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2 TIMOTHY

2Timothy 03:13 - 04
INSPIRATION AND PROFIT

I. INTRODUCTION

A. Last week in **2 Timothy 3**, we dealt with the “apostasy” or the great falling away that must come before Jesus returns.

1. This is what Paul had in mind in **verse 1** when he said **2Tim 3:1 (NKJV) But know this, that in the last days perilous times will come:**
2. Then he went on to briefly describe what people will be like during that time.

B. We concluded our study with **verse 13 - 2Tim 3:13 (NKJV) But evil men and impostors will grow worse and worse, deceiving and being deceived.**

1. This morning we will continue our study in **Chapter 3** and finish Paul’s letter to Timothy with **Chapter 4**.

II. **2TIM 3:14 (NKJV) BUT YOU MUST CONTINUE IN THE THINGS WHICH YOU HAVE LEARNED AND BEEN ASSURED OF, KNOWING FROM WHOM YOU HAVE LEARNED [THEM], 15 AND THAT FROM CHILDHOOD YOU HAVE KNOWN THE HOLY SCRIPTURES, WHICH ARE ABLE TO MAKE YOU WISE FOR SALVATION THROUGH FAITH WHICH IS IN CHRIST JESUS. 16 ALL SCRIPTURE [IS] GIVEN BY INSPIRATION OF GOD, AND [IS] PROFITABLE FOR DOCTRINE, FOR REPROOF, FOR CORRECTION, FOR INSTRUCTION IN RIGHTEOUSNESS, 17 THAT THE MAN OF GOD MAY BE COMPLETE, THOROUGHLY EQUIPPED FOR EVERY GOOD WORK.**

A. First Paul tells Timothy to continue in the things he had learned from his mother and grandmother and even Paul!

1. Paul then makes a statement about the word of God – the scriptures.
2. First he says they are “**inspired**” by God.
 - a) This phrase “inspired of God” is made up of two Greek words.
 - (1) 2316 theos theh'-os} = “*God*”
 - (a) **Matt 1:23 (NKJV) "Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and bear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel," which is translated, "God with us."**
 - (2) 4154 pneo pneh'-o} = “to breath or blow, like the wind”
 - (a) **John 3:8 (NKJV) "The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear the sound of it, but cannot tell where it comes from and where it goes. So is everyone who is born of the Spirit."**

- (b) You combine those 2 words and you get 2315 theopneustos theh-op'-nyoo-stos} = from where we get the word "theophany" = "a visitation of God to man".
 - (i) So, what Paul is saying is that all of the scriptures have been divinely given to man through the breath of God's Holy Spirit!
- 3. He says they are profitable for **doctrine**, for **reproof**, for **correction**, for **instruction in righteousness**.
 - a) Doctrine simply means "teaching".
 - b) Reproof = "conviction"
 - c) Correction = "setting things right"
 - d) Instruction = "training and education"
 - (1) As many of you know, in America - early school systems started - using the Bible as their sole textbook?
 - (2) In my opinion, they should go back to it!

B. Before we leave these verses I would like to point out **verse 17** that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.

- 1. These days, people are looking for answers outside of the church and even apart from God's word.
 - a) But these verses tell me that if I will apply and submit myself to God's word, I will be complete and thoroughly equipped! That means NOTHING lacking!
 - (1) I know of NOTHING else in the world that can make that claim.

III. **2TIM 4:1 (NKJV) I CHARGE [YOU] THEREFORE BEFORE GOD AND THE LORD JESUS CHRIST, WHO WILL JUDGE THE LIVING AND THE DEAD AT HIS APPEARING AND HIS KINGDOM: 2 PREACH THE WORD! BE READY IN SEASON [AND] OUT OF SEASON. CONVINCe, REBUKE, EXHORT, WITH ALL LONGSUFFERING AND TEACHING. 3 FOR THE TIME WILL COME WHEN THEY WILL NOT ENDURE SOUND DOCTRINE, BUT ACCORDING TO THEIR OWN DESIRES, [BECAUSE] THEY HAVE ITCHING EARS, THEY WILL HEAR UP FOR THEMSELVES TEACHERS; 4 AND THEY WILL TURN [THEIR] EARS AWAY FROM THE TRUTH, AND BE TURNED ASIDE TO FABLES. 5 BUT YOU BE WATCHFUL IN ALL THINGS, ENDURE AFFLICTIONS, DO THE WORK OF AN EVANGELIST, FULFILL YOUR MINISTRY.**

A. Jesus' "appearing" and His "kingdom" are two different things.

- 1. His "appearing" - will be when He returns for the church.
- 2. His "kingdom" - will be when He establishes the millennial kingdom upon the earth.
 - a) He will judge His children for the purpose of rewards and of course the unsaved for their decision to reject Jesus as their Savior.
- 3. Paul is saying to Timothy, "With all this in mind, how can you not preach the Word?"

