

INTRODUCTION:

- 1. Wedding bells August 20, 1977
- 2. That promise is not kept easily!
 - A. We're sinners.
 - B. Life in a **fallen** world is hard.
- 3. Another loyalty which <u>transcends</u> loyalty to one's spouse.

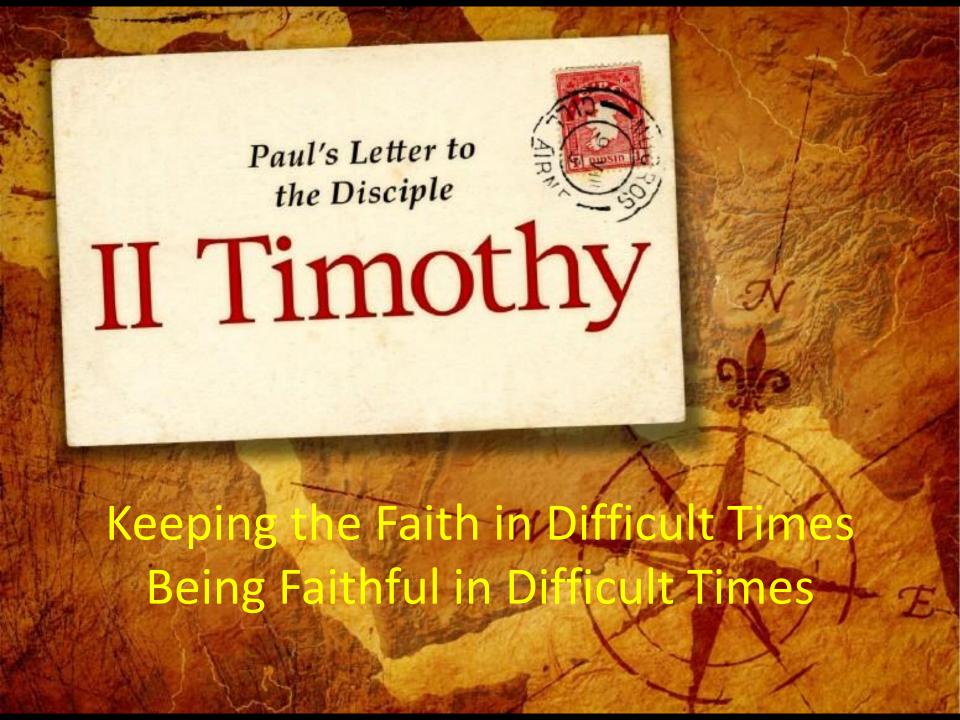
You doubly belong to God . . .

- He made you: He is the <u>Creator</u>.
- He bought you: He is your <u>Redeemer</u>.
 That means your life is not your own.



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doulos slave



"We are to imagine the apostle, 'Paul the aged', languishing in some dark, dank dungeon in Rome, from which there is to be no escape but death. His own apostolic labours are over. 'I have finished the race,' he can say. But now he must make provision for the faith after he has gone, and especially for its transmission (uncontaminated, unalloyed) to future generations. So he sends Timothy this most solemn charge. He is to preserve what he has received, at whatever cost, and to hand it on to faithful men who in their turn will be able to teach others also (2:2)."

Dr. John R. W. Stott

PERSECUTION

See 1:8-12, 15-18; 4:16-17

1. Paul again was a prisoner in Rome!

2. His situation was not the same as the one in Acts 28 (A.D. 59-61)



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- 1. Paul again was a prisoner in Rome!
- 2. His situation was not the same as the one in Acts 28 (A.D. 59-61)
- 3. Second Timothy clearly belongs to the time following Nero's edict making Christianity *religio illicita* (an illegal religion).
- 4. Was Paul's situation unique? Was he experiencing something unusual or out of the ordinary?

APOSTASY

See 1:13-14; 2:14-26; 3:1-9; 4:3-4

- 1. Study it accurately (2:15)
- 2. Guard it **carefully** (1:13-14)
- 3. Preach it unceasingly (4:1-2)
- 4. Entrust it to faithful men (2:2)
- 5. Suffer for it **bravely** (1:8)



How?

Remember, what God ask you & me to do, He will enable us to do!

- 1. God's **Power** (1:8)
- 2. God's Grace (2:1)
- 3. God's **Strengthening** Presence (4:16-17)
- 4. God's **Promise** (4:6-8, 18)
- 5. God's **Spirit** / **Gift** (1:6-7, 13-14)

