

I SOLEMNLY URGE YOU...

2 Timothy 4:1-8

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Four parts

- Paul's call to Timothy vv 1-2
 - Paul's warning to Timothy vv 3-4
 - Paul's commission of Timothy v 5
 - Paul's completion of his work and its implications for Timothy vv 6-8
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Paul's call to Timothy vv 1-2

- **It is urgent v 1** cf. Acts 20:24
 - based on the truth about God and Jesus
 - as judge of all
 - as coming (his appearing) cf. 1:10
 - as ruling (his kingdom)
 - being future-orientated
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Paul's call to Timothy vv 1-2

- It is urgent v 1
 - It is focused but multi-faceted v 2
 - proclaim the word
-

Paul's call to Timothy vv 1-2

- It is urgent v 1
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All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realise what is wrong in our lives. It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right. God uses it to prepare and equip his people to do every good work.

2 Timothy 3:16-17 NLT

Paul's call to Timothy vv 1-2

- It is urgent v 1
- It is focused but multi-faceted v 2

- proclaim the word

- stand ready at all times

- convince/correct

- rebuke

- encourage/exhort



- with all patience

- with all teaching

Paul's call to Timothy vv 1-2

- Paul is not hitting Timothy over the head!
 - Paul prays for Timothy 1:3
 - Paul reminds Timothy of the Spirit 1:7, 14
 - Paul will tell Timothy of the Lord's help
 - at his first hearing 4:17
 - eternally 4:18
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In the name of our Lord we bid you remember the greatness of the trust that is now to be committed to your charge.

Remember always with thanksgiving that the treasure now to be entrusted to you is Christ's own flock, bought by the shedding of his blood on the cross. It is to him that you will render account for your stewardship of his people.

You cannot bear the weight of this calling in your own strength, but only by the grace and power of God. Pray therefore that your heart may daily be enlarged and your understanding of the Scriptures enlightened.

Pray earnestly for the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Paul's warning to Timothy vv 3-4

- 'for' γάρ v 3



‘Proclamation of the truth is all the more necessary when it is being rejected and the temptation is to fall in with the prevailing mood’

I. Howard Marshall

Paul's warning to Timothy vv 3-4

- 'for' γάρ v 3
 - turning away from healthy teaching cf. 1:13
 - turning to their own desires
 - wandering into myths
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‘...a congregation’s tendency to substitute unreliable conspiracy theories for healthy teaching of the Pauline tradition’

Robert Wall & Richard Steele

Paul's warning to Timothy vv 3-4

- 'for' γάρ v 3

- turning away from healthy teaching cf. 1:13

- turning to their own desires

- wandering into myths

- false teaching 1:15; 2:16-18, 23; 3:1-8; 4:10, 14-15

- the danger of the 'bubble'

Paul's commission of Timothy v 5

- emphatic focus on 'you' σὺ
 - be sober in everything cf. 1 Thess 5:6, 8
 - 'Be self-controlled as God's athlete'
Ignatius, *To Polycarp* 2:3
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Paul's commission of Timothy v 5

- **emphatic focus on 'you' σὺ**
 - **be sober in everything cf. 1 Thess 5:6, 8**
 - endure suffering cf. 2:9
 - do the work of an evangelist cf. Acts 21:8
 - carry out your ministry in full cf. 4:17
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Paul's completion of his work and its implications for Timothy vv 6-8

- Paul is coming to end of his ministry and life v 6
 - being 'poured out'
 - being 'unmoored'
 - 'stands near' echoing v 2 ἐφίστημι
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Do not be ashamed, then, of the testimony about our Lord or of me his prisoner, but join with me in suffering for the gospel, in the power of **God, who saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works but according to his own purpose and grace,** and this grace was given to us in Christ Jesus before the ages began, but it has now been revealed through the appearing of **our Saviour Jesus Christ, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.**

2 Timothy 1:8-10

Paul's completion of his work and its implications for Timothy vv 6-8

- Paul is coming to end of his ministry and life v 6
 - Paul reflects on his ministry v 7
 - 'fought the good fight'
 - 'finished the race' cf. Isaiah 40:30-31
 - 'kept the faith'
cf. 2:5 'according to the rules'
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Paul's completion of his work and its implications for Timothy vv 6-8

- Paul is coming to end of his ministry and life v 6
 - Paul reflects on his ministry v 7
 - Paul looks forward with confidence v 8a
 - the wreath of righteousness
 - 'on that day'
 - the righteous judge—contrast Acts 24:27
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Paul's completion of his work and its implications for Timothy vv 6-8

- Paul is coming to end of his ministry and life v 6
 - Paul reflects on his ministry v 7
 - Paul looks forward with confidence v 8a
 - Paul points Timothy forward v 8b
 - ‘not only to me...’
 - ‘those who have set their love on his appearing’
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Questions for reflection and prayer

- What might God be calling me to do or say as a result of reading this passage?
 - What in this passage encourages me? How does it do that, and how shall I respond?
 - What in this passage challenges me? How does it do that, and how shall I respond?
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You can get these slides from

Acts and More

<http://stevewalton.info>
