

2 TIMOTHY

Lesson 4

Chapter Four

“Charge to Preach the Word”

The Second Epistle to Timothy

Chapters 1 and 2

Perseverance in Present Testings

Thanksgiving for
Timothy's Faith

Reminder of Timothy's
Responsibility

Characteristics of a
Faithful Minister

1:1-5

1:6-18

2:1-26

Chapters 3 and 4

Endurance in Future Testings

The Approaching Day
of Apostasy

Charge to Preach
the Word

3:1-17

4:1-5

Look for the answers to these questions:

- What is Paul's charge to Timothy in 2 Timothy 4:2 (three words)?
- According to 2 Timothy 4:4, when people turn their ears from the truth, they turn to _____.
- How word does Paul use to describe those ears?
- What are the four exhortations in 2 Timothy 4:5?
- According to this lesson, what are the three greatest things any Christian minister can say at the end of his life?
- According to 2 Timothy 4:10, why did Demas forsake Paul?
- What are Paul's last recorded words?

The Charge to Preach the Word

2 Timothy 4:1-2

¹ I charge *thee* therefore

before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ,
who shall judge the quick and the dead
at his appearing and his kingdom;

² Preach the word;

be instant

in season, out of season;

reprove,

rebuke,

exhort

with all longsuffering and doctrine.

After warning Timothy that the times would be “perilous,” Paul charged him to “preach the word.”



The Charge to Preach the Word

2 Timothy 4:1-2

- 1 I charge *thee* therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom;
- 2 Preach the word;
be instant in season, out of season;
reprove,
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with all longsuffering and doctrine.

Be instant = be ready.

In season, out of season = always.



The Charge to Preach the Word

2 Timothy 4:1-2

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with all longsuffering and doctrine.

Be instant = be ready.

In season, out of season = always.

1 Peter 3:15

- 15 But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and **be ready always** to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear:



The Charge to Preach the Word

2 Timothy 4:1-2

- 1 I charge *thee* therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom;
- 2 Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; **reprove,** **rebuke,** **exhort** with all longsuffering and doctrine.

Common English Bible:
“Correct,
confront,
and encourage”



The Charge to Preach the Word

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- 2 Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort
with all longsuffering and doctrine.

We must show others the same patience that God shows to us.

2 Peter 3:9

- 9 The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; **but is longsuffering to us-ward**, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.



The Charge to Preach the Word

2 Timothy 4:3-4

- 3 For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears;
- 4 And they shall turn away *their* ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables.



The Charge to Preach the Word

2 Timothy 4:3-4

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2 Timothy 4:3-4

- 3 For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, **having itching ears;**
- 4 And they shall turn away *their* ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables.

WESLEY'S EXPLANATORY NOTES

Having itching ears –
Fond of novelty (something new or unusual) and variety.



2 Timothy 4:3-4

- 3 For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears;
- 4 **And they shall turn away *their ears* from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables.**

JOHN GILL'S EXPOSITION

Fables – things idle, trifling, useless, and, unprofitable; and which are no better than old wives' fables.



The Charge to Preach the Word

2 Timothy 4:5

⁵ But watch thou in all things,
endure afflictions,
do the work of an evangelist,
make full proof of thy ministry.

Verse 5 has four exhortations.



The Charge to Preach the Word

2 Timothy 4:5

- ⁵ **But watch thou in all things,**
endure afflictions,
do the work of an evangelist,
make full proof of thy ministry.

Mark 13:35-37

- ³⁵ Watch ye therefore:
for ye know not when the master
of the house cometh,
at even, or at midnight,
or at the cockcrowing,
or in the morning:
³⁶ Lest coming suddenly he find you
sleeping.
³⁷ And what I say unto you
I say unto all,
Watch.



The Charge to Preach the Word

2 Timothy 4:5

⁵ But watch thou in all things,
endure afflictions,
do the work of an evangelist,
make full proof of thy ministry.

James 5:10

¹⁰ Take, my brethren, the prophets,
who have spoken in the name of
the Lord,
for an example of suffering
affliction, and of patience.



The Charge to Preach the Word

2 Timothy 4:5

⁵ But watch thou in all things,
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do the work of an evangelist,
make full proof of thy ministry.

Evangelist = εὐαγγελιστής
euaggelistes

- 1) Specifically, one of the five ministries given to the church by Jesus Christ.
- 2) Generally, someone who evangelizes or shares the good news of salvation.



The Charge to Preach the Word

2 Timothy 4:5

⁵ But watch thou in all things,
endure afflictions,
do the work of an evangelist,
make full proof of thy ministry.

Your **ministry** is your appointed
form of service to God.

