

THE SECOND EPISTLE OF PAUL THE APOSTLE TO

1 1]

TIMOTHY.

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WRITER. The Apostle Paul (1. 1).

Date. This touching letter was written by Paul to his "dearly beloved son" shortly before his martyrdom (4. 6-8), and contains the last words of the great apostle which inspiration has preserved.

Theme. Second Timothy (in common with Second Peter, Jude, and Second and Third John) has to do with the personal walk and testimony of a true servant of Christ in a day of apostasy and declension. The key-phrases are, "All they which are in Asia be turned away from me" (1. 15); and, "A good soldier of Jesus Christ" (2. 3). The Asian churches had not disbanded, nor ceased to call themselves Christian, but they had turned away from the doctrines of grace distinctively revealed through the Apostle Paul (see Introduction, p. 1189). This was the proof that already the apostasy had set in in its first form, legalism.

The natural divisions are four: I. The Apostle's greeting, 1. 1-18. II. The pathway of an approved servant in a day of apostasy, 2. 1-26. III. Apostasy and the Word, 3. 1-17. IV. A faithful servant and his faithful Lord, 4. 1-22.

CHAPTER 1.

Part I. The Apostolic greeting.

PAUL, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God, according to the promise of life which is in Christ Jesus,

2 To Timothy, my dearly beloved son: Grace, mercy, and peace, from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

3 I thank God, whom I serve from my forefathers with pure conscience, that without ceasing I have remembrance of thee in my prayers night and day;

4 Greatly desiring to see thee, being mindful of thy tears, that I may be filled with joy;

5 When I call to remembrance the unfeigned faith that is in thee, which dwelt first in thy grandmother Lois, and thy mother Eunice; and I am persuaded that in thee also.

6 Wherefore I put thee in remembrance that thou stir up the gift of God, which is in thee by the putting on of my hands.

7 For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.

8 Be not thou therefore ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, nor

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- a Tit. 1. 2.
- b 1 Tim. 1. 2.
- c child.
- d Acts 23. 1.
- e Heb. 13. 18.
- f 2 Tim. 4. 9, 21.
- g 1 Tim. 4. 6.
- h Acts 16. 1.
- i 1 Tim. 4. 14.
- j Rom. 8. 15; 1 John 4. 18.
- k Lk. 24. 49.
- l Col. 1. 24.
- m Rom. 1. 16, note.
- n Grace (in salu.).
- Tit. 2. 11. (Rom. 3. 24; John 1. 17.)
- o i. e. ages.
- p Rom. 1. 16, note.
- q Life (eternal).
- Tit. 1. 2. (Mt. 7. 14; Rev. 22. 19.)
- r incorruptibility.
- s Gospel. vs. 8, 10; 2 Tim. 2. 8. (Gen. 12. 1-3; Rev. 14. 6.)
- t Rom. 1. 16.
- u Assurance.
- 2 Tim. 4. 8, 18. (Isa. 32. 17; Jude 1.)
- v Faith. Heb. 4. 2, 3, 10, 22. (Gen. 3. 20; Heb. 11. 39.)
- w pattern, or, outline.
- z 1 Tim. 6. 3.
- aa Holy Spirit. vs. 7, 14; Tit. 3. 5. (Mt. 1. 18; Acts 2. 4.)
- ab Acts 19. 10.
- ac 2 Tim. 4. 10, 16.

of me his prisoner: but be thou partaker of the afflictions of the gospel according to the power of God;

9 Who hath saved us, and called us with an holy calling, not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began,

10 But is now made manifest by the appearing of our Saviour Jesus Christ, who hath abolished death, and hath brought life and immortality to light through the gospel:

11 Whereunto I am appointed a preacher, and an apostle, and a teacher of the Gentiles.

12 For the which cause 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 that which I have committed unto him against that day.

13 Hold fast the form of sound words, which thou hast heard of me, in faith and love which is in Christ Jesus.

14 That good thing which was committed unto thee keep by the Holy Ghost which dwelleth in us.

15 This thou knowest, that all they which are in Asia be turned away from me; of whom are Phygellus and Hermogenes.

1 The believer's resources in a day of general declension and apostasy are: (1) Faith (1. 5); (2) the Spirit (1. 6, 7); (3) the word of God (1. 13; 3. 1-17; 4. 3, 4); (4) the grace of Christ (2. 1); (5) separation from vessels unto dishonour (2. 4, 20, 21); (6) the Lord's sure reward (4. 7, 8); (7) the Lord's faithfulness and power (2. 13, 19).

16 The Lord give mercy unto the house of Onesiphorus; <sup>a</sup>for he oft refreshed me, and was not ashamed of my <sup>b</sup>chain:

17 But, when he was in Rome, he sought me out very diligently, and found me.

18 The Lord grant unto him that he may find mercy of the Lord <sup>in</sup> that day: and in how many things he <sup>d</sup>ministered unto me at Ephesus, thou knowest very well.

## CHAPTER 2.

*Part II. The path of a "good soldier" in the time of apostasy.*

**T**HOU therefore, my <sup>e</sup>son, be strong in the <sup>f</sup>grace that is in Christ Jesus.

2 And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same <sup>g</sup>commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also.

3 Thou therefore <sup>h</sup>endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ.

4 No man that <sup>i</sup>warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of *this* life; that he may please him who hath <sup>j</sup>chosen him to be a soldier.

5 And if a man also strive for masteries, <sup>k</sup>yet is he not crowned, except he strive lawfully.

6 The husbandman <sup>l</sup>that labour-eth must be first partaker of the fruits.

7 Consider what I say; and <sup>m</sup>the Lord give thee understanding in all things.

8 Remember that <sup>n</sup>Jesus Christ of the seed of David was raised from the dead according to my <sup>o</sup>gospel:

9 Wherein I suffer trouble, as an evil doer, <sup>p</sup>even unto <sup>q</sup>bonds; but the word of God is not bound.

10 Therefore I endure all things for the <sup>r</sup>elect's sakes, that they may also obtain the <sup>s</sup>salvation which is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory.

11 *It is a faithful saying:* For if we <sup>t</sup>'be dead with *him*, we shall also live with *him*:

12 If we suffer, we shall also reign with *him*: if we <sup>u</sup>deny *him*, he also will deny us:

13 If we <sup>v</sup>believe not, <sup>w</sup>yet he abideth faithful: he <sup>x</sup>cannot deny himself.

14 Of these things <sup>y</sup>put *them* in

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a 2 Tim. 4. 19.  
b Acts 28. 20.  
c Mt. 25. 34.  
d Heb. 6. 10.  
e child.  
f Grace (imparted). Heb. 4. 16. (Rom. 6. 1; 2 Pet. 3. 18.)  
g 1 Tim. 1. 18.  
h 2 Tim. 4. 5.  
i goeth as a soldier. 1 Cor. 9. 25, 26.  
j enlisted.  
k must labour, before partaking of the fruits.  
l Prov. 2. 6.  
m Rom. 1. 3, 4.  
n Gospel. Phm. 13. (Gen. 12. 1-3; Rev. 14. 6.)  
o Eph. 6. 20.  
p Election (corporate). Tit. 1. 1. (Deut. 7. 6; 1 Pet. 1. 2.)  
q Rom. 1. 16, note.  
r have died. s Mt. 10. 33.  
t are unfaithful.  
u Num. 23. 19.  
v 2 Pet. 1. 13.  
w Tit. 3. 9, 10.  
x 2 Pet. 1. 10.  
y Mt. 13. 52.  
z 1 Tim. 6. 21.  
a 1 Cor. 15. 12.  
b Resurrection. Heb. 11. 19. (Job 19. 25; 1 Cor. 15. 52.)  
c Prov. 10. 25.  
d Jehovah. Num. 16. 5.  
e the Lord.  
f Rom. 9. 21.  
g Separation. vs. 19, 21; Heb. 11. 24, 25. (Gen. 12. 1; 2 Cor. 6. 14-17.)  
h 2 Tim. 3. 17.  
i 1 John 3. 7, note.  
j love.  
k v. 16.  
l Or, for bearing.  
m Gal. 6. 1.  
n Repentance. Heb. 6. 1, 6. (Mt. 3. 2; Acts 17. 30.)  
o Satan. Heb. 2. 14. (Gen. 3. 1; Rev. 20. 10.)  
p 1 Tim. 4. 1; 2 Pet. 3. 3;  
1 John 2. 18; Jude 17, 18.

remembrance, charging *them* before the Lord that they <sup>w</sup>strive not about words to no profit, *but* to the subverting of the hearers.

15 <sup>x</sup>Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, <sup>y</sup>rightly dividing the word of truth.

16 But shun profane and vain babblings: for they will increase unto more ungodliness.

17 And their word will eat as doth a canker: of whom is Hymenæus and Philetus;

18 Who concerning the truth have <sup>z</sup>erred, <sup>a</sup>saying that the <sup>b</sup>resurrection is past already; and overthrow the faith of some.

