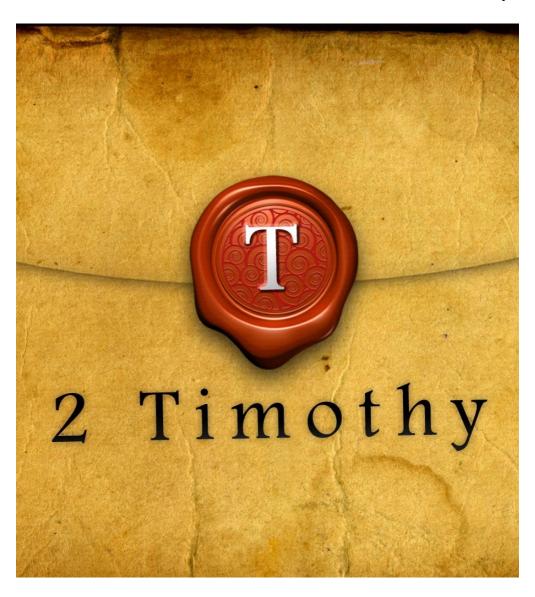
# Let's Worship God

25th-30th June 2018 2 Timothy



### Monday - 2 Timothy 4:1-2 - Preach the Word

Paul reminds Timothy that they eye of God his Creator and Jesus Christ his Redeemer is upon him. Christ will judge those who are still alive and those who are dead when He appears in His glory to bring in the fullness of His Kingdom. Everyone, both ministers and people, need to seriously think about the account they must give to Jesus Christ of what they have done with what has been given to them.

Timothy is charged to preach the Word. This is the minister's business. It is not their own ideas and theories that they are to preach, but the pure, plain Word of God, uncorrupted by them.

Timothy is to urge what he preaches and to press it with all earnestness upon his hearers. He is to do this work with a diligent and fervent spirit. He is to call upon those under his charge to repent, believe, and live a holy life. And he is to do this in season and out of season - in season when they want to listen, and you have a good opportunity to present the truth; and out of season, when it seems like they are not paying attention and the Word is not gripping them. Timothy has no idea when the Holy Spirit will be at work upon them. We too must bear witness to Christ in season and out of season. We must not let slip an opportunity to point people to Christ, and we must not keep silent under the pretense that to speak for Christ at that point won't do any good.

Timothy must tell people of their sins, reproving and rebuking them. He is to seek to convince wicked people of the evil and danger of their actions. By speaking plainly with them, he will endeavour to bring them to repentance.

# Questions

- 1. To whom must Timothy give an account?
- 2. When must Timothy preach the Word?

# **Prayer Points**

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

# **Memory Verse**

The Lord will rescue me from every evil deed and bring me safely into his heavenly kingdom. To him be the glory for ever and ever. Amen. 2 Timothy 4:18

Praise: Psalm 19 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

### Tuesday - 2 Timothy 4:3-5 - Oncoming Corruption

Timothy must direct and encourage those who begin well. He must do it very patiently. If he doesn't see the effect of his work immediately, he should not give up or get tired of speaking to his congregation. God is patient with us, we should be patient with others. Timothy must encourage and exhort his congregation, not with empty words, but with good teaching. He must teach them the truth of Jesus, and this will help them to put sin to death and strive to love and obey Christ.

Timothy must be sober-minded. He must be careful. He must watch his work, watch against the temptation of Satan, and he must watch over the souls of those committed to his charge. Timothy must count upon sufferings, endure them, and make the best of them. He should not let his suffering discourage him. Timothy must remember his calling and responsibilities. He is to do the work of an evangelist. He is to tell others about Christ. And he is to fulfil his ministry. It is a great trust that has been given to him, and he must perform all parts of his office with diligence and care.

Paul gives reasons for why he is charging Timothy in this way. False teaching and heresy is likely to creep into the church and corrupt the mind of many who profess Christianity. Paul says the time will come when the people won't endure sound teaching, so Timothy must take advantage of the present time when they will endure it. There will be those who will accumulate false teachers and turn away from the truth, so Timothy must seek to secure as many as he can, so that when the storms and tempests of false teaching arise, they may be stable and fixed upon Christ. Some will stop listening to the truth, they will get tired of the plain gospel of Christ, and will turn to myths and teachers who will say what they want to hear. Timothy must prepare himself and his congregation for these times.

