THE SECOND LETTER OF PAUL TO TIMOTHY

Greeting

1 Paul, an apostle of *Jesus Christ by the will
of God according to the promise of life that is
in Christ Jesus, 2 to Timothy, my beloved child:
Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and
Christ Jesus our Lord.

Paul's Charge to Timothy

3 I thank God, whom I serve with a clear
conscience as my forefathers did, as night and
day I constantly remember you in my prayers.
4 Recalling your tears, I long to see you so that
I may be filled with joy. 5 I am reminded of
the sincere faith that is in you, which dwelt first
in your grandmother Lois and in your mother
Eunice, and now, I am sure, dwells in you also.
6 Therefore I remind you to rekindle the gift of
God that is in you through the laying on of my
hands. 7 For God did not give us a spirit of
timidity, but a spirit of power, love, and sound
judgment.
8 Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony
of our Lord or of me his prisoner. Rather,
join with me in suffering for the gospel as you
rely on the power of God. 9 He saved us and

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* **1:1** Jesus Christ ¦ Christ Jesus ANT CT HF

called us with a holy calling, not according to
our works, but according to his own purpose
and grace. This grace was given to us in
Christ Jesus before time began, 10 but has now
been revealed through the appearing of our
Savior †Jesus Christ, who abolished death and
brought life and immortality to light through the
gospel. 11 For this gospel I was appointed to be
a preacher, an apostle, and a teacher ‡of the
Gentiles. 12 That is why I am suffering these
things. But I am not ashamed, for I know whom I
have believed, and I am persuaded that he is able
to guard what has been entrusted to me until that
day. 13 Hold to the pattern of sound teaching that
you have heard from me, in the faith and love
that are in Christ Jesus. 14 By the Holy Spirit who
dwells within us, guard the good deposit that has
been entrusted to you.

15 You know that everyone in Asia has turned
away from me, including Phygelus and Her-
mogenes. 16 May the Lord give mercy to the
household of Onesiphorus, because he often
refreshed me and was not ashamed of my chains.
17 On the contrary, when he arrived in Rome, he
sought me out §very diligently and found me.
18 May the Lord grant him to find mercy from
the Lord on that day! You know very well all the
ways he helped me in Ephesus.

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† **1:10** Jesus Christ ¦ Christ Jesus NA WH ‡ **1:11** of the Gentiles 98.1% ¦ — CT 0.9% § **1:17** very 91.6% ¦ — CT 3.1%

2

A Good Soldier of Christ Jesus

1 You then, my child, be strong in the grace that
is in Christ Jesus. 2 Entrust what you have heard
from me in the presence of many witnesses to
faithful men who will be competent to teach
others also. 3 Endure *hardship as a good soldier
of †Jesus Christ. 4 No one serving as a soldier
entangles himself in the affairs of civilian life,
since he seeks to please the one who enlisted
him. 5 Similarly, an athlete is not crowned
unless he competes according to the rules. 6 The
hardworking farmer ought to receive the first
share of the crops. 7 Think about what I am
‡saying. May the Lord give you understanding
in everything.

8 Remember Jesus Christ, the offspring of
David, who was raised from the dead according
to my gospel. 9 For this gospel I suffer to the
point of being chained like a criminal, but the
word of God is not chained. 10 Therefore I
endure everything for the sake of the chosen, so
that they too may obtain the salvation that is in
Christ Jesus, with eternal glory. 11 This saying is
trustworthy:

If we died with him,
we will also live with him;
12 if we endure,

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* **2:3** hardship 93.3% ¦ hardship with me CT 3.9% † **2:3** Jesus Christ ¦ Christ Jesus CT ‡ **2:7** saying. May the Lord ¦ saying, for the Lord will CT

we will also reign with him;
if we deny him,
he will also deny us;
13 if we are unfaithful,
he remains faithful;
§he cannot deny himself.

A Faithful Workman of God

14 Remind the people of these things, solemnly charging them before *the Lord not to quarrel about words, which does no good but only leads to the ruin of those who are listening. 15 Be diligent to present yourself to God as a proven worker who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly teaches the word of truth. 16 Avoid profane chatter, for those who engage in such talk will stray further and further into ungodliness, 17 and their message will spread like gangrene. Among them are Hymenaeus and Philetus, 18 who have strayed from the truth, saying that †the resurrection has already happened. They are undermining the faith of some. 19 Nevertheless, the foundation of God stands firm, having this seal: "The Lord knows those who are his," and, "Everyone who calls upon the name of ‡the Lord must depart from unrighteousness."

20 Now in a large house there are not only vessels of gold and silver, but also of wood and clay; some are for honorable use and some

§ **2:13** he ¦ for he NA TH WH * **2:14** the Lord ¦ God NA WH
† **2:18** the ¦ a SBL WH ‡ **2:19** the Lord ¦ Christ TR

for dishonorable use. 21 Therefore, if anyone
cleanses himself from what is dishonorable, he
will be a vessel for honorable use, set apart
as holy, useful to the master, and prepared for
every good work.

