

## 2 Timothy Chapters 1-4

**Background:** After Paul's first Roman imprisonment (Acts 28:16), he was released and was then imprisoned a second time, leading to his execution (this is based upon by extra-biblical historical accounts). *First Timothy* was most likely written between the two imprisonments. Writing to Timothy in Ephesus, he gives him specific instructions to deal with the abundance of false teaching and ill-motivated leaders in the church; As a result, there are detailed instructions provided in regard to proper spiritual leadership.

**2 Timothy:** Most likely this letter was written during Paul's second Roman imprisonment while awaiting execution. This letter reads as would a final letter from a mentor. Paul urges Timothy to follow his example in faithfulness and to persevere for the sake of the gospel in spite of suffering. *Second Timothy* is considered one of the Bible's famous farewell discourses; others include those by Moses (*book of Deuteronomy*), Joshua (*Joshua 23-24*), David (*1 Chronicles 28-29*), and Jesus (*the Upper Room Discourse, John 14-16*).

**1:1** - Paul talks about the promise of life in Christ Jesus. How does Paul described this promise in Titus 3:7?

**1:3** – How should Paul's choice of words here and in Ephesians 5:15 motivate us in how we conduct ourselves?

**1:5** – Read Deuteronomy 6:1-2. Why did Moses share these instructions with the Israelites? How is that demonstrated here?

**1:6-7** – What instruction is given regarding the gifts given by God?

**2:7** – What does this verse say about the combination of the believer's efforts and God's empowering work?

**2:8-10**- Regardless of any disagreements on a doctrine of election, what is clearly conveyed in regard to Paul's duty?

**2:14** - What similar instruction does Paul give in Titus 3:9 about quarrels?

**2:15** – What does Paul tell Timothy in regard to the level of effort he should put into being a worker for God?

**Note just a few of the instructions reiterated in this letter:** “*fan into flame*” (1:6), “*follow the pattern*” (1:13), “*do your best*” (2:15), “*avoid godless chatter*” (2:16), “*turn away from wickedness*” (2:19), “*have nothing to do with...*” (2:24), “*continue in what you have learned*” (3:14), “*be ready*” (4:2). **Read 2 Tim 4:5 and discuss the responsibilities noted.**

**2:23** – What is the danger of not following the instruction given in this verse?

**2:24** – Do you find this instruction easy for you? What are some of the more challenging aspects of this verse for you?

**2:25-26** - What is the goal of this correction?

**3:2-5** – Why would those *loaded with sins and swayed by all kinds of evil desires* (6) bother trying to appear godly?

**3:15-17** – What does this verse say about the importance of scripture and why we should be well acquainted with it?

**4:1-5** - This paragraph is the climax of everything Paul wanted to say to Timothy before he is executed.

**4:2** - What does it mean to be prepared in season and out of season?  
- What should you be doing now so that you are better prepared then?

**4:3-4** - What do these verses have to say about sinful human nature?  
- What does Paul mean by “itching ears?”

**4:6-8** - Paul knew that the end of his earthly life was near. What is Paul saying in these verses?