### Questions

- 1. Why must Timothy be patient?
- 2. What is going to creep into the church?

# **Prayer Points**

- 1. Pray that you would keep your eyes fixed on Christ.
- 2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
- 3. Pray for family matters.

# **Memory Verse**

The Lord will rescue me from every evil deed and bring me safely into his heavenly kingdom. To him be the glory for ever and ever. Amen. 2 Timothy 4:18

Praise: Psalm 20 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

### Wednesday - 2 Timothy 4:6-7 - Fought the Good Fight

Paul charges Timothy because he, for his part, has almost finished his work. When Paul is gone, Timothy will be needed even more. When labourers are removed out of the vineyard, it is not time for those left behind to be lazy, but to double their diligence. The fewer hands there are to work, the harder those hands must work. Paul has done the work of his day and generation, now Timothy must, in a similar way, do the work of his day and generation. The comfort and cheerfulness of Paul in the face of his approaching death should encourage Timothy to the utmost diligence and seriousness in his work. Paul is an old soldier of Jesus Christ, Timothy is newly enlisted. It's as if Paul says, "I have found our Master kind and the cause good. I can look back upon my warfare with a great deal of pleasure and satisfaction, and therefore do not be afraid of the difficulties you must meet with. The crown of life is as sure to you as if it were already upon your head, so endure suffering and prove yourself a true minister." The courage and comfort of dying Christians are a great confirmation of the truth of Christianity and a great encouragement to other Christians.

Paul looks forward to his approaching death. The Holy Spirit has witnessed in every city that bonds and suffering await him. He is now at Rome and looks on his death as being near at hand, but he calls it his departure. Even though he probably knows that he is going to die a violent, bloody death, he refers to it as his departure or release. Death to a good man is his release from the imprisonment of this world and his departure to the enjoyments of another world; he does not cease to exist, but he only moves from one world to another.

### Questions

- 1. What is Paul looking ahead to?
- 2. How does he refer to his death?

# **Prayer Points**

- 1. Give thanks for older, godly Christians in the congregation.
- 2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
- 3. Pray for family matters.

# **Memory Verse**

The Lord will rescue me from every evil deed and bring me safely into his heavenly kingdom. To him be the glory for ever and ever. Amen. 2 Timothy 4:18

Praise: Psalm 21 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

# Thursday - 2 Timothy 4:7-8 - A Crown of Righteousness

Paul looks back with pleasure on the life he has lived. He does not fear death because, by the grace of God, as a Christian and as a minister he has fought the good fight. He has done the service, gone through the difficulties of his warfare, and has been instrumental in carrying on the glorious victories of the exalted Redeemer over the powers of darkness. His life is a course, and he has now finished it; as his warfare is accomplished, so his race is run. He has kept the doctrines of the gospel and not betrayed any of them. The life of a Christian, but especially of a minister, is a warfare and a race. But it is a good fight, a good warfare; the cause is good, and the victory is sure if we continue faithful and courageous. We must fight this good fight, we must finish our course, we must not give up till we are more than conquerors through Him who has loved us. It is a great comfort at the end of our life to be able to look back and say, "I have kept the faith."

Paul looks forward with pleasure to the life he is to live hereafter. He has lost much for Christ, but he knows he is not going to lose out in the end. This can encourage Timothy to endure hardness as a good soldier of Jesus Christ knowing that there is a crown of life before us, the glory and joy of which will abundantly recompense all the hardships and suffering of our present warfare. It is called a crown of righteousness because our holiness and righteousness will be perfected there and be our crown. God will give it as a righteous Judge. And it is not for Paul only but for all those who have loved the appearing of Jesus Christ - those who love His first appearing when He came to take away sin by sacrificing Himself; and those who love and long for His second appearing.

