

# Outline of the Book of 2 Timothy

The book of 2 Timothy, written by the Apostle Paul, is a personal and pastoral letter to Timothy, providing final instructions and encouragement amidst growing persecution and the threat of false teachings. It is Paul's last epistle, written during his imprisonment in Rome, and it underscores the importance of perseverance, sound doctrine, and faithful ministry. Below is an exhaustive outline of 2 Timothy, highlighting the dangers facing believers.

## I. Introduction (1:1-2)

- A. Salutation (1:1-2)
  - 1. Paul's apostleship by the will of God (1:1)
  - 2. Greeting to Timothy, his beloved son (1:2)
  - 3. Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord (1:2)

## II. Encouragement to Be Faithful (1:3-18)

- A. Thanksgiving and Reminder of Timothy's Faith (1:3-7)
  - 1. Paul's gratitude and prayers for Timothy (1:3)
  - 2. Reminder of Timothy's sincere faith (1:4-5)
  - 3. Exhortation to fan into flame the gift of God (1:6)
  - 4. Encouragement to be bold and courageous (1:7)
- B. Exhortation to Guard the Gospel (1:8-14)
  - 1. Do not be ashamed of the testimony of the Lord or of Paul (1:8a)
  - 2. Join in suffering for the gospel (1:8b)
  - 3. The power and purpose of God's grace (1:9-10)
  - 4. Paul's role as a preacher, apostle, and teacher (1:11)
  - 5. Paul's confidence in God despite suffering (1:12)
  - 6. Hold fast to sound teaching (1:13)
  - 7. Guard the good deposit through the Holy Spirit (1:14)
- C. Examples of Faithfulness and Unfaithfulness (1:15-18)
  - 1. Those who turned away from Paul (1:15)
  - 2. The faithfulness of Onesiphorus (1:16-18)

## III. Instructions for a Faithful Ministry (2:1-26)

- A. Be Strong in Grace (2:1-7)
  - 1. Be strong in the grace of Christ Jesus (2:1)
  - 2. Entrust teachings to faithful men (2:2)
  - 3. Endure hardship as a good soldier (2:3-4)
  - 4. Compete according to the rules like an athlete (2:5)
  - 5. Work hard like a farmer (2:6)
  - 6. Reflect on these metaphors (2:7)
- B. Remember Jesus Christ (2:8-13)
  - 1. Remember Jesus Christ, raised from the dead (2:8)

2. Paul's suffering for the gospel (2:9-10)
  3. Trustworthy saying about enduring and denying Christ (2:11-13)
- C. Rightly Handle the Word of Truth (2:14-19)
1. Remind people of these things and charge them before God (2:14)
  2. Avoid quarrels about words (2:14)
  3. Do your best to present yourself approved to God (2:15)
  4. Avoid godless chatter (2:16)
  5. The consequences of false teaching (2:17-18)
  6. God's firm foundation stands (2:19)
- D. Be a Vessel for Honor (2:20-26)
1. Different kinds of vessels in a house (2:20)
  2. Cleanse yourself to be a vessel for honorable use (2:21)
  3. Flee youthful passions and pursue righteousness (2:22)
  4. Avoid foolish and ignorant disputes (2:23)
  5. The Lord's servant must not be quarrelsome but gentle (2:24-26)

## IV. Perilous Times and the Importance of Scripture (3:1-17)

- A. Perilous Times and Corrupt People (3:1-9)
1. Description of the last days (3:1-5)
  2. The behavior of false teachers (3:6-9)
- B. Paul's Example and the Coming Persecution (3:10-13)
1. Paul's example of teaching, conduct, purpose, faith, and love (3:10-11)
  2. Persecution is inevitable for godly living (3:12)
  3. Evil people and impostors will go from bad to worse (3:13)
- C. The Importance of Scripture (3:14-17)
1. Continue in what you have learned (3:14)
  2. The sacred writings are able to make you wise for salvation (3:15)
  3. All Scripture is God-breathed and profitable (3:16)
  4. Scripture equips for every good work (3:17)

## V. Final Charge to Preach the Word (4:1-8)

- A. Preach the Word (4:1-5)
1. Solemn charge before God and Christ Jesus (4:1)
  2. Preach the word in season and out of season (4:2)
  3. People will turn away from the truth (4:3-4)
  4. Be sober-minded, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist (4:5)
- B. Paul's Departure and Reward (4:6-8)
1. Paul's impending departure (4:6)
  2. Paul's reflection on his ministry (4:7)
  3. The crown of righteousness (4:8)

## VI. Personal Instructions and Final Greetings (4:9-22)

- A. Personal Requests and Reports (4:9-18)

1. Request for Timothy to come soon (4:9)
  2. Reports on various individuals (4:10-15)
  3. Paul's experience at his first defense (4:16-18)
- B. Final Greetings (4:19-21)
1. Greetings to and from various individuals (4:19-21)
- C. Benediction (4:22)
1. The Lord be with your spirit. Grace be with you. (4:22)

## Dangers Facing the Believer Highlighted in 2 Timothy

### 1. Fear and Timidity (1:7):

- **Danger:** Being overcome by fear and timidity, which can hinder faithful witness and service.
- **Application:** Embrace the spirit of power, love, and self-discipline given by God.