Galatians 6:4

⁴ But let every man prove his own
work, and then shall he have
rejoicing in himself alone,
and not in another.



The Second Epistle to Timothy

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Endure in Future Testings

The Approaching Day
of Apostasy

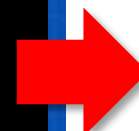
3:1-17

Charge to Preach
the Word

4:1-5

Approaching Death
of Paul

4:6-22



The importance of this letter becomes very clear when Paul reveals that his mortal life is coming to an end.

The Approaching Death of Paul

2 Timothy 4:6

⁶ For I am now ready to be offered,
and the time of my departure is at hand.

It is hard to imagine how difficult it was for Timothy to read the end of this letter.



2 Timothy 4:6

⁶ For I am now **ready to be offered**,
and the time of my departure is at hand.

GENEVA BIBLE NOTES

To be offered for a drink offering: and he alludes to the pouring out of blood or wine which was used in sacrifices.



The Approaching Death of Paul

2 Timothy 4:7

⁷ I have fought a good fight,
I have finished *my* course,
I have kept the faith:

Paul was able to say the three greatest things anyone who serves the Lord can ever say.



The Approaching Death of Paul

2 Timothy 4:8

⁸ Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day:
and not to me only,
but unto all them also that love his appearing.

Once again, Paul gives reminder of the upcoming judgment.

Let us labor for crowns and rewards to lay before the King of kings.



The Approaching Death of Paul

2 Timothy 4:9

9 Do thy diligence to come shortly unto me:

We do not know how long Paul lived after writing this letter, or if Timothy was able to see him again. But he asked for him to come as soon as possible.



The Approaching Death of Paul

2 Timothy 4:10-12

- ¹⁰ For Demas hath forsaken me,
having loved this present world,
and is departed unto Thessalonica;
Crescens to Galatia,
Titus unto Dalmatia.
- ¹¹ Only Luke is with me.

Take Mark, and bring him with thee: for
he is profitable to me for the ministry.

- ¹² And Tychicus have I sent to Ephesus.

Paul wrote to Timothy about many
of the men they had labored
together with over the years.



The Approaching Death of Paul

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- ¹² And Tychicus have I sent to Ephesus.

Paul wrote of Demas and Luke in Colossians 4:14 (“Luke, the beloved physician, and Demas, greet you”), and Philemon 1:24 (... Demas, Lucas, my fellowlabourers”).

Of the two, Luke had remained faithful to Paul. Demas may have fled from the persecution.



The Approaching Death of Paul

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Take Mark, and bring him with thee: for
he is profitable to me for the ministry.

¹² And Tychicus have I sent to Ephesus.

The work of the ministry took
Crescens and Titus away from Paul
physically but not spiritually.



The Approaching Death of Paul

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Take **Mark**, and bring him with thee: for
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- ¹² And Tychicus have I sent to Ephesus.

Mark had been the reason for Paul's
split from Barnabas, but now he and
Paul had reconciled.

(This is the man who later wrote
The Gospel According to Mark).



The Approaching Death of Paul

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he is profitable to me for the ministry.

- ¹² And **Tychicus** have I sent to Ephesus.

Tychicus joined Paul's third mission.

Acts 20:4

- ⁴ And there accompanied him into
Asia Sopater of Berea;
and of the Thessalonians,
Aristarchus and Secundus;
and Gaius of Derbe, and Timotheus;
and of Asia, Tychicus and
Trophimus.



The Approaching Death of Paul

2 Timothy 4:10-12

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and is departed unto Thessalonica;
Crescens to Galatia,
Titus unto Dalmatia.
- ¹¹ Only Luke is with me.

Take Mark, and bring him with thee: for
he is profitable to me for the ministry.

- ¹² And **Tychicus** have I sent to Ephesus.

Tychicus was Paul's secretary in his letters to the Ephesians and Colossians. In Ephesians 6:21, Paul called him "a beloved brother and faithful minister in the Lord."



The Approaching Death of Paul

2 Timothy 4:13

¹³ The cloke that I left at Troas with Carpus,
when thou comest, bring *with thee*,
and the books,
but especially the parchments.

Paul asked Timothy to bring certain things to him.



2 Timothy 4:13

¹³ The cloke that I left at Troas with Carpus, when thou comest, bring *with thee*, and the books, *but* especially the parchments.

BELIEVER'S BIBLE COMMENTARY

“It is impossible to decide definitively, but the strong suggestion is that even in his imprisonment, the apostle wanted to keep busy with his writing and his reading.”



The Approaching Death of Paul

2 Timothy 4:14-15

- ¹⁴ Alexander the coppersmith
did me much evil:
the Lord reward him according to his
works:
- ¹⁵ Of whom be thou ware also;
for he hath greatly withstood our
words.

