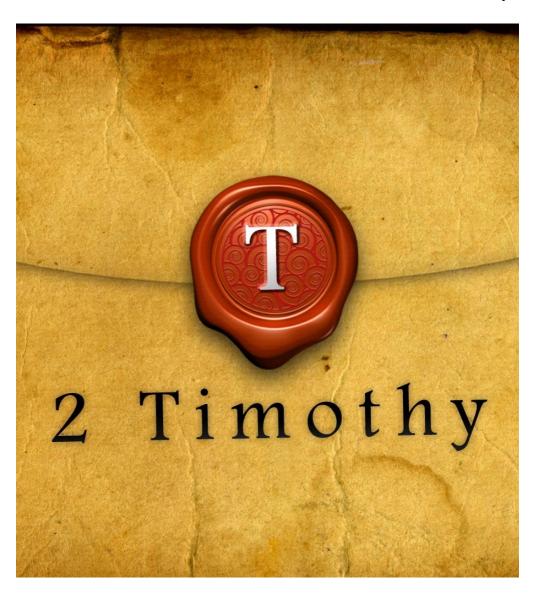
Let's Worship God

18th-23rd June 2018 2 Timothy



Monday - 2 Timothy 3:1-5 - Difficult Times

Timothy must not think it strange if there are bad men in the church for the net of the gospel encloses both good fish and bad (Matt. 13:47-48). Jesus Christ has prophesied that there will come deceivers (Matthew 24). Even in gold ore there will be dross, and a great deal of chaff among the wheat when it lies on the floor.

Timothy must know that in the last days, in gospel times, difficult times will come. Paul doesn't say difficult times will come because Jews and Gentiles will unite to root out Christianity, but he says difficult times will come because some who have the appearance of godliness will be corrupt and wicked and do a great deal of damage to the church. Two traitors within a fort can do more damage than two thousand enemies outside.

Paul tells Timothy some of the characteristics of the difficult times. People will be focused on loving themselves above all else. This will bring in a long train of sin and trouble. The next characteristic of these difficult times is loving money or covetousness. When the love of money prevails, when every man is out for what he can get and for keeping what he has, this makes men dangerous to one another, and obliges every man to stand on guard against his neighbour.

The times are difficult when men, being proud of themselves, are boasters and blasphemers. They boast before men whom they despise and look upon with scorn, and they blaspheme God and His name. When men do not fear God, they will not respect man. They are arrogant and abusive.

Questions

- 1. What can we expect in the last days?
- 2. What is self-love like?

Prayer Points

- 1. Pray that you would be unselfish.
- 2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
- 3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be competent, equipped for every good work." 2 Timothy 3:16-17

Praise: Psalm 13 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

Tuesday - 2 Timothy 3:2-5 - Characteristics of Difficult Times

When children are disobedient to their parents and break the responsibility they have towards them, they make the times difficult, for what wickedness will they stick at who will be abusive to their own parents and rebel against them.

Unthankfulness and unholiness make the times difficult, and these two commonly go together. What is the reason that men are unholy and without the fear of God, but that they are unthankful for the mercies of God?

The times are difficult when men are heartless. There is a natural kindness and affection due to all, but especially to those in our family. Times are difficult when children are disobedient to their parents and when parents do not love their children.

The times are difficult when men slander one another, when they do not care about another's good name, but they think they are free to say and do what they please. When men have no self-control of themselves and their desires they are like a broken down city and the least little thing can set them off in a brutal way.

Difficult times are when that which is good and ought to be honoured is generally despised and looked upon with contempt. When men are generally treacherous, reckless, and conceited, the times are difficult. When men love pleasure more than God, the times are bad indeed.

Difficult times are when men are called by the Christian name, baptised into the Christian faith, and make a show of being a Christian, but in reality their hearts have not changed, they have no desire to put sin to death, and they reject the power of God to change their life. These are the people that must be avoided.

Questions

- 1. What are some of the characteristics of difficult times?
- 2. What is the danger of those who pretend to be Christians?

Prayer Points

- 1. Pray that you would keep yourself pure in difficult times.
- 2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
- 3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be competent, equipped for every good work." 2 Timothy 3:16-17

Praise: Psalm 14 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

Wednesday - 2 Timothy 3:6-9 - Deceivers

Paul encourages Timothy by the fact that he is suffering on behalf of others. Good ministers may and should encourage themselves in the hardest services and the hardest sufferings, with this, that God will certainly bring good to His church, and benefit to His people, out of them. Next to the salvation of our own souls we should be willing to do and suffer anything to see the salvation of the souls of others. This salvation is in Christ Jesus, in Him as the fountain, the purchaser, and the giver of it; and it is accompanied with eternal glory.

Paul also encourages Timothy by reminding him of what they have to look forward to. Those who faithfully stick to Christ and His truth and ways, whatever it costs them, will certainly be blessed in Heaven. If, in conformity to Christ, we are dead to this world, its pleasures, profits, and honours, we shall go to live with Him in a better world, to be forever with Him. Even if we are called to suffer for Him here, we shall not lose by that. Those who suffer for Christ on earth shall reign with Christ in Heaven.

