

PETE BUMGARNER MINISTRIES

**A NON-PROFIT CORPORATION
FOUNDED OCTOBER, 1984**

II TIMOTHY

STUDY GUIDE



II TIMOTHY

SCRIPTURE READING

II Timothy

THEME

Knowledge of the Word and Spirit is vital to service. One who effectively serves God must be dedicated to the service of God. As representatives of Jesus, not only are we to live godly lives, but we must also correct and instruct those who misrepresent Jesus. Knowledge of the Word and the Spirit of God will enable us to fulfill all aspects of life and ministry.

I. INTRODUCTION

- A. II Timothy is a letter written by Paul to Timothy. In this letter, he mentions twenty-nine people and twelve different locations.
- B. This second letter to Timothy was probably written around A.D. 67 from a prison in Rome.
- C. II Timothy is compiled of pertinent instructions and admonitions that are applicable today.
- D. Although II Timothy is a personal letter written to Timothy, it is void of small talk and natural inclinations. This letter focuses on the things of God, from the beginning to the end.

II. CHAPTER ONE

- A. Although Paul and Timothy are close friends and ministry companions, Paul feels the need to confirm his appointment from God as an apostle. (II Timothy 1:1)
- B. Verse two confirms to whom the letter was written.
- C. In verse three, Paul assures Timothy that he intercedes for him on a regular basis.
- D. Paul expresses his desire to see Timothy once again. (II Timothy 1:4)

- E. Paul recalls the genuine faith of Timothy which has been passed down from his grandmother, Lois, and his mother, Eunice. (II Timothy 1:5)
- F. In verse six, Paul reminds Timothy to “stir up” (re-ignite - to excite or arouse) the gift that is in him. This gift was imparted when Paul laid his hands on Timothy. (II Timothy 1:6)
- G. Timothy is reminded that the Spirit which has been imparted to him is not one of fear, but of power, love, and of sound mind. (II Timothy 1:7)
 - 1. The emphasis of this verse **is not** fear; the emphasis is the Holy Spirit.
 - 2. The Holy Spirit is powerful. He is full of affection and benevolence, and He exercises self-control.
 - 3. This gift of the Holy Spirit must continually be stirred internally so that He can manifest externally.
- H. Verse eight is a reminder of Romans 1:16; we must not be ashamed of the gospel of Jesus.
 - 1. We must not be ashamed of those who suffer for their witness of Jesus.
 - 2. We are encouraged to identify with those who are suffering for Jesus and to share in their sufferings.
- I. Verse nine is a reminder of Who saved and called us.
 - 1. We were not saved or called as a result of our works.
 - 2. We are saved and called as a result of the purpose and grace of God.
- J. The purpose and grace of God have been manifested through Jesus Christ, Who has rendered death ineffective. We have also been given the revelation of life and immortality through the gospel of Jesus. (II Timothy 1:10)
- K. In verse eleven, Paul declares his appointment as a preacher, an apostle, and a teacher of the gospel of Jesus to the Gentiles.

- L. Paul's imprisonment came as a result of fulfilling his appointment. (II Timothy 1:12)
- M. Paul declares that he is not ashamed of what he has done, nor of his imprisonment. (II Timothy 1:12)
- N. Paul's statement, "I know whom I have believed and am persuaded that He is able to keep what I have committed to Him until that Day," is very profound. (II Timothy 1:12 NKJV)
 - 1. We must **know** the One in Whom we believe.
 - 2. Trusting someone is directly related to knowing the person in whom you are trusting.
 - 3. When we truly know someone, we know his capabilities.
 - 4. Wisdom will not commit something to someone who is incapable of safely keeping that which has been committed.
 - 5. With these thoughts in mind, we can better understand the statement made by Paul.
 - 6. One who knows Jesus is convinced that Jesus can safely keep anything that has been entrusted to Him.
 - 7. Jesus cannot keep that which has not been entrusted to Him.
- O. Timothy is exhorted to adhere to the pattern of sound words which has been set for him by Paul. (II Timothy 1:13)
 - 1. It seems logical to assume that the "pattern of sound words" is referring to proper or fitting conversation.
 - 2. Our conversation must be in agreement with our faith and love, which are in Christ Jesus.
 - 3. It is imperative that our confessions agree with our actions and that our actions agree with the Word and Spirit of God.

