

*Edgemont Bible Church*  
*Pastor Al Osden*  
*2 Timothy 3:10-14*

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**Intro:** Paul had three overriding priorities in his life, to know Christ, to defend Gospel truth, and to minister in Christ's name. 1 and 2 Timothy spend a great deal of time dealing with the 2nd priority. Truth is always under attack by the enemy and therefore we must be diligent to know truth as well as be able to defend against that which would corrupt that truth.

Jude 1:3-4 Beloved, while I was very diligent to write to you concerning our common salvation, I found it necessary to write to you exhorting you to contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints. For certain men have crept in unnoticed, who long ago were marked out for this condemnation, ungodly men, who turn the grace of our God into lewdness and deny the only Lord God and our Lord Jesus Christ.

VII. Standing Against Apostasy

A. Timothy Had a Strong Example in Paul- vs 10-13

1. Contrast between heretics of vs 1-9 and Paul

a. But - marks a contrast or change of emphasis

b. you have carefully followed

i. **Parakoloutheo** - to follow near, attend (as a result), trace out, conform to, attain, follow, fully know, have understanding.

ii. Leads up to the command in vs 14

iii. My - definite article precedes each of the following descriptive nouns tying each to the possessive pronoun

2. Ministry Duties - vs 10b

a. doctrine,

i. **didaskalia** - instruction (the function or the information):--doctrine, learning, teaching.

ii. Includes all that Timothy had heard from Paul that he was to commit to faithful men - 2:2

iii. That which was committed to Paul by the will of God - 1:1

b. manner of life,

i. **agoge** - a bringing up, mode of living:--manner of life.

ii. Paul's living had been consistent with his teaching

iii. Others preach Christ from selfish ambition, not sincerely, supposing to add affliction to my chains; - Php 1:16

c. purpose,

i. personal motive for service

ii. For if I preach the gospel, I have nothing to boast of, for necessity is laid upon me; yes, woe is me if I do not preach the gospel! - 1Co 9:16

iii. For the love of Christ compels us, because we judge thus: that if One died for all, then all died; - 2Co 5:14

iv. Ac 20:18-21 And when they had come to him, he said to them: "You know, from the first day that I came to Asia, in what manner I always lived among you, "serving the Lord with all humility, with many tears and trials which happened to me by the plotting of the Jews; "how I kept back nothing that was helpful, but proclaimed it to

you, and taught you publicly and from house to house, "testifying to Jews, and also to Greeks, repentance toward God and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ.

v. Ac 20:26-27 "Therefore I testify to you this day that I am innocent of the blood of all men. "For I have not shunned to declare to you the whole counsel of God.

### 3. Personal Virtues - vs 10c

#### a. faith,

i. **pistis** - better rendered faithfulness as in Ro 3:3; Gal 5:22

ii. Not referring to saving faith but faithfulness and trustworthiness of those who are already saved

#### b. longsuffering,

i. **makrothumia** - longanimity, forbearance or fortitude, longsuffering, patience.

ii. Carries the idea of steadfastness and long suffering

iii. Speaking of a resolute and persistent spirit that never gives in regardless of the cost

iv. More than an attitude, a determined way of life based on devotion to the Lord

#### c. love,

i. **agape** - love, affection or benevolence; (plural) a love-feast, charity(-ably), dear, love.

ii. Volitional, purposeful unselfish

iii. Superior to faith and hope - 1 Co 13:13

vi. Fruit of the Spirit

v. a sign of salvation - 1 Jo 4:7; one who doesn't love, doesn't know God - 1 Jo 4:8

vi. On the other hand - he who abides in love abides in God, and God in him. - 1Jo 4:16

vii. Jesus' final request in His prayer - that the love with which You loved Me may be in them, and I in them. - Jo 17:26b

#### d. perseverance,

i. **hupomone** - cheerful (or hopeful) endurance, constancy:--enduring, patience, patient continuance (waiting).

ii. Normally translated patience, but here perseverance, not with difficult people, but difficult circumstances

iii. Carries the idea of remaining under and sometimes translated endurance

- 2Co 6:4 But in all things we commend ourselves as ministers of God: in much patience, in tribulations, in needs, in distresses,

- Heb 10:36 For you have need of endurance, so that after you have done the will of God, you may receive the promise

### 4. Difficult Experiences - vs 11-13

#### a. persecutions,

i. **diogmos** - persecution:--persecution.

