

From Forgiven to Faithfulness

2 Timothy, Titus, Philemon

Faithfulness in Ministry

Lesson 12 • 2 Timothy 4:1–8

OVERVIEW:

This text makes two major points. The first, which is the bases of faithful ministry, provides reasons to faithfully minister for Christ. The second, the behaviors of faithfulness in ministry, lists a number of specific activities that exemplify faithful ministry.



Faithfulness and Apostasy

Lesson 11 • 2 Timothy 3

“Who is intended by this expression is not explained. It may be a general term for every Christian, since the words themselves mean no more than ‘the man who belongs to God’ (NEB). On the other hand, it was an Old Testament title of respect applied to some of God’s spokesmen like Moses (Dt. 33:1), David (2 Ch. 8:14), and Elijah (1 Kgs. 17:18), and Paul specifically addressed Timothy by this phrase in his first letter (6:11). It may therefore refer here to men called to positions of responsibility in the church, and especially to ministers whose task it is, under the authority of Scripture, to teach and refute, to reform and discipline. At all events, it is only by a diligent study of Scripture that the man of God may become ‘complete, equipped for every good work’.” - John R. W. Stott



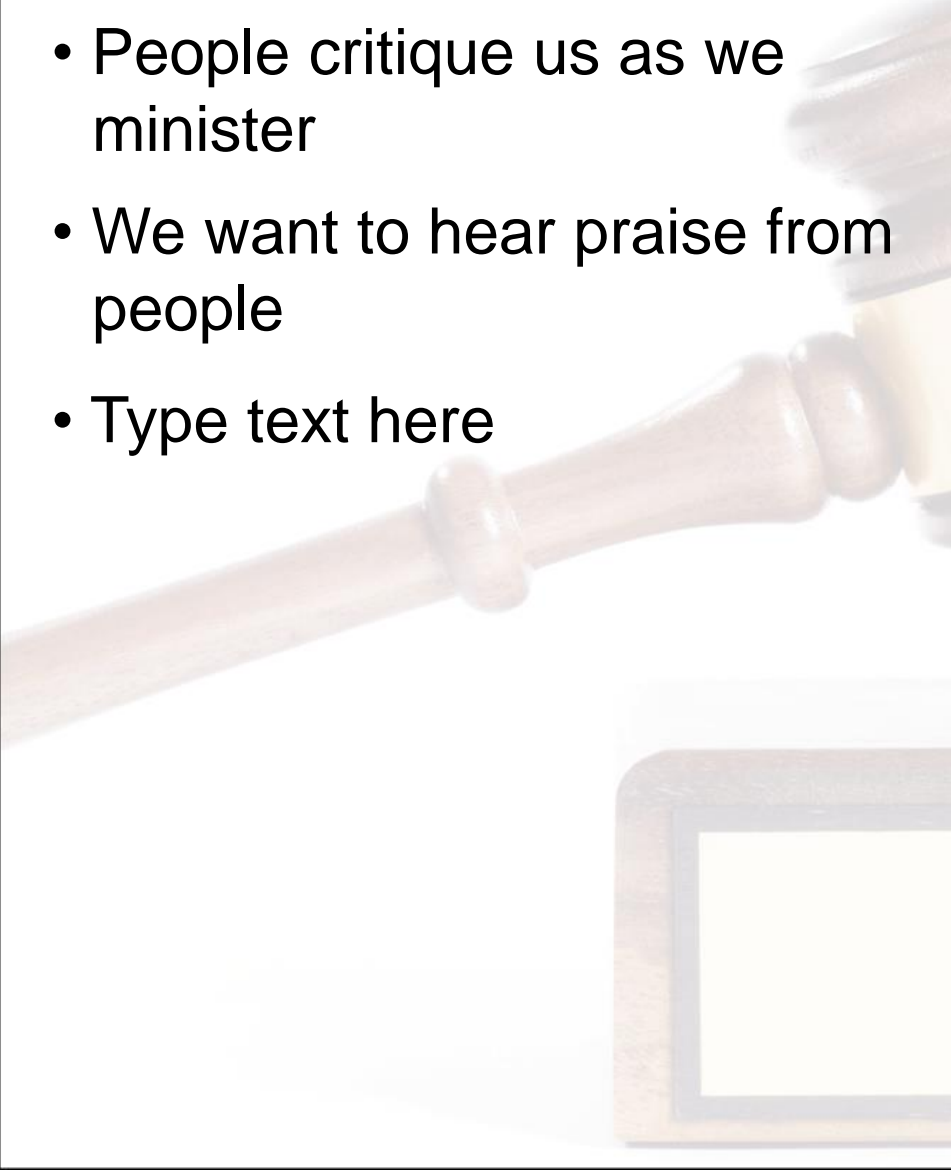


Standing before Our Judge

2 Timothy 4:1

Reasons we see people as judges

- People critique us as we minister
- We want to hear praise from people
- Type text here





