

*Paul's Letter to
the Disciple*



II Timothy

W

N



E



INTRODUCTION:

1. Paul presents seven pictures of the Christian “minister” (small “m”).
 - A. The steward (vs. 2)
 - B. The soldier (vss. 3-4)
 - C. The athlete (vs. 5)
 - D. The farmer (vss. 6-7)
 - E. The workman (vss. 14-18)
 - F. The vessel (vss. 19-22)
 - G. The servant (vss. 23-26)



2. I've decided to direct our attention
this morning to verse one.

PAUL'S COMMAND (vs. 1a)



We are to imagine the apostle, Paul the aged, languishing in some dark, damp dungeon in Rome, from which there is to be no escape but death. His own apostolic labours are over. "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith," 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).

John R. W. Stott

2. I've decided to direct our attention this morning to verse one.

PAUL'S COMMAND (vs. 1a)

1. What Timothy faced:

He faced four pressures.

A. The Neronian persecution in full swing.





A.D. 59-61

2. I've decided to direct our attention this morning to verse one.

PAUL'S **COMMAND** (vs. 1a)

1. What Timothy faced:

He faced **four pressures**.

A. The **Neronian** persecution in full swing.

B. **Heavy** responsibilities falling on Timothy.



This, then, was Timothy—young in years, frail in physique, retiring in disposition—who nevertheless was called to exacting responsibilities in the church of God. Greatness was being thrust upon him, and like Moses and Jeremiah and a host of others before and after him, Timothy was exceedingly reluctant to accept it. Is someone who is reading these pages in a similar situation? You are young and weak and shy, and yet God is calling you to leadership? This letter has a special message for all timid Timothy's.

John R. W. Stott

2. I've decided to direct our attention this morning to verse one.

PAUL'S **COMMAND** (vs. 1a)

1. What Timothy faced:

He faced **four pressures**.

A. The **Neronian** persecution in full swing.

B. **Heavy** responsibilities falling on Timothy.

C. A cost for faithfully communicating the message of the cross.

D. Widespread **defection** of "Christians".

See 1:15; 2:17-18; 3:1-8; 4:3-4, 9-10, and 16-17



2. What Paul expected:

He expected Timothy to be different.

GOD'S SUPPLY (vs. 1b)

1. The imperative “be strong” is in the passive voice.
2. The imperative “be strong” is in the present tense.
3. The source of this: “in Christ Jesus”
 - A. Paul's physical experience
 - B. Paul's financial experience
 - C. Paul's persecution experience



4. ILLUSTRATION: The hull of an old ship buried in the sand.

What a humanly devised mechanical force could not accomplish, the vastly greater forces of nature accomplished easily!



MAKING IT PERSONAL

Annie Johnson Flint (A.D. 1866-1932)

He Giveth More Grace