

## INTRODUCTION TO 2 TIMOTHY

2 Timothy has been described as Paul's farewell letter written around 67-68 AD to his beloved Timothy  
"To Timothy, my beloved son: Grace, mercy and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord."  
(2Tim.1:2).

This pastoral Epistle is more personal in nature than 1Timothy and Titus.  
(1 Tim.1:2, 4-6; 2:1; 3:10-11, 15; 4:5, 9, 11-15, 19-22).

Actually it was written to all of the active ministers of Paul's school of theology:  
Crescens in Galatia; Titus in Dalmatia; Luke who was with Paul in Rome; Mark (Jerusalem?); Tychicus  
and Timothy and Onesiphorus in Ephesus; Carpus in Troas; Erastus in Corinth; Trophimus in Miletus  
(2Tim.4:9-22). **This is the short list of Paul's team of ministers assigned to develop missionary fields.**

Paul sent Tychicus to Timothy in Ephesus with the Book of 2 Timothy and to replace Timothy in the Ephesus  
ministry so that Timothy could be with Paul in Rome (2Tim 4:12).

2 Timothy is the dying counsel of an old prominent spiritual leader to a younger rising spiritual leader who is part  
of a larger group of spiritual leaders of the Church (2Tim 2:1-7).

Paul wrote 2 Timothy from a dungeon cell in the second Roman imprisonment. At the time of the writing, only  
Luke and Onesiphorus were with Paul (2Tim 1:8, 16; 2:9; 4:16-17).

Paul is facing the certainty of a martyr's death and wants certain believers to be with him as he crosses over (2Tim  
1:15; 3:11-14; 4:6-8, 10, 14-18).

As his last will and testimony, Paul writes about things that are heavy upon his heart as the Apostle to the Gentile  
mission field (2Tim 1:1). "You know that everyone in the province of Asia has deserted me." (2Tim 1:15; 2:17-19;  
3:8-9)

Historians believe that Nero was responsible for Paul's second imprisonment and beheading as a result of the  
burning of Rome in 64 AD. Persecution against Christians was on the increase in the 60's by the Romans.  
"For God has not given us a spirit of timidity, but of power and love and discipline. Therefore do not be  
ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, or of me His prisoner; but join with me in suffering for the gospel  
according to the power of God." (2Tim 1:7-8).

"For which I suffer hardship even to imprisonment as a criminal; but the word of God is not imprisoned."  
(2Tim 2:9)

"And indeed, all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will be persecuted." (2Tim 3:12)

"For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure has come. I have fought the  
good fight, I have finished the course, I have kept the faith." (2Tim 4:7)

"The Lord will deliver me from every evil deed, and will bring me safely to His heavenly kingdom; to Him be the  
glory forever and ever. Amen." (2Tim 4:18)

**As we study through the book of 2 Timothy, I want to encourage you to read through 2 Timothy each week. This should be very easy since 2 Timothy only consists of 4 chapters with 83 verses and about 2 full Bible pages. Make a journal with dates of the things that stand out to you at the time of your reading.**

We will begin our study of 2 Timothy with the salutation (2Tim 1:1-2) – “Paul to Timothy.”

- **Paul** is described as “an apostle of Christ Jesus **by** (dia+gen of agency) [decree] the will (thelema) of God, **according to** (kata+acc of divine norm and standard) the promise (epaggelia / asf) of life (zoe / gsf) (tes / gsf) [which] **in** (en+loc of positional truth) Christ Jesus.” (2Tim 1:1; 1 John 5:11-12) (Gal.1:11-12; 2:7-8)
- **Timothy** is described as “my beloved (agapetos) son (teknon) [still learning under authority].” (2Tim 1:2a)
- **Salutation** is typical Pauline – “Grace [charis] (Eph.2:8-9), mercy (eleos) (Eph.2:4-5) and peace (eirene) (Rom.5:1) from (apo+abl of ultimate source) God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord (John 14:6).” (2Tim 1:2b)

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>We will conclude our study of Introduction to 2 Timothy with Three points on the Promise of Life in Christ Jesus (2Tim 1:1).</b></p>
--

**1. The promise of life in Christ Jesus is identified with the Abrahamic covenant (Gen.12:1-3)**

“And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham’s offspring, heirs **according to promise.**” (Gal.3:26; 1 John 2:25; 2 Tim.1:1)

“Now the promises were spoken to Abraham and to his seed. He does not say, ‘And to seeds,’ as referring to many, but rather **to one**, ‘and to your seed,’ that is, **Christ.**” (Gal.3:16; Rom.4:14-17)

“In order that in Christ Jesus the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles, so that we might receive **the promise of the Spirit** through faith.” (Gal.3:1; 4:4-7) [adoption; Rom.8:9]

**2. Eternal life is imparted to every church age believer by the ministry of the Holy Spirit by means of faith in the gospel of Jesus Christ (Rom.1:16; 1 Cor.15:3-4).**

“This is the only I want to find out from you: did you receive the Spirit by the works of the Law, or by **hearing with faith?**” Are so foolish? **Having begun by the Spirit**, are you now being perfected by the flesh?” (Gal.3:2-3; 6:8)

“Who also made us adequate as servants of a new covenant, not of the letter, but **the Spirit gives life.**” (2 Cor.3:6; John 6:63)

**3. Every Church Age Believer receives both the indwelling of the Holy Spirit and eternal life at the moment of grace salvation (1 Cor.6:19-20). He cannot lose either in time or eternity (John 7:39; 14:16; Heb.13:5).**

- Jesus said that no one could come to the **Father of life except through Him** (John 14:6; 17:2-3).
- Jesus said that He is the resurrection and **life** (John 11:25; 2 Tim.1:10).
- John said that believing in Jesus Christ results in **receiving eternal life** (John 5:24, 39-40; 20:31; 1 John 5:12-13; Acts 13:46-48; 1 Tim.1:15-16)
- Paul said that **eternal life is a gift** associated with regeneration (Rom.6:23; Titus 3:4-7).