B. The being "ready (or urgent) in season and out of season", means don't make any flimsy excuses!

1. Sometimes we try to find excuses to not teach, rather than to teach!
2. We should always be ready and willing to teach God's Word to anyone!
 - a) We, like Timothy are to use God's word to:
 - (1) **Convince** = "*persuade*"
 - (2) **Rebuke** = actually means "*to threaten*"
 - (a) There are times when we need to be reminded of the detrimental consequences of serving our flesh instead of the Lord.
 - (3) **Exhort** = "*to comfort, to beg, entreat, beseech*"
 - (a) And all of this is to be done with the heart of a teacher - with love and patience.

C. There is coming a time when people won't listen to the solid, sure teaching of the Bible.

1. They will only listen to the Bible if they can "re-interpret" it to fit their own lifestyles.
 - a) **2Tim 4:3 (NKJV) For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires. . .**
 - b) And because of these desires, they will seek out the teachers that will tell them what they want to hear.
 - c) That is why it was important to Paul for Timothy to "fulfill his ministry" while people were still willing to listen.

D. Now we have the Apostle Paul's closing words, and perhaps even some of his last words.

IV. 2TIM 4:6 (NKJV) FOR I AM ALREADY BEING Poured OUT AS A DRINK OFFERING, AND THE TIME OF MY DEPARTURE IS AT HAND. 7 I HAVE FOUGHT THE GOOD FIGHT, I HAVE FINISHED THE RACE, I HAVE KEPT THE FAITH. 8 FINALLY, THERE IS LAID UP FOR ME THE CROWN OF RIGHTEOUSNESS, WHICH THE LORD, THE RIGHTEOUS JUDGE, WILL GIVE TO ME ON THAT DAY, AND NOT TO ME ONLY BUT ALSO TO ALL WHO HAVE LOVED HIS APPEARING. 9 BE DILIGENT TO COME TO ME QUICKLY; 10 FOR DEMAS HAS FORSAKEN ME, HAVING LOVED THIS PRESENT WORLD, AND HAS DEPARTED FOR THESSALONICA--CRESCENS FOR GALATIA, TITUS FOR DALMATIA. 11 ONLY LUKE IS WITH ME. GET MARK AND BRING HIM WITH YOU, FOR HE IS USEFUL TO ME FOR MINISTRY. 12 AND TYCHICUS I HAVE SENT TO EPHEBUS.

A. Paul and young John Mark have reconciled their differences and Mark has become a valuable part of the ministry.

1. As some of you know Mark had deserted Paul and Barnabas on an earlier Missionary trip and gone home.
2. The cool part about it all - is that Mark had grown up and become a dependable person, and Paul had forgiven!

V. 2TIM 4:13 (NKJV) BRING THE CLOAK THAT I LEFT WITH CARPUS AT TROAS WHEN YOU COME--AND THE BOOKS, ESPECIALLY THE PARCHMENTS. 14 ALEXANDER THE COPPERSMITH DID ME MUCH HARM. MAY THE LORD REPAY HIM ACCORDING TO

HIS WORKS. **15** YOU ALSO MUST BEWARE OF HIM, FOR HE HAS GREATLY RESISTED OUR WORDS. **16** AT MY FIRST DEFENSE NO ONE STOOD WITH ME, BUT ALL FORSOOK ME. MAY IT NOT BE CHARGED AGAINST THEM. **17** BUT THE LORD STOOD WITH ME AND STRENGTHENED ME, SO THAT THE MESSAGE MIGHT BE PREACHED FULLY THROUGH ME, AND [THAT] ALL THE GENTILES MIGHT HEAR. AND I WAS DELIVERED OUT OF THE MOUTH OF THE LION. **18** AND THE LORD WILL DELIVER ME FROM EVERY EVIL WORK AND PRESERVE [ME] FOR HIS HEAVENLY KINGDOM. TO HIM [BE] GLORY FOREVER AND EVER. AMEN! **19** GREET PRISCA AND AQUILA, AND THE HOUSEHOLD OF ONESIP'HORUS. **20** ERASTUS STAYED IN CORINTH, BUT TROPHIMUS I HAVE LEFT IN MILETUS SICK. **21** DO YOUR UTMOST TO COME BEFORE WINTER. EUBULUS GREET'S YOU, AS WELL AS PUDENS, LINUS, CLAUDIA, AND ALL THE BRETHREN. **22** THE LORD JESUS CHRIST BE WITH YOUR SPIRIT. GRACE BE WITH YOU. AMEN.

- A. It was cold and damp in that Mamertine prison. Paul wanted his coat.
1. The parchments were probably Paul's personal copy of the Old Testament.
 - a) Even in his last day, Paul wanted the word of God close to him because he knew **16 All Scripture [is] given by inspiration of God, and [is] profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, 17 that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.**
- B. Doesn't it kind of break your heart to see the Apostle Paul – who gave so much to so many – have so few who stuck by him all the way through till the end?
1. But did you notice: **16 At my first defense no one stood with me, but all forsook me. May it not be charged against them. 17 But the Lord stood with me and strengthened me,...**
 - a) Paul had the Lord and had the promises of His Word – and he knew that these were the most important things!
 - (1) May it be the same for us. May our love for His Word grow in our lives and IF all the world should turn against us – may His promises be all that we need!