

Series "Ministry For Difficult Times"
"Finishing Well"
2 Timothy 4:6-8
Study-11

2 Tim 4 – A Charge To Proclaim The Gospel: (Preach It)

Some have called these last instructions "Paul's Eulogy" or "Paul's Epitaph".

God Told Adam The Result Of Sin Would Bring Death. Gen. 2:17

Gen. 5:5

"Death" – means "Separation"; the separation of the spirit, soul from the body.

Heb. 9:27

Key Thought: "The Death Worth Dying, Is Proceeded By A Life Well Lived, That Eagerly Awaits The Crown Of Righteousness."

1. Verse 6 – Present – A Death Worth Dying

2. Verse 7 – Past – A Life Well Lived

3. Verse 8 – Future – A Reward For Faithfulness

1. Verse 6 – Present – A Death Worth Dying:

2 Tim 4:6

"Preaching The Word" – 2 Timothy 4:1-5

2 Timothy 4:5

"For I" – "as for myself"

Paul, The Offering: Numbers 28:7

Numbers 28:24

Paul's First Imprisonment Was The Beginning Of His Being Poured Out:
Philippians 2:17.

Paul Saw The Drink Offering As Almost Finished: "For I am already being poured out as a drink offering,"

Paul's Death: The term "departure" – "unloosing" was a term used for death. The Greek word was used in the following ways: "describes the loosing of a ship from its moorings, pulling up anchor, the loosing of ropes that support a tent, soldiers breaking up camp for departure, the release from shackles."

2 Peter 1:14

Philippians 1:23

Romans 7:24-25

2 Corinthians 5:8

1 John 3:2

"has come." – "to stand by, to be at hand."

Heb. 9:27

Psalm 116:15

1 Corinthians 15:55

Jim Elliot said, "He is no fool who gives what he cannot keep to gain what he cannot lose."

2. Verse 7 – Past – A Life Well Lived:

2 Tim 4:7

Paul Looks Back to 3 Major Achievements:

1. Fought The Good Fight: "fought" – Greek word we get agonize from; "to struggle, to contend with an adversary, or labor fervently, strive."

"I have fought" – "a contest that has been pursued to the end and completed."

The Faithful productive Christian life is fierce and a relentless struggle – Ephesians 6:12

2 Cor 10:3-5

The Fight Is Noble: "the good fight," – "I have struggled the good struggle"

1 Tim 6:12

Good – “noble or excellent”

“I have fought the good fight,” – There Is No Fight More Noble And Better Than This Fight!

2. Finished The Course: “I have finished the course,” – Paul’s claim is not that he won the race but that Paul did not give up!

Acts 20:24

“course” – “racecourse, the foot race, the cinder path, today’s college athletic field.”

Proverbs 4:25-27

Hebrews 12:1

Philippians 3:13-14

2 Corinthians 11:23-28

“finished the course,” – Jesus Christ has finished the work – John 19:28-30.

“I have finished the course,” – Nothing More Important Than Finishing, To Not Give up, To rest at the goal.

3. Kept The Faith: “I have kept the faith;” – 2 Tim 2:5

“Kept” – “to keep by guarding, to watch over”; Being diligent to preserve.

The Scriptures Must Be Guarded: 1 Timothy 6:20

1 Corinthians 9:27

“I have kept the faith;” – To Stay True To Jesus Christ To The End! No Compromise!

3. Verse 8 – Future – A Reward For Faithfulness:

2 Tim 4:8

“in the future” – or “what remains”

Crown of Glory – 1 Peter 5: 4
Crown of Life – James 1: 12
Soul Winner's Crown – Phil 4: 1
Martyr's Crown – Rev 2: 10

"crown" – Greek "stephanos" – "a laurel awarded to the winners in the Olympic games."

"righteousness" – "Justified just as one should be, approved by God";
Salvation is free, rewards must be earned!

Titus 3: 5-6

"crown" – The Greek games were evergreen wreaths made of oak, ivy, parsley or myrtle. The accomplishment was the prize, 1 Corinthians 9:25.

"the righteous Judge" – "makes no mistakes, does not commit injustice";
God was going to give a magnificent reversal of Nero's verdict.

"will award to me on that day;" – 1 Thessalonians 4: 17-18

"have loved" – "habitual love and desire for His appearing."

A Genuine Test: Hebrews 9: 28

1 John 2: 28

1 John 3: 1-3

Application:

1. A Death Worth Dying – Is A Life That Is Dedicated To God As A Living Sacrifice.
2. A Life Well Lived – Fighting The Spiritual Fight, Finishing Our Course, And Staying True Without Compromise To Jesus Christ To The End.
3. A Reward For Faithfulness – Salvation Is A Free Gift, But Rewards Must Be Earned.