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Affect on our service

- Our future judgment by Christ should have a purifying effect on our lives.
- It should provide us with an incentive to remain faithful.
- Type text here

FIRST-CENTURY BIBLE LANDS

Paul in Prison



Faithfulness and Apostasy

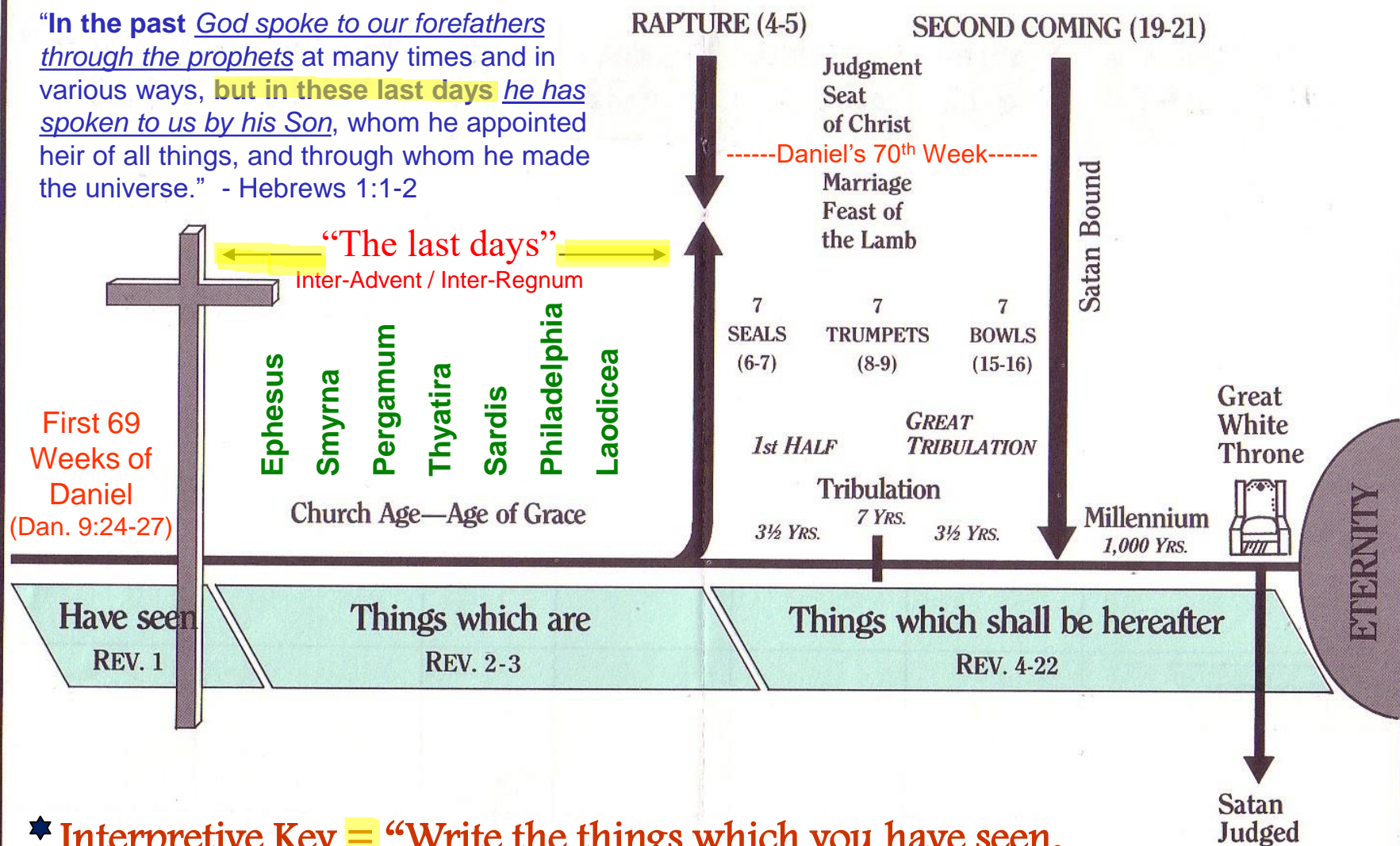
Lesson 11 • 2 Timothy 3

“The words which crystallize the letter for me are the two little monosyllables **su de** (‘but as for you’), which occur four times. Timothy is called to be different. He is not to yield to the pressures of public opinion or conform to the spirit of his age, but rather to stand firm in the truth and the righteousness of God. In my judgment nothing is more needed by Christians in today’s world and church than this same courage.”

John R. W. Stott. The Message of 2 Timothy, 1973.



"In the past God spoke to our forefathers through the prophets at many times and in various ways, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom he made the universe." - Hebrews 1:1-2



★ **Interpretive Key** = "Write the things which you have seen, and the things which are, and the things which will take place after these things." (Revelation 1:19, NASV)