

## ~2 Timothy~

## Lesson 8 – The Endurance for the Word of Truth

So far in our study of 2<sup>nd</sup> Timothy we have seen the encouragement of Paul to Timothy to stand up for the Truth of the Gospel in the midst of intense hostility and persecution.

- Paul is exhorting Timothy to Endure for the Word of Truth.
- To stand strong for the purity of the Gospel. There has been an immense falling away from the church because of persecution and Paul is telling Timothy, the way to respond to this apostasy is to preach and teach the Word of Truth.
  - The section we are now in, 2:8-13, discuss the endurance for the Word
  - And as we learned last week in verses 8-9, Paul tells Timothy to keep his focus on Jesus. Remember Jesus Christ, out from the seed of David, who is the Word of God that the Father sent to the earth in the flesh to redeem man from sin and be resurrected unto glory.
  - Paul says, “It is for this Word that I suffer evil afflictions and am in chains, but Jesus Christ, who is the Word of God, is not chained and can never be chained.”
    - Jesus is the reason why we endure for the Word of Truth.
- Let’s read our text today on Enduring for the Word of Truth, **2 Timothy 2:8-13**

**2 Timothy 2:10** †Therefore I endure all things for the sake of the elect, †that they also may obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory.

† *Therefore I endure all things for the sake of the elect...*

- “**Therefore**” - dia touto, διὰ τοῦτο, because of this- referring to his kakopatheo, κακοπαθέω, suffering evil afflictions as an evil doer to the point of chains, 2 Timothy 1:8; 1:12; 2:3; 2:9
  - Now Paul says, “I endure all for the sake of the elect”
- “**I endure all**”, panta hupomeno, πάντα ὑπομένω, I endure all that I am suffering
  - This word hupomeno, ὑπομένω, means to under-abide, it is a compound word of ὑπο (under) + μένω (abide), to bear up under, endure, suffer patiently, persevere
  - “things” isn’t in the Greek. The word is simply “all” not “all things”, and you just have to use context to know “all of what”.
    - In this case, it is all of Paul’s suffering
- “**for the sake of the elect**”, dia tous eklektous, διὰ τοὺς ἐκλεκτούς,
  - Paul is enduring for the sake of the elect, the eklektos, ἐκλεκτος, the chosen.
  - The chosen, the eklektos, ἐκλεκτος, are those who answer the universal call of God unto salvation, therefore they are chosen because they said yes to God, **1 Pet 2:6-10; Matt 22:2-3, 14; Rev 17:14**
  - Notice it is the Faithful who are with Jesus Christ in glory when Christ takes back the universe and sets up His kingdom. Look at this progression- (called => chosen => faithful)
    - 1) **The Called**- This is the universal call of God to salvation, Rom 3:22 *to all and on all*
    - 2) **The Chosen**, the eklektos, ἐκλεκτος, - are those who have answered the call of God and have apprehended the grace of God through faith in Jesus, Eph 2:8 *by grace you have been saved through faith*
    - 3) **The Faithful**- those who endure in this life for the Word of Truth. Those who sanctify themselves from the world and walk in the will of God, **2 Pet 1:10-11**

† *that they also may obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory.*

- Paul is enduring for the sake of the elect so that they “might” obtain salvation with eternal glory
  - “May obtain”- tuchosi, τύχῳσι, subjunctive mood, meaning it is conditional on something

- It is conditional that the elect apprehend the grace of God
- So Paul is giving his life that the elect would have a chance to do this
  - This is Romans 10:13-17 in action because election does not automatically grant you salvation.
  - The elect, all those who have apprehended the grace of God through faith in Jesus, did it one way. Hearing and understanding the Word of God
    - This is why Paul is suffering for the sake of the elect, because how will they hear the Word of God and have faith if we do not preach the Word to them.
  - The only way to eternal life is faith in Jesus Christ, Jn 14:6
- “might obtain salvation...with eternal glory”
  - Paul is making this statement to those who through endurance and faithfulness might obtain eternal salvation with eternal glory.
    - I would conjecture that “eternal glory” is something in addition to our eternal salvation and only available to those who endure, Col 3:1-4; 2 Pet 1:2-4
      - This eternal glory is something extra given to the faithful who endure
    - In our text today in chapter 2, Paul makes the distinction between those who live with Christ and those who reign with Christ-
      - Eternal life and eternal life with eternal glory, 2 Timothy 2:11-13
    - In 2 Timothy 2:15 Paul says to be diligent to present yourself approved, dokimon, δοκιμον, approved as genuine (so that we might obtain this eternal glory)
    - In 2 Timothy 2:19-22 Paul exhorts Timothy and those in Ephesus to depart from iniquity and be cleansed and useful for the Master (alluding to something better)
      - Those who have proven themselves faithful will be rewarded, those who have just skated by with a “fire insurance policy” will have eternal life but with no rewards, 1 Cor 3:11-15

2 Timothy 2:11-13 †<sup>11</sup> This is a faithful saying: †For if we died with Him, We shall also live with Him. <sup>12</sup> If we endure, We shall also reign with Him. †If we deny Him, He also will deny us. <sup>13</sup> If we are faithless, He remains faithful; He cannot deny Himself.

