
Leaving A Legacy: A Study In 2 Timothy

"Living In Difficult Times"

2 Timothy 3:1-15

11-27-22

Introduction: We are working our way through 2 Timothy.

1. Paul's execution is immanent, and in many ways, Timothy represents Paul's legacy.
2. We have already covered a lot of ground.
 - Paul has encouraged Timothy.
 - Paul has explained the mission.
 - Paul has reminded Timothy of the truly important.
3. As we come to chapter 3 today, Paul focuses on the last days. He is referring to the time between the writing of this letter and Christ's return.
 - He did not think it would last 2,000 years.
 - But it has.
 - His description of the last days is just as real today as they were in Paul's day.
4. In short, he describes a time of tremendous spiritual/moral decline that intensifies over time.
5. This is what Timothy will face, it is what we face.
6. The question is: How can we succeed as followers of Christ in this hostile environment?
7. As we work through chapter 3, Paul will show us how!

I. The Fact Of Difficult Times

A. Moral/Spiritual Decline

B. Rejection Of Truth

II. Steps To Success

A. Consistency

B. Courage

C. Christ

Conclusion: In the midst of difficult times, it is easy to lose our way.

- As if God doesn't know.
- As if God doesn't care.
- As if God is powerless.
- As if things are hopeless.
- And we give up.

1. This is exactly what Satan, the god of this world, wants.
2. Remember, the gates of hell will not, cannot overpower the church.
3. We are the church. If we lose hope and give up, Satan is unopposed.
4. Our culture is in decline, things are getting worse, don't give up.
5. Greater is the One in us, than the one in this world.
6. No matter how bad things get, we know how it all ends.
7. So, hang in there, better days ahead!

