to me in Antioch, Iconium, and Lystra. I bore up under such persecutions, and the Lord delivered me from them. ¹²Everybody that wants to live godly in Christ Jesus will face persecution. ¹³Evil people and imposters will get worse and worse, deceiving and being deceived. ¹⁴But you stick with what you've learned and become confident about it; you know where you learned it. ¹⁵From the time you were a baby, you knew the holy scriptures, which can make you wise about salvation by trust in Christ Jesus. ¹⁶All scripture *is* breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, refuting error, correcting faults, and training in goodness. ¹⁷That's how God's servant can be qualified and equipped for every good thing he needs to do.

2 Tim 3:10-17

Maintaining Timothy's Ministry

⁴¹I solemnly charge *you* in front of God and Christ Jesus—who will judge the living and the dead—and by his appearing and kingdom: ²proclaim the message. Be ready in normal or unusual times. Refute, reprimand, encourage patiently with teaching. ³The time will come when *people* won't pay attention to sound teaching. They'll draw teachers to themselves that reinforce their own desires and say what they want to hear. ⁴They'll wander off from the true message and turn to myths. ⁵You be self-controlled, suffer hardship, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.

2 Tim 4:1-5

Paul's Near Prospect of Death

⁶I'm already being poured out like a drink offering. The time for me to depart. ⁷I've fought a good fight, I've finished the course, I've kept the faith. ⁸From now on, a crown for righteousness waits for me. The Lord, the just Judge, will give it to me that day, and not just to me, but to everybody that has loved his coming.

2 Tim 4:6-8

Urgent Call for Timothy's Coming

⁹Do your best to get here soon. ¹⁰Demas has deserted me and gone to Thessalonica—he loved the present age. Crescens *went* to Galatia; Titus to Dalmatia. ¹¹Luke's the only one here. Pick up Mark and bring him with you; I can use him for ministry. ¹²I sent Tychicus to Ephesus. ¹³When you come, bring the coat I left in Troas with Carpus, and get the scrolls, especially the

parchments. ¹⁴Alexander, the precious-metal worker, did me a lot of harm. The Lord will repay him accordingly. ¹⁵You be careful around him, too, because he really opposed our message.

2 Tim 4:9-15

¹⁶At my first hearing, nobody came to my defense. May *the Lord* not hold it against them. ¹⁷But, the Lord stood by me and strengthened me so I could fully deliver the proclamation for the Gentiles to hear. *He* delivered me out of the lion's mouth. ¹⁸He'll deliver me from every evil deed and save me into his heavenly kingdom. To him *be* glory forevermore. Amen.

2 Tim 4:16-18

Final Greetings

¹⁹Greet Prisca and Aquila, and the family of Onesiphorus. ²⁰Erastus stayed in Corinth, and I left Trophimus in Miletus sick. ²¹Do your best to get here before winter. Eubulus, Pudens, Linus, Claudia, and all the believers send their greetings. ²²The Lord *be* with your spirit.

Grace *be* with you.

2 Tim 4:19-22

Translator: Virgil Warren,

christir.org