

CCCH MEN'S STUDY - 2 TIMOTHY 1:1-7 9/21/26

Greeting – Encouragement - 2 Timothy 1:1-7

2 Timothy – Paul's Last Will and Testament – Filled with Emotion! Paul is in prison, awaiting execution!

2Ti 1:1 Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God (not of self, ambition of man), according to the promise of (eternal) life which is in Christ Jesus,

- **Paul, an apostle...** He is a very close personal friend of Timothy. He identifies himself as an apostle of Jesus Christ. Paul writes as an apostle by the Holy Spirit to instruct God's people through the history of the church.
- **By the will of God,** Who made him an apostle. He did not appoint himself, being in the will of God.
- **According to the promise of life, which is in Christ Jesus.** He starts talking about everlasting life, that is found in Jesus Christ. A life that no one can touch. It was Paul's, even though he is expecting death soon!

2Ti 1:2 To Timothy, a beloved son: Grace, mercy (in pastoral epistles), and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

- **Grace** is God giving you what you don't deserve. Just think of all that He has given you!
- **Mercy** is not receiving what you do deserve. We need *mercy* in our failings and our imperfections.
- Then *peace*, shalom be on your life. The *peace with God* and the *peace of God*.
- **The order in Paul's epistles, other than the three pastoral epistles is always the same, the *peace* always follows the *grace*.** God deals with me on the basis of *grace* and *mercy*. I can have His peace.

2Ti 1:3 I thank God, whom I serve with a pure (clear) conscience, as my forefathers did, as without ceasing I remember you in my prayers night and day,

- **I thank God.** Here Paul is unjustly imprisoned in a slimy, disgusting prison, yet he never complains!
- **He is thankful for Timothy's genuine faith in the Lord.** Paul has spent his life for the gospel. He knows his life has not been wasted. Timothy is still walking with God and serving Him.
- **whom I serve with a pure conscience.** Imprisoned unjustly. Paul wasn't in prison for breaking Roman law.
- **As my forefathers did,** I am just one in a long line of people that have paid a price to stay faithful to God.
- **as without ceasing I remember you in my prayers night and day.** Paul had a tremendous prayer life. To the churches, and now to Timothy, he wrote, remembering them constantly *in prayers, night and day*.
- **How strong and vibrant is your prayer life?**

2Ti 1:4 greatly desiring to see you, being mindful of your tears, that I may be filled with joy,

- **O Timothy, I want so much to see you!** Paul was really happy remembering the faith of faithful men like Timothy, who were loving and serving the Lord! **Do we have this joy of seeing those being saved?**

2Ti 1:5 when I call to remembrance the genuine (sincere, with integrity, no hypocrisy) faith that is in you, which dwelt first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice, and I am persuaded is in you also.

- **Paul had seen a lot of hypocrisy.** He had seen a lot of false teachers. What blesses him and fills his heart with joy is he knows Timothy; you are the real thing. That means a lot to me; this genuine faith that is in you.
- **Timothy came from a good heritage.** His grandmother was the first of the family to receive Jesus Christ. She shared them with her daughter, Eunice. Then Timothy was raised in the Scriptures from childhood!
- **In you also.** It wasn't enough that this genuine faith was in Timothy's grandmother and mother; it **had to be** in him also. **Do we fathers demonstrate our responsibility that the most important thing for our children/grandchildren is that they are taught the Bible and are saved?**

2Ti 1:6 Therefore I remind you to stir up (fan into flame) the gift of God which is in you through (accompanied by, not accomplished by) the laying on of my hands.

- **Timothy, stir up the gift which is in you.** Here he says, *stir up the gift!* To stir up into flame; keep the flame burning brightly! Left unfueled, a fire burns itself out. You stir up the coals and put fresh fuel on it to bring

it into flame again. Timothy, **stir them up!** Put fresh fuel on them! Keep it burning bright and strong! **Each of us have a responsibility to keep the fire of God burning in our lives! How bright is your fire?**

- **The gift of God which is in you** – the gifts that God has given you. What are they?
- Maybe for you it is the gift of helps; teaching; word of wisdom; word of knowledge; faith; healing; prophecy; discerning of spirits; tongues; love (*1Cor. Chapters 12-14*). But every single one of us has at least one gift of supernatural, enablement gift of the Holy Spirit that God gives us in alignment with what He's called us to do and to be, so that we can be supernaturally successful in what He has called us to do. Every Christian has a spiritual gift. **What gift/gifts has God given you?**
- There'll be some of us here that God has called you to teach. And you may have taught for the first few years of your Christian life, but it's been years since you've done it. But you've got a gift! **Are you using it?**
- Some of you have the gift of mercy; some the gift of helps, but all these other things in life and decisions that have been made have just pushed that gift right out of your life. You know you've got the gift, but it is just burning out and going away. If everybody does that, the light from the body of Christ, goes out.
- It is a good exhortation and encouragement for us tonight! **Am I fully doing what God has gifted me and called me to do? Am I fully using the gifts that God has given me?**

2Ti 1:7 *For God has not given us a spirit of fear* (cowardice, fearfulness, timid, faithless), *but of power* (*dunamis*) *and of love* (love for God and His people) *and of a sound mind* (discipline, self-control).

- There is no spirit of fear, timidity or cowardice and Paul uses a strong word because it's a needful hour in church history. Timothy don't be a coward now like so many others.
- One of the things from this verse is to recognize that fear, cowardice, is never from the Lord. **But what is from the Lord?** *For God has not given us a spirit of fear but of power and of love and of a sound mind.* He hasn't given us a spirit of fear, but of *power*. The word *power* there is *dunamis*, the dynamic, dynamite *power* of the Holy Spirit. (*Act 1:8a*) *But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you;* He says, **listen, no spirit of fear.** God has given us *power* to live this life, that He has called us to, no matter what.
- But not only a *spirit of power*, but of *love*. A love for God and love for His people that is greater than love for myself and self-preservation. What is a coward? One who elevates **self-preservation above all else**.
- Here is the same word used in (*Rev 21:8a*) *But the cowardly, unbelieving, abominable, murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars shall have their part in the lake which burns.*
- That is what is required today; a sound or a disciplined mind. That is what the Holy Spirit gives us, a disciplined mind that thinks like the Bible. It doesn't make decisions on the basis of emotions.
- Timothy can be bold in using the gifts God has given him, because God has given him a spirit of *power* and of *love* and of *a sound mind*. Paul knows the fear that Timothy sometimes feels.
- **Fear and timidity will keep you from using the gifts God has given you to touch His people and a needy world. God wants you to take His power, His love, and His calm thinking and overcome fear to be used of Him with all the gifts He has given you!**

SUMMARY –

- **Timothy's spiritual heritage.** Do we fathers demonstrate our responsibility that the most important thing for our children/grandchildren is that they are taught the Bible and are saved?
- **Stir up the gift! We have a responsibility to keep the fire of God burning in our lives! How brightly is your fire burning?**
- **The gift of God which is in you** – What gift/gifts has God given you? Am I fully doing what God has gifted me and called me to do? Am I fully using the gifts that God has given me? Whatever God has called you to do, go for it with intensity and tenacity.
- *For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.*
- We must recognize that fear, cowardice, is never from the Lord. **But what is from the Lord? For God has not given us a spirit of fear but of power and of love and of a sound mind!**