

Directional Devo
The Epistles to Timothy
2 Timothy 3:10-17
2/22/16

Paul's Suffering

vv.10-12 *But you have carefully followed my doctrine, manner of life, purpose, faith, longsuffering, love, perseverance, (11) persecutions, afflictions, which happened to me at Antioch, at Iconium, at Lystra--what persecutions I endured. And out of them all the Lord delivered me. (12) Yes, and all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution.*

He reminds Timothy that he knows his life and ministry.

He know that Timothy is familiar with what happened to him at Iconium when the Jews stirred the people up against him (Acts 13:50) and in Lystra where he was stoned and left for dead (Acts 14:6).

The point that he is making is that young Timothy needs to be prepared to have the same life and ministry.

But he quickly points out that the Lord was faithful to deliver him out of all of them.

Now does that mean that he Lord will deliver us out of every trial? – Yes, until he is done with us.

It reminds me of what Sharach, Meshach, and Abednego said to King Nibuchadnezzar when he threatened to throw them into the fiery furnace, *"O Nebuchadnezzar, we have no need to answer you in this matter. (17) If that is the case, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and He will deliver us from your hand, O king. (18) But if not, let it be known to you, O king, that we do not serve your gods, nor will we worship the gold image which you have set up"* (Dan 3:16-18).

We need to be living our lives in the same way.

Do what God tells us to do and trust him with the rest.

But be warned, *Yes, and all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution.*

Don't Be Swayed

v.13 *But evil men and impostors will grow worse and worse, deceiving and being deceived.*

Be that as it may, he is quick to point out that even so *evil men and impostors will grow worse and worse, deceiving and being deceived.*

Understand that nothing can stop this from happening. It will happen as sure as you are sitting under the sound of my voice.

vv.14-15 *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.*

Be that as it may, he is encouraging him not to be swayed away from the teachings that they had received from him since his new birth.

I get so flustered as a pastor when I see people come in the church doors excited and on fire for God, only to exit through those same doors later deceiving and being deceived.

They traded the true for the false.

In the end, they simply failed to *continue in the things which* they had *learned and been assured of*.

I've been left many times with nothing else to do for them but pray that they will remember and return.

All Scripture

vv.16-17 *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.*

Notice that he reminds Timothy that no matter what men do, the Word of God is inspired.

Inspired literally means *God-breathed*.

We believe in what is called the plenary verbal inspiration of the Bible.

Let's take a look at each of those words to see what they mean.

A. Plenary means "full" or "all."

In other words, we believe that all of the Bible is inspired.

B. Verbal means "by means of words" or "word for word".

This means that not only is the message of the Bible inspired, but the very words in that message are inspired.

Matthew 5:18 *For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled.*

A “jot” is the smallest letter in the Hebrew alphabet.

A “tittle” is a small appendage that differentiates two similar letters.

They are the equivalent of dotting an I and crossing a T.

Therefore, verbal inspiration of necessity requires dictation.

C. Inspiration, of course, as we mentioned before means *God-breathed*.

As such, Paul’s lists a few things to consider.

1. It is profitable for doctrine.

As a matter of fact, there is no doctrine outside of the Bible.

How is doctrine established? - It must have been taught by Christ in the Gospels, acted out in the Acts of the Apostles, and expounded upon in the Epistles.

Here are two examples of doctrine establishment.

Blood Atonement (Matt. 20:28; Acts 20:28; Gal. 3:13)

Deity of Christ (John 14:9; Acts 2:33; 2 Cor. 4:4)

Others can include Baptist, the second coming, the virgin birth, etc.