† *This is a faithful saying...*

- This Greek statement is- pistos ha logos, πιστὸς ὁ λόγος, This is literally saying “The Word is faithful”
  - I don’t think the translators had a grasp of the revelation that Jesus is the logos, ὁ λόγος,
  - This has such a deeper meaning than just a “faithful saying”. Paul is saying the Word of God, who came in the flesh, giving the Words of the Father, full of life and light, the One Who cannot be bound... He is faithful
    - Faithful to what? Faithful to His promises:
    - To grant everlasting life to those who believe, to exalt those who endure in this life, to reign with Him for all eternity with glory, and to exact vengeance and justice on all who reject Him

† *For if we died with Him, We shall also live with Him. <sup>12</sup> If we endure, We shall also reign with Him...*

- “For if we died with Him, we shall also live with Him”
  - This is the first step to salvation, Romans 6:3-8; 2 Cor 5:17; Eph 2:4-7
- “If we endure...”
  - “endure” ~ hupomeno, ὑπομένω, is the same word Paul used in verse 10, “I endure all, hupomeno, ὑπομένω, for the sake of the elect.”
  - Endurance, specifically, hupomone, ὑπομονή, (the noun form of hupomeno, ὑπομένω) is a

characteristic that is put to work during suffering trials and evil afflictions

- **James 1:2-4; Rom 5:2-4; Heb 10:36; Rev 3:10-12**
- God has promised rewards to the faithful, to those who endure,
- Peter says we must be faithful to be a partaker of the glory and receive the crown of glory when Jesus returns, 1 Pet 5:1-4;
  - **James 1:12**- Endure for the crown of life
- This is what Paul is telling Timothy, *share with me in the sufferings for the gospel*, 2 Tim 2:8; *Preach the Word*, 4:2; *be watchful in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry*, 4:5
  - He is encouraging Timothy to not let up, endure for the Gospel
- “if we endure...we shall also reign with Him”
  - It is promised that the faithful saints of the Most High will reign with Him,
  - Revelation 3:21- *To him who overcomes I will grant to sit with Me on My throne, as I also overcame and sat down with My Father on His throne.*;
  - Revelation 2:26- *And he who overcomes, and keeps My works until the end, to him I will give power over the nations*
  - Rev 20:4; 1 Cor 6:2-3; Matt 19:28; 25:14-30; Lk 19:11-27; Dan 7:18, 22, 27;
- Paul is telling us that there are rewards for the Christian who endures for the Word of Truth and for the sake of His Name.
  - This is an elite status of Christians who will be glorified in the **oneness of Christ as His Bride**, 2 Cor 11:2- *present you as a chaste virgin to Christ*; **Rev 19:7-8; John 17:20-23**; Eph 5:29-32; Matt 25:1-13; 1 Cor 15:43-45; 2 Cor 11:2; Phil 3:14;
- The New Testament is prevalent with warnings for those who become entangled with the affairs of this life and do not put Jesus first, and there are serious warnings and potentially eternal consequences to those who get so caught up in the world that they fall away and reject Him, James 1:7-8, 22, 27; 1 Peter 1:13-16; 2:1-5; 11-12; Heb 6:4-8, 10:26-29; 2 Pet 2:1-2, 18-21, 3:17-18; 1 Jn 2:15-17; Rev 2:2-5, 2:14-16, 2:20-22, 3:3-5, 3:15-21
- † *If we deny Him, He also will deny us. <sup>13</sup> If we are faithless, He remains faithful; He cannot deny Himself.*
  - “If we deny Him, He also will deny us” Paul is no doubt quoting Jesus, **Matt 10:32-39**
    - Notice the expectations of Jesus. He wants Christians totally committed to Him. If we are to follow Him, He expects us to put Him as first place
    - If we deny Him, that One, kakeinos, κακεῖνος, (who is faithful) will deny us- this is referring back to Jesus- the Word Who is faithful
  - “If we are faithless...”
    - This is literally “without faith” apisteo, ἀπιστέω. Faith is the only requirement to eternal life. If you are without faith, you cannot be a Christian. If you are without faith, He will deny you.
  - “...He remains faithful...”
    - Remember verse 11- “The Word is faithful” ~ pistos ha logos, πιστὸς ὁ λόγος,
    - Now Paul says, ekeinos pistos menei, ἐκεῖνος πιστὸς μένει,
      - that One (who is faithful) remains faithful
      - Jesus’ faithfulness is not conditional on our faithfulness.
      - Whether we are faithful or faithless does not change who Jesus is. Jesus is faithful all the time for all eternity
  - “...He cannot deny Himself”
    - God has bound Himself to His Word and promises and He is, ou dunatai, οὐ δύναται, not able to break His Word.

- Some people say God is sovereign and He can do anything He wants. But that's not exactly true. In His sovereignty, He has bound Himself to His Word.
- He cannot go against His Word. He must and will always remain faithful to His Word and because Jesus is the Word, [He cannot deny Himself](#).
  - He is pistos ha logos, πιστὸς ὁ λόγος, the faithful Word, Psalm 138:2; 111:7-9; 33:4;
- Jesus is Faithful and He remains Faithful and True
  - Just as He is Faithful and True to all His promises and blessings to the righteous, He is equally Faithful and True to execute vengeance and justice on the unrighteous, Rom 12:19; Deut 7:9-11; 2 Pet 3:9-13, Rev 19:11-16

In Summary, this is Paul's exhortation to Timothy,

I tell you to endure and persevere for the Truth of the Word as you have seen me endure for the sake of the elect, that you, and all those you teach might obtain to the salvation that is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory.

Remember Jesus Christ, of the seed of David, having been raised from the dead, that Word of God, who was sent by the Father to give us life and light through the Gospel, the One, Who is the Word, the logos, ὁ λόγος, the One Who cannot be bound... He is Faithful.

Remember, if we died with Him in this life by putting to death the mortal deeds of the flesh and dying to sin, we will live with Him in eternal life, and if we endure for the Truth of the Word, we will also be granted the authority to rule and reign with Him in eternal life with eternal glory.

But if we deny Him, that is if we deny the Faithful Word of God, that One who is Faithful will deny us. If we are without faith, that One who is faithful will continue to remain faithful because He cannot deny Himself because He is Faithful and He is True.

Remind the elders of these things, charging them before the Lord to be diligent and endure for the Word of Truth.