- P. “That good thing” which is to be kept or guarded probably refers to the gift mentioned in verse six. It is through the power of the Holy Spirit that we are able to guard the gifts which have been given unto us. (II Timothy 1:14)
- Q. In verses fifteen through eighteen, Paul reminds Timothy of those in Asia who have turned away from him and of Onesiphorus, who put forth great effort to find and minister to him while in prison.
 - 1. Paul identifies by name two of those who have deserted him, Phygellus and Hermogenes.
 - 2. This is not the first time that Onesiphorus has ministered to Paul. He had also ministered to him in Ephesus.

III. CHAPTER TWO

- A. In verse one, Paul calls Timothy his son and encourages him to be strong in the grace which is in Christ Jesus.
- B. Verse two reveals a principle that we must understand; it is the principle of reproduction.
 - 1. The truths that we have learned must be passed along to others.
 - 2. These truths should be taught to trustworthy people who are capable of teaching others.
- C. Following the pattern of a good soldier, we must learn to endure difficult circumstances in life. (II Timothy 2:3)
- D. A soldier who pleases those who have enlisted him will not involve himself with the affairs of civilian life. (II Timothy 2:4)
- E. Athletes must abide by the rules; otherwise, they will not receive any awards. (II Timothy 2:5)
- F. The farmer is the first one to eat the fruit of his labor. (II Timothy 2:6)
- G. We must meditate on verses three through six and ask God for understanding. (II Timothy 2:7)

1. We must consider ourselves as soldiers enlisted in the army of God.
 2. Soldiers **learn** to endure the difficult circumstances they experience. As soldiers in the army of God, we, too, must **learn** to endure difficult circumstances.
 3. Good soldiers are devoted to the military; consequently, they do not have time to engage in civilian business and activity. As God's "soldiers," we must not become engaged in carnal affairs or activities.
 4. An athlete who does not abide by the rules is disqualified. Those who are not obedient to the Word and Spirit will lose their rewards. God does not bend the rules for anyone.
 5. The farmer has the privilege of being the first to eat the food produced by his labors. Our labors in the Lord are not in vain; we are the first to benefit from our relationship with and our work for the Lord.
- H. **Remember!** Jesus Christ, Who is a descendant of King David, was raised from the dead. Not only was this the gospel that Paul preached, but it must also be the gospel that we preach. (II Timothy 2:8)
- I. Preaching the gospel of Jesus may bring persecution, even imprisonment. Regardless of where we are geographically, God's Word cannot be bound. (II Timothy 2:9)
- J. We must keep things in proper perspective, realizing that without the preaching of the gospel, others **cannot** be saved. (II Timothy 2:10)
- K. In verses eleven through thirteen, persecution is placed in proper perspective.
1. If we have died with Jesus, we will also live with Jesus.
 2. If we endure for Jesus, we will reign with Jesus.
 3. If we deny Jesus, He also will deny us.
 4. Our unfaithfulness does not affect the faithfulness of Jesus.