It is at our peril if we are unfaithful to Him. If we deny Him before man, He will deny us before His Father. And those whom Christ denies will face the wrath and curse of God. God is faithful to His warnings and faithful to His promises. If we are faithful to Christ, He will certainly be faithful to us. If we are false to Him, He will be faithful to His warning.

Questions

- 1. Who does Paul warn Timothy against?
- 2. What is our comfort regarding deceivers?

Prayer Points

- 1. Give thanks that God is in control of all things.
- 2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
- 3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be competent, equipped for every good work." 2 Timothy 3:16-17

Praise: Psalm 15 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

Thursday - 2 Timothy 3:10-12 - Paul's Example

Paul sets before Timothy his own example. Timothy has been an eye witness of Paul, and he knows him well. Timothy knows Paul's teaching. Paul kept back nothing from his hearers, but he declared to them the whole counsel of God. Timothy knows Paul's conduct. His life does not contradict his preaching. He doesn't pull down by his living what he builds up by his preaching. Timothy knows Paul's aim, his purpose, both in his teaching and in his life is the glory of God and the good of men's souls. Timothy knows Paul's faith; what Paul teaches and lives by isn't just something for other people but it is something that Paul himself is trusting in for his personal salvation. Paul has a very real, personal faith in who Christ is and what Christ has done for him. Timothy knows Paul's patience, especially toward the churches to which he preached. Timothy knows Paul's love towards all men and his steadfastness.

Timothy knows that Paul has suffered for doing what is right. And Timothy knows that God has taken care of him. God never failed Paul. It can be a comfort and encouragement to us when we look at the sufferings of other believers to remind ourselves that God is supporting and upholding them, and He will do the same for us when we must suffer. At that time those who professed faith in Christ were more exposed to persecution than at other times; but at all times, more or less, those who will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution.

Questions

- 1. What kind of example is Paul?
- 2. What can Christians expect?

Prayer Points

- 1. Pray for Christians being persecuted in other countries.
- 2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
- 3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be competent, equipped for every good work." 2 Timothy 3:16-17

Praise: Psalm 16 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

Friday - 2 Timothy 3:13-15 - The Blessing of God's Word

Paul warns Timothy of the fatal end of deceivers, as a reason why he should stick closely to the truth as it is in Jesus. As good men, by the grace of God, grow better and better, so bad men, through the subtlety of Satan and the power of their own sin, grow worse and worse. The way of sin is downhill; those who deceive others end up deceiving themselves.

Paul tells Timothy to stick to what he has learned in the Bible. It is not enough to learn that which is good, but we must continue in it, and persevere in it unto the end. If Timothy will stick to the truth as he has been taught, this will arm him against the lies of Satan. Timothy had a firm faith in the truth of what had been taught him. He knew who his teachers were and from a young age he knew that the Scriptures contained the truth of salvation and he believed that truth. If we want to know the things of God, and the way of salvation, we must search the Scriptures. For it is in the Bible that God reveals to us His plan of salvation. Timothy had the great blessing of knowing and being taught God's Word from when he was a child. This would be a tremendous advantage to him throughout his whole life.

Paul refers to the Bible as sacred or holy. The Bible is holy. It comes from the holy God, who used holy men, it contains holy commands, speaks of holy things, and is designed to make us holy and lead us in the way of holiness and happiness.

Questions

- 1. What are the blessings of God's Word?
- 2. Where do we learn about salvation?

Prayer Points

- 1. Pray for our covenant children.
- 2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
- 3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be competent, equipped for every good work." 2 Timothy 3:16-17

Praise: Psalm 17 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

Saturday - 2 Timothy 3:16-17 - The Word Of God

All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and therefore is His Word. It is a divine revelation, which we may depend upon as infallibly true. The prophets and apostles did not speak from themselves, but what they received of the Lord that they delivered unto us. That the Scripture was given by inspiration of God is demonstrated by its majestic style, its truth, purity, and holiness of the doctrines contained within it, its unity, its power on the minds of those who read it, the accomplishment of the prophecies in it, and the miracles that were done as proof that what was said came from God.

The Word of God is able to make us wise to salvation; it is a sure guide in our way to eternal life. It is profitable to us for all the purposes of the Christian life, for teaching, reproof, correction, and training in righteousness. It instructs us in that which is true, reproves us for that which is wrong, and directs us in that which is good. It is of use to all, for we all need to be instructed, corrected, and reproved.

That which completes a man of God in this world is the Scripture. By it we are equipped for every good work. There is that in the Bible that speaks to every situation. Whatever duty we have to do, whatever service is required from us, whatever situation we are in, we may find enough in the Bible to equip us for it.

Questions

- 1. Where does the Bible come from?
- 2. Can the Bible speak to every situation?

Prayer Points

- 1. Pray for the preaching and hearing of God's Word tomorrow.
- 2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
- 3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be competent, equipped for every good work." 2 Timothy 3:16-17

Praise: Psalm 18 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

The goal of Let's Worship God is to encourage and help you in your worship of God each day.

God tells us that Ezra read from the book of the Law day after day and that the people of God were filled with joy!

Let's Worship God is produced for the RP Global Alliance by Airdrie Reformed Presbyterian Church of Scotland.