ii. From dioko - lit. putting to flight

iii. He started as the persecutor - Ac 9:1-2 Then Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest and asked letters from him to the synagogues of Damascus, so

that if he found any who were of the Way, whether men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem.

iv. Became the persecuted - Ac 9:22-23 But Saul increased all the more in strength, and confounded the Jews who dwelt in Damascus, proving that this Jesus is the Christ. Now after many days were past, the Jews plotted to kill him.

b. afflictions,

i. **pathema** - something undergone, hardship or pain; an emotion or influence:-- affection, affliction, motion, suffering.

ii. in talking of the physical things he endured in 2 Co 11:23-27, he ends with vs 28 - besides the other things, what comes upon me daily: my deep concern for all the churches.

c. which happened to me at Antioch, at Iconium, at Lystra

i. all three cities were in Timothy's home province

- Lystra being his hometown, also where Paul had been stoned and left for dead - Acts 14:8-10, 19

ii. Timothy had been with Paul with most of these sufferings

d. what persecutions I endured

i. even then, Paul knew there was a purpose

ii. 2Co 1:6 Now if we are afflicted, it is for your consolation and salvation, which is effective for enduring the same sufferings which we also suffer. Or if we are comforted, it is for your consolation and salvation.

e. And out of them all the Lord delivered me.

i. Many are the afflictions of the righteous, But the LORD delivers him out of them all. - Ps 34:19

ii. Da 3:17 "If that is the case, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and He will deliver us from your hand, O king.

f. Yes, and all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution.

i. Joh 15:18-21 "If the world hates you, you know that it hated Me before it hated you. "If you were of the world, the world would love its own. Yet because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you. "Remember the word that I said to you, 'A servant is not greater than his master.' If they persecuted Me, they will also persecute you. If they kept My word, they will keep yours also. "But all these things they will do to you for My name's sake, because they do not know Him who sent Me.

ii. Persecution should be expected

ii. Persecution will continue until the Lord's return

- But evil men and impostors

- **poneros** - refers to malignant character or activity

- **goes** - a wizard (as muttering spells), an imposter:-- seducer.

-here refers to those who pervert the gospel

- will grow worse and worse,

- deceiving - externally getting worse

- being deceived.- internally getting worse

B. Timothy Had Strong Convictions Built Into A Spiritual Foundation - vs 14

1. a second characteristic of an effective defender of the faith
2. 2Ti 1:5 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. But you – are fundamentally different
  - a. they are unbelievers characterized by self love – 3:1-9
  - b. you belong to the Lord and have emulated Paul – vs 10-11
4. you must continue
  - a. present active imperative – a command to continuous action
  - b. in the things which you have learned
    - i. **manthano** - to learn (in any way):--learn, understand.
    - ii. Same root as disciple
    - iii. Carries the idea of intentional learning by inquiry and observation of Paul's life and the Scriptures
  - c. and been assured of
    - i. having pursued the truth, he came to know for himself
    - ii. The truths of the scriptures are non-negotiable and not subject to compromise
  - d. knowing *and remembering* from whom you have learned them,
    - i. whom – plural pronoun indicating Timothy's obligation to several teachers and examples
    - ii. to learn and hold a truth as your own, you must hear them clearly taught and see them consistently lived

#### Application:

You may feel that you have not had a strong example of how to defend the Gospel or how it applies to every situation in life. You may feel you could have had stronger convictions built into a spiritual foundation if you had that stronger example. Unfortunately, none of these can be used as excuses, because we have the Spirit of God as our teacher.

- 1Jo 2:20 But you have an anointing from the Holy One, and you know all things.

- 1Jo 2:27 But the anointing which you have received from Him abides in you, and you do not need that anyone teach you; but as the same anointing teaches you concerning all things, and is true, and is not a lie, and just as it has taught you, you will abide in Him.

We have Christ as your example.

- Heb 12:1-2 Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

We have the Word of God and all that is contained in it for you admonition.

- 1Co 10:6-11 Now these things became our examples, to the intent that we should not lust after evil things as they also lusted. And do not become idolaters as were some of them. As it is written, "The people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to play." Nor let us commit sexual immorality, as some of them did, and in one day twenty-three thousand fell; nor let us tempt Christ, as some of them also tempted, and were destroyed by serpents; nor complain, as some of them also complained, and were destroyed by the destroyer. Now all these things happened to them as examples, and they were written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the ages have come.

We have the Body of Christ.

- Heb 10:25 not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching