

## SECOND TIMOTHY

### Conversational Version

#### Salutation

**1:**<sup>1</sup>Paul, apostle of Christ<sup>Messiah</sup> Jesus by God's will in regard to the life he promised in Christ Jesus, <sup>2</sup>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

<sup>3</sup>As I remember you in my prayers day and night, I thank my ancestors' God that I serve with a good conscience. <sup>4</sup>I really want to see you again because I've been remembering your tears. <sup>5</sup>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. <sup>6</sup>That's why I'm reminding you to stir up the spiritual gift you have from the laying on of my hands. <sup>7</sup>God hasn't given us a timid mentality, but power, love, and self-discipline. <sup>8</sup>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. <sup>9</sup>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. <sup>10</sup>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. <sup>11</sup>He's appointed me as a preacher, apostle, and teacher *of that good news*. <sup>12</sup>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. <sup>13</sup>Hold onto the sound form of the message you've heard from me about the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. <sup>14</sup>By the Holy Spirit who lives in us, keep what he's entrusted *to you*. **2 Tim 1:3-14**

#### Paul Abandoned in Rome

<sup>15</sup>Be aware that everybody in Asia has deserted me, including Phygelus and Hermogenes. <sup>16</sup>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. <sup>17</sup>When he got to Rome, he went all out to find me. <sup>18</sup>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:**<sup>1</sup>So, my son, you be strong in the grace that Christ Jesus *gives*. <sup>2</sup>What you've heard from me among many witnesses entrust to faithful men that can teach others. <sup>3</sup>Endure hardship with *me* like a good soldier of Christ Jesus. <sup>4</sup>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. <sup>5</sup>An athlete doesn't win the garland unless he competes by the rules. <sup>6</sup>A laboring farmer should be first to share in his crops. <sup>7</sup>Think about what I'm saying; the Lord will help you understand. **2 Tim 2:1-7**

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

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

<sup>12</sup>*If we endure, we'll reign with him.*

*If we deny him, he'll deny us.*

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

**2 Tim 2:8-13**

### **Staying on Course**

<sup>14</sup>Remind *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. <sup>15</sup>Be diligent about presenting yourself to God as a worker that's not ashamed, who correctly interprets the truth that's in the message. <sup>16</sup>Avoid worldly, foolish talk; it'll lead to more ungodliness <sup>17</sup>and eat away like gangrene. Hymenaeus and Philetus are like that; <sup>18</sup>they've wandered off from the truth and say the resurrection has already happened. They're overturning the faith of some. <sup>19</sup>But, 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]. <sup>20</sup>A big house has gold and silver containers, but wood and clay ones too. <sup>21</sup>If people keep themselves clean *from foolish worldly ideas*, they'll serve as containers for the Householder's honorable uses—set aside for good uses. <sup>22</sup>Run away from youthful desires and run after goodness, faith, love, and peace with those who call on the Lord with a pure heart. <sup>23</sup>Stay away from foolish, ignorant speculation, because you know it produces conflict. <sup>24</sup>The Lord's servant must not quarrel; he must be kind toward everyone, able to teach, not reacting when he's wronged. <sup>25</sup>*He needs to* correct gently those who oppose *the truth*, because God may allow them to change to *knowing* the truth <sup>26</sup>and 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**

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

seduce morally weak women that are weighed down with sins and lured on by various desires, <sup>7</sup>*who<sup>mas</sup> are* always learning but never able to find the truth. <sup>8</sup>Those 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. <sup>9</sup>They 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

<sup>10</sup>But you have followed my teaching, manner of living, faith, endurance, love, perseverance, <sup>11</sup>persecutions, 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. <sup>12</sup>Everybody that wants to live godly in Christ Jesus will face persecution. <sup>13</sup>Evil people and imposters will get worse and worse, deceiving and being deceived. <sup>14</sup>But you stick with what you've learned and become confident about it; you know where you learned it. <sup>15</sup>From the time you were a baby, you knew the holy scriptures, which can make you wise about salvation by trust in Christ Jesus. <sup>16</sup>All scripture *is* breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, refuting error, correcting faults, and training in goodness. <sup>17</sup>That'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

<sup>4</sup><sup>1</sup>I solemnly charge *you* in front of God and Christ Jesus—who will judge the living and the dead—and by his appearing and kingdom: <sup>2</sup>proclaim the message. Be ready in normal or unusual times. Refute, reprimand, encourage patiently with teaching. <sup>3</sup>The 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. <sup>4</sup>They'll wander off from the true message and turn to myths. <sup>5</sup>You 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

<sup>6</sup>I'm already being poured out like a drink offering. The time for me to depart. <sup>7</sup>I've fought a good fight, I've finished the course, I've kept the faith. <sup>8</sup>From 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

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

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

**2 Tim 4:9-15**

<sup>16</sup>At my first hearing, nobody came to my defense. May *the Lord* not hold it against them. <sup>17</sup>But, 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. <sup>18</sup>He'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

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

Grace *be* with you.

**2 Tim 4:19-22**

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