Just like Hymenaeus, Alexander
had not repented of his evil ways.



The Approaching Death of Paul

2 Timothy 4:14-15

- ¹⁴ Alexander the coppersmith did me much evil:
the Lord reward him according to his works:
- ¹⁵ Of whom be thou ware also;
for he hath greatly withstood our words.

Paul knew that, like all men, he would stand before the Lord to give account of his deeds.



The Approaching Death of Paul

2 Timothy 4:14-15

¹⁴ Alexander the coppersmith
did me much evil:
the Lord reward him according to his
works:

¹⁵ Of whom be thou ware also;
for he hath greatly withstood our
words.

Paul warned Timothy that he must
also be careful of this troublemaker.



The Approaching Death of Paul

2 Timothy 4:16

¹⁶ At my first answer no man stood with me,
but all *men* forsook me:
I pray God that it may not be laid to their
charge.

It is sad to learn that when Paul finally had his trial before the Roman emperor, not even one person spoke on his behalf.



The Approaching Death of Paul

2 Timothy 4:17

¹⁷ **Notwithstanding the Lord stood with me,
and strengthened me;**

that by me the preaching might be fully
known, and *that* all the Gentiles might
hear:

and I was delivered out of the mouth of
the lion.

But Paul was not alone.



The Approaching Death of Paul

2 Timothy 4:17

¹⁷ Notwithstanding the Lord stood with me,
and strengthened me;
that by me the preaching might be fully
known, and *that* all the Gentiles might
hear:
and I was delivered out of the mouth of
the lion.

As a Roman citizen, Paul could not be sent to the colosseum to die. “The lion” represents the dangers he faced.



The Approaching Death of Paul

2 Timothy 4:18

¹⁸ And the Lord shall deliver me
from every evil work,
and will preserve me
unto his heavenly kingdom:
to whom *be* glory for ever and ever.
Amen.

Paul had no doubt that his future
was secure in the Lord.



The Approaching Death of Paul

2 Timothy 4:18

¹⁸ And the Lord shall **deliver** me
from every evil work,
and will **preserve** me
unto his heavenly kingdom:
to whom *be* glory for ever and ever.
Amen.

Psalm 140:1

¹ Deliver me, O LORD,
from the evil man:
preserve me
from the violent man;



The Approaching Death of Paul

2 Timothy 4:19-20

- ¹⁹ Salute Prisca and Aquila,
and the household of Onesiphorus.
- ²⁰ Erastus abode at Corinth:
but Trophimus have I left at Miletum sick.

Paul asked Timothy to send his greetings to their mutual friends, and gave him news of others he knew Timothy care about.



The Approaching Death of Paul

2 Timothy 4:21a

²¹ Do thy diligence to come before winter.

Knowing that his time was short, Paul made a second request (also in verse 9) that Timothy join him as soon as possible.



The Approaching Death of Paul

2 Timothy 4:21b

²¹ ... Eubulus greeteth thee, and Pudens,
and Linus, and Claudia,
and all the brethren.

He ends his letter with greetings to Timothy from other believers.



The Approaching Death of Paul

2 Timothy 4:22

²² The Lord Jesus Christ *be* with thy spirit.

Grace *be* with you.

Amen.

These are the last recorded words of that great apostle, Paul.





According to Christian tradition, Paul was beheaded in Rome around 64 AD.

About 35 years had passed since Saul's conversion on the road to Damascus.

An Overview of the Pastoral Epistles:

1 Timothy

1. Warnings against false teachers and doctrines.
2. The duties of Christian men and women.
3. Bishops and deacons.
4. The mystery of iniquity.
5. Elders, widows, and slaves.
6. False teachers and evil doctrines.

Titus

1. The duty of elders.
2. The duties of Christian men and women.
3. Maintaining good works.

2 Timothy

1. Staying faithful in troubled times.
2. Seven characteristics of a faithful minister.
3. Description of the coming apostasy.
4. Fighting the fight and keeping the faith.

Questions to test your understanding of this lesson:

1. What is Paul's charge to Timothy in 2 Timothy 4:2 (three words)?
2. According to 2 Timothy 4:4, when people turn their ears from the truth, they turn to _____.
3. How word does Paul use to describe those ears?
- 4 to 7. What are the four exhortations in 2 Timothy 4:5?
8. According to this lesson, what are the three greatest things any Christian minister can say at the end of his life?
9. According to 2 Timothy 4:10, why did Demas forsake Paul?
10. What are Paul's last recorded words?

Each question is worth 10 points. Do NOT share your answers with other students.



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