### 2. Shame of the Gospel and Its Messengers (1:8):

- **Danger:** Feeling ashamed of the testimony of the Lord or of His servants.
- **Application:** Stand firm and unashamed, willing to suffer for the gospel.

### 3. Desertion and Unfaithfulness (1:15):

- **Danger:** Turning away from faithful leaders and the gospel message.
- **Application:** Remain loyal and supportive of those who faithfully proclaim the truth.

### 4. False Teachings and Quarrels (2:14, 16-18):

- **Danger:** Being led astray by false teachings and engaging in quarrels about words.
- **Application:** Avoid godless chatter and disputes, and rightly handle the word of truth.

### 5. Godless Behavior (3:1-5):

- **Danger:** Adopting behaviors that are characteristic of the last days, such as selfishness, arrogance, and lack of self-control.
- **Application:** Turn away from such people and strive for godliness and righteousness.

### 6. Persecution and Suffering (3:12):

- **Danger:** Facing persecution and suffering for living a godly life in Christ Jesus.
- **Application:** Endure suffering with the knowledge that it is part of the Christian life.

### 7. Deception by Evil People and Impostors (3:13):

- **Danger:** Being deceived by those who go from bad to worse, deceiving and being deceived.
- **Application:** Continue in the truth and teachings learned from Scripture, which make one wise for salvation.

### 8. Neglecting the Scriptures (3:14-17):

- **Danger:** Neglecting the study and application of Scripture, leading to lack of wisdom and inadequacy for good works.

- **Application:** Recognize the divine inspiration and profitability of all Scripture for teaching, rebuking, correcting, and training in righteousness.

## 9. Turning Away from Sound Doctrine (4:3-4):

- **Danger:** Turning away from sound doctrine to follow teachers who say what itching ears want to hear.
- **Application:** Preach the word, be prepared in season and out of season, correct, rebuke, and encourage with great patience and careful instruction.

## Well-known Passages from 2 Timothy

[2 Timothy 1:6-12 ESV] For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands, for God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control. Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony about our Lord, nor of me his prisoner, but share in suffering for the gospel by the power of God, who saved us and called us to a holy calling, not because of our works but because of his own purpose and grace, which he gave us in Christ Jesus before the ages began, and which now has been manifested through the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel, for which I was appointed a preacher and apostle and teacher, which is why I suffer as I do. But I am not ashamed, for I know whom I have believed, and I am convinced that he is able to guard until that day what has been entrusted to me.

[2 Timothy 2:10-13 ESV] Therefore I endure everything for the sake of the elect, that they also may obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory. The saying is trustworthy, for: If we have died with him, we will also live with him; if we endure, we will also reign with him; if we deny him, he also will deny us; if we are faithless, he remains faithful—for he cannot deny himself.

[2 Timothy 2:15, 21-26 ESV] Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly handling the word of truth. Therefore, if anyone cleanses himself from what is dishonorable, he will be a vessel for honorable use, set apart as holy, useful to the master of the house, ready for every good work. So flee youthful passions and pursue righteousness, faith, love, and peace, along with those who call on the Lord from a pure heart.

Have nothing to do with foolish, ignorant controversies; you know that they breed quarrels. And the Lord's servant must not be quarrelsome but kind to everyone, able to teach, patiently enduring evil, correcting his opponents with gentleness. God may perhaps grant them repentance leading to a knowledge of the truth, and they may come to their senses and escape from the snare of the devil, after being captured by him to do his will.

[2 Timothy 3:14-17 ESV] But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.

[2 Timothy 4:1-4 ESV] I charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and by his appearing and his kingdom: preach the word; be ready in season and

out of season; reprove, rebuke, and exhort, with complete patience and teaching. For the time is coming when people will not endure sound teaching, but having itching ears they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own passions, and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander off into myths.

## Conclusion for 2 Timothy

By understanding these dangers and applying Paul's exhortations, believers can remain steadfast in their faith, uphold sound doctrine, and live lives that are pleasing to God, effectively fulfilling their ministry and calling in Christ.