19 Nevertheless the <sup>c</sup>foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, The <sup>d</sup>Lord knoweth them that are his. And, Let every one that nameth the name of <sup>e</sup>Christ depart from iniquity.

20 But in a great house there are not only <sup>f</sup>vessels of gold and of silver, but also of wood and of earth; and some to honour, and some to dishonour.

21 If a man therefore <sup>g</sup>purge himself from these, he shall be a vessel unto honour, sanctified, and meet for the master's use, *and* <sup>h</sup>prepared unto every good work.

22 Flee also youthful lusts: but follow <sup>i</sup>righteousness, faith, <sup>j</sup>charity, peace, with them that call on the Lord out of a pure heart.

23 But foolish and unlearned <sup>k</sup>questions avoid, knowing that they do gender strifes.

24 And the servant of the Lord must not strive; but be gentle unto all <sup>l</sup>men, apt to teach, <sup>m</sup>patient,

25 In <sup>n</sup>meekness instructing those that oppose themselves; if God peradventure will give them <sup>o</sup>repentance to the acknowledging of the truth;

26 And *that* they may recover themselves out of the snare of the <sup>p</sup>devil, who are taken captive by him at his will.

## CHAPTER 3.

*Part III. The apostasy predicted: the believer's resource—the Scriptures.*

**T**HIS <sup>1</sup>know also, <sup>2</sup>that in the last days perilous times shall come.

<sup>1</sup> Apostasy, Summary: Apostasy, "falling away," is the act of professed Christians who deliberately reject revealed truth (1) as to the deity of Jesus Christ, and (2) redemption through His atoning and redeeming sacrifice (1 John 4. 1-3; Phil.

2 <sup>a</sup>For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy,

3 Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good,

4 <sup>b</sup>Traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God;

5 <sup>c</sup>Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away.

6 For of this sort <sup>d</sup>are they which creep into houses, and lead captive silly women laden with <sup>e</sup>sins, led away with divers lusts,

7 Ever learning, and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth.

8 Now as Jannes and <sup>f</sup>Jambres withstood Moses, so do these also resist the truth: <sup>g</sup>men of corrupt minds, <sup>h</sup>reprobate concerning the faith.

9 But they shall proceed no further: for their folly shall be manifest unto all *men*, as their's also was.

10 But thou hast fully known my doctrine, manner of life, purpose, faith, longsuffering, <sup>i</sup>charity, patience,

11 Persecutions, afflictions, which came unto me at <sup>j</sup>Antioch, at <sup>k</sup>Iconium, at Lystra; what persecutions I endured: but out of *them* all the Lord delivered me.

12 Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution.

13 But evil men and <sup>l</sup>seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving, and being deceived.

14 But continue thou in the things which thou hast learned and hast been assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned *them*;

15 And that from a child thou hast known the <sup>m</sup>holy <sup>n</sup>scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.

16 <sup>o</sup>All scripture *is* given by inspiration of God, and *is* profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correc-

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<sup>a</sup> Rom. 1. 29, 31.<sup>b</sup> 2 Pet. 2. 10.<sup>c</sup> Tit. 1. 16.<sup>d</sup> Tit. 1. 11.<sup>e</sup> Sin. Rom. 3.23, *note*.<sup>f</sup> Ex. 7. 11, 12,

22; 8. 7; 9. 11.

<sup>g</sup> 1 Tim. 6. 5.<sup>h</sup> *Apostasy.*

vs. 1-8. (Lk.

18. 8.)

<sup>i</sup> *Love.*<sup>j</sup> Acts 13. 45, 50.<sup>k</sup> Acts 14. 5, 6,

19.

<sup>l</sup> *jugling**impostors.*<sup>m</sup> *Sanctify,**holy (things)*

(N. T.). Heb.

9. 12.

(Mt. 4. 5;

Rev. 22. 11.)

<sup>n</sup> Rom. 1. 16,*note.*<sup>o</sup> *Inspiration.*

1 Pet. 1. 10-12,

25. (Ex. 4. 15;

Rev. 22. 19.)

<sup>p</sup> 1 John 3. 7,*note.*<sup>q</sup> *complete.*

See Mt. 5.

48, *note.*<sup>r</sup> *Judgments*

(the seven).

Heb. 9. 27.

(2 Sam. 7. 14;

Rev. 22. 12.)

<sup>s</sup> Tit. 2. 15.<sup>t</sup> *Apostasy.*

vs. 3, 4;

Heb. 6. 4, 8.

