

## A FINAL WORD

**2<sup>nd</sup> Timothy 4:1** I charge *you* <sup>[a]</sup>therefore before God and the Lord Jesus Christ, who will judge the living and the dead <sup>[b]</sup>at His appearing and His kingdom:

**2<sup>nd</sup> Timothy 4:2**

Preach the word! Be ready in season *and* out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Timothy 4:3** For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, *because* they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers;

**2<sup>nd</sup> Timothy 4:4** and they will turn *their* ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Timothy 4:5** But you be watchful in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry

### INTRO:

(1) The message today, is actually the last in a series that developed to my surprise in the last half of Philippians 2. Where we looked at Patterns And Examples of Godly Leadership

(2) This epistle is the second letter to Timothy, and Paul's last letter before being martyred by Nero  
A little background.

Paul was released from his first Roman imprisonment for a short period of ministry during which he wrote 1 Timothy and Titus. Second Timothy,

however, finds Paul once again in a Roman prison (1:16; 2:9), apparently rearrested as part of Nero's persecution of Christians.

(3) There is so much here, it would take weeks and weeks to dig into it, and find the truths of God as laid out in this letter

(4) We are going to look at four areas of teaching here today. I want to keep this as brief as possible

## OUTLINE:

- I. THE WORD
- II. THE REWARD
- III. THE PAIN
- IV. THE LORD

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## I. PREACH THE WORD

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## 1. THE CHARGE, THE LORD, THE JUDGE AND THE APPEARING OF CHRIST ONCE AGAIN

### A. PREACHING THE WORD IS THE PRIMARY TASK OF THE CHURCH

**IDEA:** The Final Judgement of God is coming, and in the meantime, here is your charge. Preach the Word, Keep Preaching it, even when no one wants to hear it.

**NOTICE:** The word charge means, to make a solemn declaration about the truth of something. *testify of, bear witness toto* exhort with authority in matters of extraordinary importance

**EXAMPLE:** In season *and* out of season.

The faithful preacher must proclaim the Word when it is popular and/or convenient, and when it is not; when it seems suitable to do so, and when it seems not. The dictates of popular culture, tradition, reputation, acceptance, or esteem in the community (or in the church) must never alter the true preacher's commitment to proclaim God's Word.

**QUOTE.** Stay with the priority of the Word of God

*I. PREACH THE WORD*

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## II. THE REWARD

**2<sup>nd</sup> Timothy 4:5** But you be watchful in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry

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**2<sup>nd</sup> Timothy 4:6** For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure is at hand.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Timothy 4:7** I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Timothy 4:8** Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing.

## **1. THE REWARD FOLLOWS OUR WORK HERE ON EARTH**

### **A. THERE ARE SEVEN WAYS THAT PAUL LAYS IT OUT**

**(1)** Be watchful

**(2)** Endure afflictions

**(3)** The work of evangelist

**(4) Ministry is an offering to God**

**(5) Ministry is a good fight**

**(6 )Ministry is a race**

**(7) Ministry is keeping the faith**

**IDEA:** The reward, oh, it's coming, coming to all who love the appearing of Jesus Christ

**2<sup>nd</sup> Timothy 4:8** Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing.

**IDEA:** The reward is called "The

Crown of Righteousness” Which is  
the completion of our salvation,  
our Glorification

**NOTICE:** That day, Me, Also all,  
Who love His appearing

*I. PREACH THE WORD. II. THE REWARD IN MINISTRY*

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### III. THE PAIN IN MINISTRY

**2<sup>nd</sup> Timothy 4:9** Be diligent to come to me quickly;

**2<sup>nd</sup> Timothy 4:10** for Demas has forsaken me, having loved this present world, and has departed for Thessalonica—Crescens for Galatia, Titus for Dalmatia.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Timothy 4:11** Only Luke is with me. Get Mark and bring him with you, for he is useful to me for ministry.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Timothy 4:12** And Tychicus I have sent to Ephesus.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Timothy 4:13** Bring the cloak that I left with Carpus at Troas when you come—and the books, especially the parchments.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Timothy 4:14** Alexander the coppersmith did me much harm. May the Lord repay him according to his works.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Timothy 4:15** You also must beware of him, for he has greatly resisted our words.

Unlike Paul’s confident hope of release during his first imprisonment (Phil. 1:19, 25, 26; 2:24; Philem. 22), this time he had no such hopes (4:6–8). In his first imprisonment in Rome (A.D. 60–62), before Nero had begun the persecution of Christians (A.D. 64), he was only under house arrest and had opportunity for much interaction with people and ministry (Acts 28:16–31). At this time, 5 or 6 years later (ca. A.D. 66–67), however, he was in a cold cell (4:13), in chains (2:9), and with no hope of deliverance (4:6).

**IDEA:** Paul details it out, the pain, and the difficulties, the personal loses. Five specifics here

(1) Forsaken by friends and fellow ministers

**2<sup>nd</sup> Timothy 4:9** Be diligent to come to me quickly;

**2<sup>nd</sup> Timothy 4:10** for Demas has forsaken me, having loved this present world, and has departed for Thessalonica—Crescens for Galatia, Titus for Dalmatia.

(2) Paul was isolated, alone, in need

(3) Paul was still leading the work

**2<sup>nd</sup> Timothy 4:11** Only Luke is with me. Get Mark and bring him with you, for he is useful to me for ministry.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Timothy 4:12** And Tychicus I have sent to Ephesus.

(4) Paul was very practical, and hungry

**2<sup>nd</sup> Timothy 4:13** Bring the cloak that I left with Carpus at Troas when you come—and the books, especially the parchments.

(5) The warning of evil doers in our midst.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Timothy 4:14** Alexander the coppersmith did me much harm. May the Lord repay him according to his works.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Timothy 4:15** You also must beware of him, for he has greatly resisted our words.

**POINT:** The ministry is not for those who want an easy go of it.

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## IV. THE LORD

Abandoned by virtually all of those close to him for fear of persecution (cf. 1:15; 4:9–12, 16) and facing imminent execution, Paul wrote to Timothy, urging him to hasten to Rome for one last visit with the apostle (4:9, 21). Whether Timothy made it to Rome before Paul's execution is not known. According to tradition, Paul was not released from this second Roman imprisonment, but suffered the martyrdom he had foreseen (4:6).

**IDEA:** Paul, lost friends, and was alone at the end. But, he was never truly alone, and nor are you

(1) In court, by himself, but never alone

**2<sup>nd</sup> Timothy 4:16** At my first defense no one stood with me, but all forsook me. May it not be charged against them.

(2) Was a forgiving man

**2<sup>nd</sup> Timothy 4:16** At my first defense no one stood with me, but all forsook me. May it not be charged against them.

(3) Paul praised God all the way to the end because God has a purpose

**2<sup>nd</sup> Timothy 4:17** But the Lord stood with me and strengthened me, so that the message might be preached fully through me, and *that* all the Gentiles might hear. Also I was delivered out of the mouth of the lion.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Timothy 4:18** And the Lord will deliver me from every evil work and preserve *me* for His heavenly kingdom. To Him *be* glory forever and ever. Amen!