NEW TESTAMENT · PAUL'S LETTERS · BOOK 55 OF 66

2 Timothy

I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith (4:7)

4	Paul	c. A.D. 66–67	Paul's Last Letter
Chapters, 83 Verses	To Timothy	From Prison	Before His Death

STRUCTURE

The Book in Four Parts

Each chapter gives Timothy a charge: guard the gospel (1), endure hardness (2), continue in the Scriptures (3), and preach the word (4).



Each bar shows that part's share of the 83 verses.

I · 1 · 18 verses

Not Ashamed

Stir up the gift; guard the good deposit.

II · 2 · 26 verses

Endure

Soldier, athlete, farmer; a workman approved.

III · 3 · 17 verses

Continue

Perilous times; all scripture is God-given.

IV · 4 · 22 verses

Preach the Word

The charge, the crown and the farewell.

BACKGROUND

Paul's Two Imprisonments in Rome

FIRST · ACTS 28	SECOND · 2 TIMOTHY
In his own hired house Acts 28:30	**In chains "as an evil doer"** 2:9
Received all that came in unto him Acts 28:30	**Onesiphorus had to seek him out very diligently** 1:17
Expected to be released Philemon 22	**"The time of my departure is at hand"** 4:6

CHAPTER 1:3–7

A Godly Heritage

1:5

Lois

Timothy's grandmother, in whom unfeigned faith dwelt first.

1:5

Eunice

His mother, who shared the same faith.

3:15

From a Child

Timothy knew the holy scriptures from childhood.

> *"For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind."*
>
> 2 Timothy 1:7 (KJV)

2 TIMOTHY AT A GLANCE · PART 2 OF 4

Not Ashamed, Endurance and an Approved Workman

CHAPTER 1:8–18

Not Ashamed

1:8

Timothy

"Be not thou therefore ashamed of the testimony of our Lord."

1:12

Paul

"Nevertheless I am not ashamed: for I know whom I have believed."

1:16

Onesiphorus

He "was not ashamed of my chain."

2 TIMOTHY 1:12

I Know Whom I Have Believed

"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."

CHAPTER 2:1–13

Three Pictures of Endurance

1 2:3–4

A Soldier

Endures hardness and does not get entangled with the affairs of this life.

2 2:5

An Athlete

Is not crowned unless he strives lawfully.

3 2:6

A Farmer

Labours first, then shares in the fruits.

2:2 · PASS IT ON

"the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also."

2:13 · HE IS FAITHFUL

"If we believe not, yet He abideth faithful: He cannot deny Himself."

CHAPTER 2:14–26

A Workman Approved

> *"Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."*
>
> 2 Timothy 2:15 (KJV)

2:19

A Sure Foundation

"The Lord knoweth them that are His."

2:21

A Vessel unto Honour

Sanctified, and meet for the master's use.

2:24

The Lord's Servant

Not striving, but gentle, apt to teach, patient.

2 TIMOTHY AT A GLANCE · PART 3 OF 4

Perilous Times, All Scripture, Preach the Word

CHAPTER 3:1–9

Perilous Times

Paul describes people “in the last days.” Many of these marks were already present in his day.

- **Lovers of Themselves**
- **Covetous, Boasters**
- **Proud, Blasphemers**
- **Disobedient to Parents**
- **Unthankful, Unholy**
- **Without Natural Affection**
- **Lovers of Pleasures**
- **A Form of Godliness**

> *“lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God; Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away.”*
>
> 2 Timothy 3:4–5 (KJV)

CHAPTER 3:14–17

All Scripture

“Given by inspiration of God” translates one Greek word meaning “God-breathed.”

> *“All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness”*
>
> 2 Timothy 3:16 (KJV)

Doctrine
What is true.

Reproof
What is wrong.

Correction
How to make it right.

Instruction
How to live righteously.

The goal: “That the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works” (3:17).

CHAPTER 4:1–8

Preach the Word

4:2 · THE CHARGE

“Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine.”

4:5 · THE WORK

“watch thou in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, make full proof of thy ministry.”

2 TIMOTHY 4:7–8

Finishing Well

“I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love His appearing.”

Friends at the End, Themes and Key Verse

CHAPTER 4:9–22

Friends at the End

4:10
Demas
Forsook Paul, "having loved this present world."

4:11
Luke
"Only Luke is with me."

4:11
Mark
"Profitable to me for the ministry."

4:12
Tychicus
Sent to Ephesus.

4:13
Carpus
Kept Paul's cloke at Troas.

4:14
Alexander
The coppersmith "did me much evil."

4:19
Prisca and Aquila
Old friends, greeted.

4:19
Onesiphorus
His household greeted.

> *"Notwithstanding the Lord stood with me, and strengthened me"*
>
> 2 Timothy 4:17 (KJV)

BIG IDEAS

Key Themes

Not Ashamed
Of the gospel and its messengers.
1:8, 12, 16

Guard the Truth
Keep it and pass it on.
1:13–14; 2:2

Endure
Suffering for Christ is expected.
2:3–6; 3:12

God Is Faithful
He cannot deny Himself.
1:12; 2:13, 19

The Scriptures
God-breathed and profitable.
3:14–17

Finish Well
Preach the word; keep the faith.
4:2, 7–8

KEY VERSE

"All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works."

2 Timothy 3:16–17 (KJV)