22 Flee youthful lusts and pursue righteous-
ness, faithfulness, love, and peace, along with
those who call upon the Lord from a pure
heart. 23 Have nothing to do with foolish and
ignorant controversies, knowing that they breed
quarrels. 24 A servant of the Lord ought not
to quarrel, but to be kind to everyone, able to
teach, and patient, 25 instructing his opponents
with gentleness. Perhaps God will grant them
repentance leading to the knowledge of the truth.
26 Then they will come to their senses and escape
from the snare of the devil, who has taken them
captive to do his will.

3

Hard Times in the Last Days

1 But know this: Hard times will come in
the last days. 2 For people will be lovers of
themselves, lovers of money, boasters, proud,
blasphemous, disobedient to parents, ungrateful,
unholy, 3 without natural affection, irreconcil-
able, slanderous, without self-control, brutal,
having no love for what is good, 4 traitors,
reckless, puffed up, and lovers of pleasure
rather than lovers of God, 5 having a form of
godliness but denying its power. Avoid such

people. 6 Among them are those who *worm
their way into houses and captivate vulnerable
women who are overwhelmed with sins and
swayed by various evil desires. 7 Such women
are always learning and never able to come to
the knowledge of the truth. 8 Just as Jannes
and Jambres opposed Moses, so these men also
oppose the truth. They are corrupted in mind
and have been proven unqualified with respect
to the faith. 9 But they will not make further
progress, for their folly will become obvious to
everyone, as was the folly of Jannes and Jambres.

Continue in What You Have Learned

10 You, however, have closely followed my
teaching, conduct, purpose, faith, patience, love,
and endurance. 11 You know how much persecu-
tion and suffering I endured in Antioch, Iconium,
and Lystra. Yet the Lord rescued me from it all.
12 Indeed, everyone who wants to live a godly
life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted. 13 But
evil people and imposters will become worse
and worse, deceiving and being deceived. 14 But
as for you, continue in what you have learned
and firmly believed, knowing from whom you
have learned it, 15 and how from childhood you
have known the sacred writings, which are able
to give you wisdom for salvation through faith
in Christ Jesus. 16 All Scripture is inspired by
God and beneficial for teaching, for reproof, for
correction, and for instruction in righteousness,

* **3:6** worm their way ¦ press PCK

17 so that the man of God may be complete, fully
equipped for every good work.

4

Preach the Word

1 I solemnly charge you *therefore in the
presence of God and †the Lord Jesus Christ, who
will judge the living and the ‡dead when he
appears along with his kingdom: 2 Preach the
word, be prepared whether the time is favorable
or not, reprove, rebuke, and encourage, with
complete patience and careful instruction. 3 For
a time is coming when people will not tolerate
sound doctrine, but having itching ears they will
surround themselves with teachers to suit their
own desires. 4 They will turn their ears away
from the truth and be turned aside to myths.
5 But as for you, be sober-minded in all things,
endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist,
and fulfill your ministry.

6 For I am already being poured out like 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 There is now laid
up for me the crown of righteousness, which the
Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that
day, and not only to me, but also to all who have
longed for his appearing.

Personal Instructions

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* **4:1** therefore 83.5% ¦ — CT 9% † **4:1** the Lord Jesus Christ ¦ Christ Jesus CT ‡ **4:1** dead when he appears along with ¦ dead, and by his appearing and CT

9 Make every effort to come to me soon.
10 For Demas, who is in love with this present
world, has deserted me and gone to Thessa-
lonica. Crescens has gone to Galatia, and Titus
to Dalmatia. 11 Luke alone is with me. Get Mark
and bring him with you, for he is useful to me
for ministry. 12 Tychicus I have sent to Ephesus.
13 When you come, bring the cloak that I left with
Carpus in Troas, as well as my scrolls, especially
the parchments. 14 Alexander the coppersmith
did me great harm. §May the Lord repay him
according to his works. 15 You yourself should
be on guard against him, for he *has vehemently
opposed our message.

16 At my first defense no one came to stand
by me; instead, they all deserted me. May it not
be counted against them. 17 But the Lord stood
by me and strengthened me, so that through me
the proclamation might be fully made and all the
Gentiles might hear. And I was rescued from
the lion's mouth. 18 And the Lord will rescue
me from every evil deed and preserve me for his
heavenly kingdom. To him be the glory forever
and ever. Amen.

Final Greetings

19 Greet Prisca and Aquila and the household
of Onesiphorus. 20 Erastus stayed in Corinth,
and Trophimus, who was sick, I left in Miletus.
21 Make every effort to come before winter.

§ **4:14** May the Lord ¦ The Lord will CT * **4:15** has ¦ — CT

Eubulus greets you, and so do Pudens, Linus,
Claudia, and all the brothers.
22 The Lord †Jesus Christ be with your spirit.
Grace be with you. ‡Amen.§

† **4:22** Jesus Christ ¦ — CT ‡ **4:22** Amen. ¦ — CT § **4:22** The following scribal note is included in the colophons of many Greek manuscripts: *The second letter to Timothy, who was ordained as the first overseer of the church of the Ephesians, was written from Rome when Paul was brought before Nero the second time.*

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