5. Although men can deny Jesus, He cannot deny Himself.
- L. People must be reminded of the aforementioned instructions and commanded to restrain from controversial discussions which are unprofitable and detrimental to those involved. (II Timothy 2:14)
 - M. We must be diligent to present ourselves to God as acceptable teachers who have no reason to be ashamed because we correctly dissect the “Word of Truth.” (II Timothy 2:15)
 - N. Verse sixteen is a command to avoid wicked, fruitless discussions which lead to more ungodliness. Like cancer, these discussions spread and cause great harm.
 - O. Paul identifies Hymenaeus and Philetus as propagators of ungodliness. They are teaching that the resurrection has already taken place. This erroneous doctrine has caused some to abandon their faith. (II Timothy 2:17-18)
 - P. Although erroneous doctrines may cause some people to move from the faith, they cannot move the solid foundation of God. (II Timothy 2:19)
 1. The Lord knows those who are His.
 2. Everyone who identifies with Christ must depart from **all** unrighteousness.
 - Q. A great house contains different kinds of vessels that are made of various materials. Some of these vessels are considered valuable and are held in high esteem, while others are treated with indignity and are used for disgraceful services. (II Timothy 2:20)
 1. God uses all types of vessels, both honorable and dishonorable. (Both Pharaoh and Moses were used by God; one was a vessel of honor, but the other was a vessel of dishonor.)
 2. We determine the category of “honor” or “dishonor” by our response to Jesus.

- R. Those who choose to cleanse themselves from all iniquity will be received as vessels of honor; however, those who refuse to cleanse themselves will be recognized as dishonorable vessels. (II Timothy 2:21)
- S. In verse twenty-two, the command is given to avoid youthful lusts.
 - 1. The best way to avoid something is to go in the opposite direction.
 - 2. Not only should we run **from** evil, but we must also run **toward** God.
- T. According to verse twenty-two, we should pursue righteousness, faith, love, and peace with those who serve God with a pure heart.
- U. Foolish and ignorant questioning creates controversy and generates quarrels; therefore, we must refuse to engage in these practices. (II Timothy 2:23)
- V. As servants of the Lord, we must not quarrel. We must be kind to everyone, patient with everyone, and capable of instructing others. (II Timothy 2:24)
- W. When correcting those who are in opposition, we must do so with humility. (II Timothy 2:25-26)
 - 1. The purpose for correction is repentance, not vengeance. Through proper correction, the violator can recognize truth.
 - 2. One who recognizes truth has the opportunity to come to his senses and escape the trap set by the devil.
 - 3. Those who refuse to do the will of God are captives of Satan, and they are deceived into doing his will.

IV. CHAPTER THREE

- A. Beware! In the final days, we will be confronted with difficult and dangerous occasions and opportunities. (Acts 2:17; II Timothy 3:1)
- B. In the final days, people will be selfish. (II Timothy 3:2-5)

1. They will be lovers of money.
2. They will be boasters.
3. They will be arrogant.
4. They will be slanderous against both people and God.
5. They will be disobedient to their parents.
6. They will be ungrateful.
7. They will be unholy, or impure.
8. They will be hardhearted and unappeasable.
9. They will break pledges and covenants.
10. They will attack people's reputation by speaking evil against them.
11. They will lack self-control.
12. They will be cruel, pitiless, inhuman, and brutal.
13. They will be hostile to virtue, which is moral goodness, or right action and thinking.
14. They will be traitors.
15. They will be reckless and rash.
16. They will be inflated with self-conceit, which is haughtiness. (Haughtiness is arrogance--arrogance is unwarranted self-importance.)
17. They will be lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God.
18. They will appear to be godly, but they will contradict and reject the power which comes from godliness.

C. Avoid people who act this way! (II Timothy 3:5)

- D. These type people sneak into houses and capture foolish women who are loaded with sins and led by various lusts. (II Timothy 3:6)
- E. Women of this sort are always learning, but they are not able to recognize truth. (II Timothy 3:7)
- F. Just as Jannes and Jambres opposed Moses, these people oppose the truth. (II Timothy 3:8)
- G. They have corrupt minds; consequently, they are worthless to “the faith” and disapproved by those of “the faith.” (II Timothy 3:8)
- H. These people will not advance to greatness because their foolishness will be exposed, just as the foolishness of Jannes and Jambres was exposed. (II Timothy 3:9)
- I. Paul reminds Timothy that he is an eyewitness of his life and ministry. (II Timothy 3:10-11)
 - 1. Timothy knows from experience the doctrine that Paul teaches.
 - 2. He knows the lifestyle of Paul.
 - 3. He is aware of Paul’s purpose.
 - 4. He has seen the faith of Paul in action.
 - 5. Timothy is familiar with the forbearance of Paul.
 - 6. He is probably more conformed to the love which Paul has demonstrated than any other of Paul’s associates.
 - 7. He has seen the patience of Paul.
 - 8. He has witnessed many of the persecutions and hardships through which Paul has gone at Antioch, Iconium, and Lystra.
 - 9. Timothy has also seen God deliver Paul from all these hardships and persecutions.

