**CHAPTER 2**

*He exhorts him to diligence in his office, and patience in suffering. The danger of the delusions of heretics.*

**1** Thou therefore, my son, be strong in the grace which is in Christ Jesus:

**2** And the things which thou hast heard of me by many witnesses, the same commend to faithful men, who shall be fit to teach others also.

**3** Labour as a good soldier of Christ Jesus.

**4** No man, being a soldier to God, entangleth himself with secular businesses; that he may please him to whom he hath engaged himself.

**5** For he also that striveth for the mastery, is not crowned, except he strive lawfully.

**6** The husbandman, that laboureth, must first partake of the fruits.

**7** Understand what I say: for the Lord will give thee in all things understanding.

**8** Be mindful that the Lord Jesus Christ is risen again from the dead, of the seed of David, according to my gospel.

**9** Wherein I labour even unto bands, as an evildoer; but the word of God is not bound.

**10** Therefore I endure all things for the sake of the elect, that they also may obtain the salvation, which is in Christ Jesus, with heavenly glory.

**11** A faithful saying: for if we be dead with him, we shall live also with him.

**12** If we suffer, we shall also reign with him. If we deny him, he will also deny us.

**13** If we believe not, he continueth faithful, he can not deny himself.

**14** Of these things put them in mind, charging them before the Lord. Contend not in words, for it is to no profit, but to the subverting of the hearers.

**15** Carefully study to present thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly handling the word of truth.

**16** But shun profane and vain babblings: for they grow much towards ungodliness.

**17** And their speech spreadeth like a canker: of whom are Hymeneus and Philetus:

**18** Who have erred from the truth, saying, that the resurrection is past already, and have subverted the faith of some.

**19** But the sure foundation of God standeth firm, having this seal: the Lord knoweth who are his; and let every one depart from iniquity who nameth the name of the Lord.

**20** But in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and of silver, but also of wood and of earth: and some indeed unto honour, but some unto dishonour.

**21** If any man therefore shall cleanse himself from these, he shall be a vessel unto honour, sanctified and profitable to the Lord, prepared unto every good work.

**22** But flee thou youthful desires, and pursue justice, faith, charity, and peace, with them that call on the Lord out of a pure heart.

**23** And avoid foolish and unlearned questions, knowing that they beget strifes.

**24** But the servant of the Lord must not wrangle: but be mild towards all men, apt to teach, patient,

**25** With modesty admonishing them that resist the truth: if peradventure God may give them repentance to know the truth,

**26** And they may recover themselves from the snares of the devil, by whom they are held captive at his will.