# Questions

- 1. What does Paul look back on?
- 2. What does Paul look forward to?

### **Prayer Points**

- 1. Give thanks for all you have to look forward to in heaven.
- 2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
- 3. Pray for family matters.

# **Memory Verse**

The Lord will rescue me from every evil deed and bring me safely into his heavenly kingdom. To him be the glory for ever and ever. Amen. 2 Timothy 4:18

Praise: Psalm 22 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

### Friday - 2 Timothy 4:9-15 - Various Messages

Paul wants Timothy's company and help, and he asks Timothy to hurry and come to him. Several have left him, some for bad reasons like Demas. Demas left Paul either for fear of suffering (because Paul is now a prisoner, and he is afraid he will get into trouble) or because he has become entangled in worldly affairs. Demas' first love to Christ and His gospel was forsaken and forgotten, and he fell in love with the world. Love of this present world is often the cause of turning away from Jesus Christ. Demas has gone to Thessalonica, Crescens has gone one way, and Titus another. Luke however remains with Paul, but Paul loves the company of his friends, and he wants others to be with him also.

Paul speaks respectfully concerning Mark. Probably this is the same Mark that had caused a sharp disagreement between Paul and Barnabas. In the past Paul hadn't wanted to take him on a journey with himself because Mark had hesitated and drawn back, but now it seems that Paul has become reconciled to Mark and has a better opinion of him. This teaches us to have a forgiving spirit and not write off forever those who make mistakes now.

Paul also asks Timothy to bring some things he has left behind - his cloak that he needs in a cold prison and books and parchments for study. Paul mentions Alexander and the trouble he has caused. Some think this is the same Alexander spoken of in Acts 19:33. It seems that he professed to be a Christian, and yet he did much evil to Paul. Paul was in as much danger from false Christians as from open enemies. Yet Paul knows that God will deal with him, and he warns Timothy to be careful, so that he too will not be betrayed by this man.

### Questions

- 1. What had Demas done?
- 2. Why does it seem Paul had forgiven Mark?

# **Prayer Points**

- 1. Pray that you would have a forgiving spirit.
- 2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
- 3. Pray for family matters.

# **Memory Verse**

The Lord will rescue me from every evil deed and bring me safely into his heavenly kingdom. To him be the glory for ever and ever. Amen. 2 Timothy 4:18

Praise: Psalm 23 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

### Saturday - 2 Timothy 4:16-22 - Closing Words

Paul had been called to appear before the emperor, upon his appeal to Caesar, but no man stood with him, to plead his cause, to bear witness of him, or to encourage and strengthen him, but all deserted him. There were many Christians in Rome, but they were weak, and when it came to the danger of suffering with Paul, they ran away. But Paul doesn't hold it against them, and he prays that God will forgive them. He knows that there is a difference between sinning maliciously and sinning out of weakness.

God stood by Paul and gave him extraordinary wisdom and courage to enable him to speak and preach the gospel. The emperor himself and many great men heard the gospel who would never have heard it otherwise. Paul knows that God, who delivered him in that situation, will deliver him to heaven, and for this he gives glory to God, rejoicing in hope. If the Lord is with us, He will strengthen us in a time of difficulty and danger, and His presence will more than make up for anyone's absence.

Paul concludes with a prayer that the Lord Jesus would be with Timothy's spirit. We don't need anything more to make us happy than to have the Lord Jesus Christ with our spirits; for in Him all spiritual blessings are contained. This is the best prayer we can pray for our friends, that the Lord Jesus Christ may be with their spirits, to sanctify and save them, and at last to receive them to Himself. And if grace is with us here to convert and change us, to make us holy, to keep us humble, and to enable us to persevere to the end, glory will crown us hereafter.

# Questions

- 1. Who helped Paul when he stood before Nero?
- 2. What does Paul pray for Timothy?

# **Prayer Points**

- 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**

The Lord will rescue me from every evil deed and bring me safely into his heavenly kingdom. To him be the glory for ever and ever. Amen. 2 Timothy 4:18

Praise: Psalm 24 - 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.