- J. Verse twelve reveals a profound truth that we must all recognize: “All who desire to live godly, in Christ Jesus, **will** experience persecution.”
- K. Evil people who are imposters will progressively get worse. They will continually lead people astray. (II Timothy 3:13)
- L. Although verse fourteen is addressed to Timothy, the principle applies to every believer. “Continue in the things which you have learned and are sure.” (II Timothy 3:14-15)
 - 1. From this passage of scripture, we can see the importance of teaching our children the Word of God.
 - 2. Knowing the “Holy Scriptures” gives one access to the wisdom necessary to receive salvation through faith in Jesus Christ.
- M. All Scripture is inspired by God and is advantageous for those who will receive the Word of God. (II Timothy 3:16-17)
 - 1. Scripture is profitable for doctrine, which is instruction.
 - 2. It is profitable for proof or conviction.
 - 3. It is profitable for correction.
 - 4. It is profitable for training in righteousness.
 - 5. The purpose for these applications is to thoroughly mature and equip the saints for every good work.

V. CHAPTER FOUR

- A. Paul, in a serious and intense manner, urgently requests that Timothy preach **the Word of God**. (II Timothy 4:1-2)
 - 1. This charge is given to Timothy in the presence of God and Jesus Christ. God, the Father, and Jesus, His Son, are bearing witness to this charge.

2. Jesus will judge the living and the dead when He appears in His kingdom. (II Timothy 4:1)
- B. Timothy is also instructed to be ready to preach the Word at both opportune and inopportune times. We, too, must practice this instruction. (II Timothy 4:2)
 - C. People must be warned and advised! When they do wrong things, we must express disapproval and warn, caution, and advise them individually. (II Timothy 4:2)
 - D. The convincing, rebuking, and exhorting must be done through patient instruction. (II Timothy 4:2)
 - E. The time is coming (and may already be here) when people will not tolerate sound instruction. (II Timothy 4:3)
 1. Because of selfish desires, people will bring together teachers who will say what they want to hear.
 2. These people will refuse to listen to the truth and will follow myths, which are nothing more than fictitious stories. (II Timothy 4:4)
 - F. The following instructions that were given unto Timothy should be applied by each of us:
 1. **Be watchful in all things.** This admonition means to be well-balanced and self-controlled. (II Timothy 4:5)
 2. **Endure afflictions.** This statement means to patiently bear hardships. (II Timothy 4:5)
 3. **Do the work of an evangelist.** Proclaiming and demonstrating the gospel of Jesus is the work of an evangelist. (II Timothy 4:5)
 4. **Fulfill your ministry.** We must complete our God-assigned tasks. (II Timothy 4:5)
 - G. In verse six, Paul compares his life to a drink offering that is being poured out, and the finality of the offering is almost consummated.

