

McCoy Memorial Baptist Church

Date: November 7, 2021

Series: "Keeping the Faith in Difficult Times" (Part 2)

Text: Second Timothy

INTRODUCTION:

1. We begin in Ephesians 6:10-13
Paul's message: "Don't be Naïve!"
 - A. Our _____ enemy.
 - B. Our personal _____.
 - C. Our coming _____ = "the day of evil"
2. This in essence is what Paul wrote to Timothy in the N.T. epistle of Second Timothy.
3. The baton was being passed to a _____ young man.
4. What were the "appalling difficulties" Timothy would face?

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1. Paul's situation:
 - A prisoner in Rome's Mamertine Prison (1:8)
 - He was "chained like a criminal" (2:9; 1:16)
 - Many had deserted him; too dangerous (1:8-9a, 15-18; 4:16-18)
 2. _____ story (IDOP Video).
 3. Update from _____.

Years earlier, Paul had warned the Ephesian elders (Acts 20:29-32)

1. Two definite _____ utterances:
 - A. The First: _____.
 - B. The Second: _____.

2. Five _____ with regard to "the word" and "the gospel":

A. Suffer for it _____ (1:8)

B. Handle it _____ (2:15)

Literally: "cut it straight". "The workman handles the word with such scrupulous care that he both stays on the path himself, keeping to the highway and avoiding the byways, and makes it easy for others to follow." [Stott]

C. Guard it _____ (1:13-14)

D. Entrust it to _____ men (2:2)

E. Preach (communicate) it _____ (4:1-2)

R. A. Torrey (1856-1928)

"Oh, men and women, if you wish to get an audience and wish to do that audience some good after you get them, then study, study, study the one Book, and preach, preach, preach the one Book, and teach, teach, teach the one Book, the Bible, the only Book that is God's Word; and the only Book that has power to gather and hold and bless the crowds for any great length of time."

The Bible Speaks Today editors

"It is our conviction that God still speaks through what He has spoken, and that nothing is more necessary for the life, health and growth of Christians than that they should hear what the Spirit is saying to them through this ancient—yet ever modern—Word."

Here's God's Promise:

What God is asking you and me to do, He will enable us to do. How so?

1) God's Power (1:8)

2) God's Grace (2:1)

"Grace" is not merely "unmerited favor"; "grace" is also power. Grace is divine strength given to us so we can live in ways that please God.

3) God's strengthening presence (4:16-17)

"My strength is made perfect in your weakness" (2 Cor. 12:9)

4) God's Promise (4:6-8, 18)

5) God's Spirit/Gift (1:6-7; 13-14)