

## II Timothy – The Word of God II Tim. 3:14-17

*Thesis: To help us better understand the value and importance of the word of God.*

### Introduction:

Last week, we noticed the fact that perilous times were coming into the church.

This week, we will notice how to deal with those perilous times.

The only way to be successful in dealing with them is by applying the word of God to our lives.

### I. From his childhood, Timothy had been taught the word of God (3:14-15).

#### A. From the beginning of his life, Timothy had been taught the word of God (3:14-15).

1. His mother had raised him properly.
2. II Tim. 1:3-5 - I thank God, whom I serve with a pure conscience, as my forefathers did, as without ceasing I remember you in my prayers night and day, {4} greatly desiring to see you, being mindful of your tears, that I may be filled with joy, {5} when I call to remembrance the genuine faith that is in you, which dwelt first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice, and I am persuaded is in you also.
3. Acts 16:1-2 (Because of his upbringing, Timothy had a good reputation) - Then [Paul] came to Derbe and Lystra. And behold, a certain disciple was there, named Timothy, the son of a certain Jewish woman who believed, but his father was Greek. {2} He was well spoken of by the brethren who were at Lystra and Iconium.

#### B. Paul tells Timothy to “continue in the things” that he had been taught from his childhood (3:14).

1. Because Timothy had grown up with the word of God, he knew that it was right.
2. Paul is reminding Timothy to be faithful to that word.
3. II Tim. 1:13 - Hold fast the pattern of sound words which you have heard from me, in faith and love which are in Christ Jesus.

#### C. Timothy was to continue in the word of God because it is the Holy Scriptures that would give him the knowledge that he needed to obtain eternal life (3:15).

1. It is only in the word of God that we can know what to do to be saved.
  - a. When it comes to salvation, we must turn to the word of God, not man.
  - b. Multitudes of people will die and go to hell because they believed the preacher rather than the word of God.
  - c. It is not good enough to say, “Because my preacher says so.”

2. The Bible is clear that it is the word of God that has the power to save.
  - a. **Jn. 5:39** (Jesus speaking about the things that are witnesses of Him) - **You search the Scriptures, for in them you think you have eternal life; and these are they which testify of Me.**
  - b. **I Cor. 15:1-2** - Moreover, brethren, I declare to you the gospel which I preached to you, which also you received and in which you stand, {2} by which also you are saved, if you hold fast that word which I preached to you-- unless you believed in vain.
  - c. **Js. 1:21** - Therefore lay aside all filthiness and overflow of wickedness, and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls.
3. It is the word of God that has the power to save, and Timothy was to continue in the things that he had been taught from childhood.

## II. The Scripture that we have comes directly from God (3:16a).

### A. "All Scripture is given by inspiration of God."

1. It is not our intent to prove that the Bible is from God.
  - a. To use the Bible to prove the Bible is circular reasoning.
  - b. Instead, we will notice what this means for us today.
2. God has revealed His will to us.
  - a. God revealed His will to the prophets.
  - b. God reveals His will to us today through the Spirit by the written word.
  - c. **II Pet. 1:16-21** - For we did not follow cunningly devised fables when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of His majesty. {17} For He received from God the Father honor and glory when such a voice came to Him from the Excellent Glory: "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased." {18} And we heard this voice which came from heaven when we were with Him on the holy mountain. {19} And so we have the prophetic word confirmed, which you do well to heed as a light that shines in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts; {20} knowing this first, that no prophecy of Scripture is of any private interpretation, {21} for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit.

### B. Because Scripture has been given to us by God, it should be important to us.

1. We should read and study it daily.
2. This is what God has chosen to reveal to us, and it is what we should know.
3. There will be no eternal surprises on the Day of Judgment.

### III. The word of God is profitable to us for several reasons (3:16b-17).

#### A. The word of God is profitable for all things that pertain to God (3:16b).

1. It is profitable for doctrine (3:16).
  - a. The doctrine of the word of God is that which is taught in it.
  - b. It is the basic commands that we are to follow.
  - c. It is the day-to-day instruction that comes from God.
2. It is profitable for reproof (3:16).
  - a. Reproof is something that is done to someone on the outside.
  - b. We reproof (rebuke) those who are living in sin in this world.
  - c. We rebuke those who teach error in this world.
3. It is profitable for correction (3:16).
  - a. Correction is something that is done to those who are already a part of the Lord's church.
  - b. We correct our own lives, and also the lives of others when needed.
4. It is profitable for instruction in righteousness (3:16).
  - a. The word of God teaches us how to live.
  - b. It teaches us of living a holy life, one that is well-pleasing to God.

#### B. The word of God is profitable to us so that we "may be complete" (3:17).

1. The only way that we can be made whole is through the word of God.
2. Children of God are to go about doing good works.
  - a. It is not that we will "earn" heaven; it simply means that we are doing what God wants us to do.
  - b. Paul had already given Timothy a list of things that he needed to be doing.
    - 1) 1:6 – Stir up the gift of God.
    - 2) 1:13 – Hold fast the pattern of sound words.
    - 3) 2:1 – Be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus.
    - 4) 2:3-4 – Endure hardship as a good soldier of Jesus Christ.
    - 5) 2:22 – Pursue righteousness, faith, love, peace.
    - 6) 2:24 – A servant of the Lord must...be gentle to all, able to teach, patient.
    - 7) 3:14 – Continue in the things which you have learned and been assured of.
  - c. Paul is going to continue to tell Timothy things that he needs to be doing.
    - 1) 4:2 – Preach the word.
    - 2) 4:5 – Do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.
3. Timothy could only be prepared to do these things if he was constant in the word of God.
4. Again, it was not as if Timothy was "earning" a home in heaven; he was simply being obedient to God.
5. **Note: We cannot read the Bible and take out the action verbs.**

**Conclusion:**

In order to succeed in these perilous times, we must hold fast to the word of God.