- H. His confession, “I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, and I have kept the faith,” is another way of saying, “I have fulfilled my ministry.” (II Timothy 4:7)
 - 1. “Fighting a good fight” suggests overcoming opposition to ministry while remaining faithful to God.
 - 2. “Finishing the course” implies the completion of all assignments without incurring disqualifying violations.
 - 3. “Keeping the faith” refers to a lifestyle that is consistent with the gospel and ways of Jesus.
- I. “The crown of righteousness” relates to the reward to be received when one exits this life. (II Timothy 4:8)
 - 1. In this life, Jesus is our righteousness.
 - 2. When we stand before Jesus, the righteous Judge, we will not be condemned. He will award us with eternal justification.
 - 3. Everyone **who longs for the manifestation of Jesus** will receive the reward of eternal justification.
- J. In verse nine, Paul instructs Timothy to make every effort to come to him immediately.
- K. Demas, who evidently was more interested in the present age (natural) than the age to come (spiritual), left Paul and went to Thessalonica. (II Timothy 4:10)
- L. Crescens left for Galatia; Titus had gone to Dalmatia; only Luke had stayed with Paul.
- M. Paul instructs Timothy to bring Mark (probably John Mark), whom he recognizes as useful for him in ministry, with him when he comes. (II Timothy 4:11)
- N. Apparently, Paul had sent Tychicus to Ephesus to minister. (II Timothy 4:12)

- O. Paul requests that Timothy bring “the cloak” (outer garment or mantle) that he had left with Carpus at Troas and “the books,” particularly the “parchments.” (II Timothy 4:13)
- P. Paul reminds Timothy of the harm that has been done to him because of Alexander, the coppersmith. He expects the Lord to repay him according to his deeds. (II Timothy 4:14)
- Q. Paul warns Timothy to beware of Alexander, who greatly resisted the words spoken by him. (II Timothy 4:15)
- R. The first time Paul had an opportunity to defend himself, he had no one to support him or to testify in his behalf. Although everyone had deserted him, he did not want the judgment of God to be executed against them. (II Timothy 4:16)
- S. Paul reveals a powerful truth that we should all recognize: “The Lord stood with me and strengthened me.” (II Timothy 4:17)
 - 1. Jesus **never** leaves nor forsakes us! (Hebrews 13:5)
 - 2. Both the Lord and Paul took advantage of the opportunity at hand. Paul, empowered by the Lord, preached the gospel of Jesus to the Gentiles.
 - 3. “I was delivered out of the mouth of the lion” probably refers to execution. This execution could be the means by which Daniel was supposed to die when he disobeyed the king’s decree, or this may only be a figure of speech. (Daniel 6:7-22)
- T. When Paul states, “The Lord will deliver me from every evil work,” he must not be referring to deliverance from execution because he has already told Timothy that his departure is near at hand. (II Timothy 4:6 & 18)
 - 1. The preservation that Paul speaks of is not related to this life, but to the heavenly kingdom.
 - 2. The “heavenly kingdom,” in this context, is the rule of God, which also operates after one exits this life.

- U. Because of his preservation for the heavenly kingdom, Paul gives glory to God. (II Timothy 4:18)
- V. In verse nineteen, Paul sends greetings to Priscilla and Aquila and to the household of Onesiphorus.
- W. Erastus, whom Paul left in Corinth, and Trophimus, who was left in Miletus because of sickness, were traveling companions of both Paul and Timothy. (II Timothy 4:20)
- X. Paul urges Timothy to come to him before winter. (II Timothy 4:21)
- Y. Greetings are sent to Timothy from Eubulus, Pudens, Linus, Claudia, and all the brethren. (II Timothy 4:21)
- Z. Paul closes his letter with this thought-provocative phrase: “The Lord Jesus Christ be with your **spirit**.” Then he extends grace unto Timothy. (II Timothy 4:22)

VI. SUMMARY

- A. In this second letter to Timothy, Paul reminds him of his responsibilities as a minister of the gospel.
- B. Paul also reveals characteristics of a faithful minister.
- C. The exhortation is given to persevere while going through the present trials and afflictions.
- D. Because of the coming apostasy, more trials and afflictions can be expected and must be overcome.
- E. Overcomers **can be** assured of preservation for a heavenly kingdom.

VII. CONCLUSION

- A. II Timothy is an instructive letter filled with principles that should be applied today.
- B. The exhortation to **preach the Word** should resound to ministers all over the world.
- C. Ministers of the gospel **must** follow the practical, biblical instructions given unto Timothy by Paul.

- D. It is the responsibility of all ministers to instruct, warn, and correct those who identify with the name of Jesus.