(Lk. 18. 8;

2 Tim. 3. 1-8.)

<sup>u</sup> 2 Tim. 2. 3.<sup>v</sup> 1 Tim. 4.

12, 15.

<sup>w</sup> Phil. 1. 23;

2 Pet. 1. 14.

<sup>x</sup> 1 Tim. 6. 12.<sup>y</sup> *the.*<sup>z</sup> *Assurance.*

vs. 8, 18;

Heb. 6. 11.

(Isa. 32. 17;

Jude 1.)

<sup>a</sup> *Rewards.*

Heb. 11. 6.

(Dan. 12. 3;

1 Cor. 3. 14.)

<sup>b</sup> 1 John 3. 7,*note.*<sup>c</sup> 1 Cor. 2. 9.<sup>d</sup> Cf. Col. 4. 14;

Phm. 24.

<sup>e</sup> *age.*<sup>f</sup> Tit. 3. 12.

tion, for instruction in <sup>p</sup>righteousness:

17 That the man of God may be <sup>q</sup>perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.

## CHAPTER 4.

## Part IV. A faithful servant and his faithful Lord.

**I** CHARGE *thee* therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall <sup>r</sup>judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom;

2 Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; <sup>s</sup>reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine.

3 For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears;

4 <sup>t</sup>And they shall turn away *their* ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables.

5 But watch thou in all <sup>u</sup>things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, make <sup>v</sup>full proof of thy ministry.

6 For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my <sup>w</sup>departure is at hand.

7 I have <sup>x</sup>fought <sup>y</sup>a good fight, I have finished *my* course, I have kept the faith:

8 Henceforth there is <sup>z</sup>laid up for me a <sup>a</sup>crown of <sup>b</sup>righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give to me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all <sup>c</sup>them also that love his appearing.

9 Do thy diligence to come shortly unto me:

10 For <sup>d</sup>Demas hath forsaken me, having loved this present <sup>e</sup>world, and is departed unto Thessalonica; Crescens to Galatia, Titus unto Dalmatia.

11 Only Luke is with me. Take Mark, and bring him with thee: for he is profitable to me for the ministry.

12 And <sup>f</sup>Tychicus have I sent to Ephesus.

3. 18; 2 Pet. 2. 1). Apostasy differs therefore from error concerning truth, which may be the result of ignorance (Acts 19. 1 6), or heresy, which may be due to the snare of Satan (2 Tim. 2. 25, 26), both of which may consist with true faith. The apostate is perfectly described in 2 Tim. 4. 3, 4. Apostates depart from the faith, but not from the outward profession of Christianity (3. 5). Apostate teachers are described in 2 Tim. 4. 3; 2 Pet. 2. 1-19; Jude 4, 8, 11-13, 16. Apostasy in the church, as in Israel (Isa. 1. 5, 6; 5. 5-7), is irremediable, and awaits judgment (2 Thes. 2. 10-12; 2 Pet. 2. 17, 21; Jude 11-15; Rev. 3. 14-16).

13 The cloke that I left at Troas with Carpus, when thou comest, bring *with thee*, and the books, *but* especially the parchments.

14 Alexander the coppersmith did me much evil: the <sup>a</sup>Lord reward him according to his works:

15 Of whom be thou ware also; for he hath greatly withstood our words.

16 At my first answer no man stood with me, but <sup>b</sup>all men forsook me: *I pray God* that it may not be laid to their charge.

17 Notwithstanding <sup>c</sup>the Lord stood with me, and strengthened me; that by me the preaching might be fully known, and *that* all the Gentiles might hear: and I was de-

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livered out of the <sup>d</sup>mouth of the lion.

18 And the Lord shall deliver me from every evil work, and will preserve *me* unto his heavenly kingdom: to whom *be* glory for ever and ever. Amen.

19 Salute Prisca and Aquila, and the household of Onesiphorus.

20 Erastus abode at Corinth: but Trophimus have I left at Miletum sick.

21 Do thy diligence to come before winter. Eubulus greeteth thee, and Pudens, and Linus, and Claudia, and all the brethren.

22 The Lord Jesus Christ *be* with thy spirit. Grace *be* with you. Amen.

<sup>a</sup> *Jehovah.*  
<sup>2</sup> 2 Sam.3.39.

<sup>b</sup> 2 Tim.1.15.

<sup>c</sup> Mt.10.19;  
Acts 23.11.

<sup>d</sup> Psa.22.21.