

A Study of 2 Timothy 1

I. Outline.

1. Opening (2 Timothy 1.1-2).
2. Thanksgiving for Timothy's Sincere Faith (2 Timothy 1.3-5).
3. A Call to Bold Endurance in Ministry (2 Timothy 1.6-14).
4. Examples: Positive and Negative (2 Timothy 1.15-18).
-- Crossway Bibles, [The ESV Study Bible](#) (Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles, 2008), 2338-39.

II. Exegetical Exam of 2 Timothy 1...

01. Give the time and place, as well as purpose, of the letter.
02. Give from memory your own outline of Chapter One.
03. Discuss two things that Paul remembered about Timothy that were a blessed memory to Paul.
04. What is meant by **UNFEIGNED FAITH**? How is it obtained? How is it sustained? Who had it?
05. Discuss two ways Timothy was to avoid being ashamed of the testimony of Christ.
06. What was the **GIFT OF GOD** within Timothy? How was it to be stirred up?
07. Explain two reasons for Paul not being ashamed.
08. Give your own exegesis of 2 Timothy 1.10.
09. What good thing had Onesiphorus done for Paul?
10. Give your own exegesis of 2 Timothy 1.12.
--Don DeWalt, *Paul's Letters to Timothy and Titus*, Bible Textbook Series, College Press, 1961, an e-Sword Module.

III. Chronology.

BIBLE PERIOD: The Period of the Church.

*If you are not familiar with the **15 Bible Periods**, please click here:*

<https://maplehillchurchofchrist.files.wordpress.com/2018/05/15bibleperiods.pdf>

IV. Aids in Exposition.

I. Opening (1-2).

2 Timothy 1:1-2 **Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God, according to the promise of life which is in Christ Jesus, (2) To Timothy, my dearly beloved son: Grace, mercy, and peace, from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.**

1. **ACCORDING TO THE PROMISE OF LIFE...** "Jesus came to give life and life more abundantly (John 10.10). Paul felt his responsibility as an apostle was to tell about this life. Without Christ we are existing, but not living. God promises life to all those who will accept it in His Son who is The Life (John 14.6)." [Don DeWalt]. ||||| "This indicates the object or intention of his appointment as an apostle, which was to make known, to publish abroad, the promise of eternal life. He was evidently under the expectation of death at the time of writing" [David Lipscomb, *A Commentary on the New Testament Epistles, Volume V: First and Second Thessalonians, First and Second Timothy, Titus, and Philemon*, Gospel Advocate, 1942, p. 197].

2. **MY DEARLY BELOVED SON**... “Paul refers to him as his **DEARLY BELOVED**, from the adjectival form of *agape*. This type of love can include the emotions, but it is more a decision of the mind to do what is in the best interest of the person loved. It is the highest form of love which one possesses and which Paul had for this one whom he taught and who was his companion in travel. ‘**But ye know the proof of him, that, as a son with the father, he hath served with me in the gospel**’ (Philippians 2.22)” [Michael Hatcher, “Paul’s Care for and Charge to Timothy,” in *Studies in 1 and 2 Timothy and Titus*, 2001 ADL, Edited by Dub McClish, p. 236]. ||||| “Paul may have considered Timothy his son because he helped him learn and obey the gospel. He loved him because of the close relationship they had in the gospel. Paul treated Timothy like a son by training him to carry out the important task of preaching the truth. His prayer for him was that he would receive God’s unmerited favor, tender mercy and unsurpassed peace of mind” [Gary C. Hampton, *Letters to Young Preachers*, 2012, an e-Sword module].

II. Thanksgiving for Timothy’s Sincere Faith (3-5).

- 2 Timothy 1:3-5 **I thank God, whom I serve from my forefathers with pure conscience, that without ceasing I have remembrance of thee in my prayers night and day; (4) Greatly desiring to see thee, being mindful of thy tears, that I may be filled with joy; (5) When I call to remembrance the unfeigned faith that is in thee, which dwelt first in thy grandmother Lois, and thy mother Eunice; and I am persuaded that in thee also.**
1. **GREATLY DESIRING TO SEE THEE** (4)... “**25.18** ἐπιποθέω; ἐπιποθία, ας f; ἐπιπόθησις, εως f: to long for something, with the implication of recognizing a lack” [Johannes P. Louw and Eugene Albert Nida, *Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament: Based on Semantic Domains* (New York: United Bible Societies, 1996), 290]. ||||| “There is a natural bond that binds together those of like precious faith, in a relationship closer than that of fleshly kinship. Death breaks all other earthly relationships, but that tie binding Christians together endures even in eternity. In heaven, there will be no marriage or giving in marriage (see Matthew 22.30); it follows that other family ties will likewise be dispensed with in heaven; certainly the camaraderie of military, business, and social groups will not be recognized there. In heaven there will be a grand reunion of the faithful, whose primary earthly relationship was that of brethren in Christ—and servants of God” [Bob Winton, *2 Timothy*, pp., 134-135].
 2. **BEING MINDFUL OF THY TEARS** (4)... “Alluding probably to the tears which he shed at parting from him. The occasion to which he refers is not mentioned; but nothing is more probable than that Timothy would weep when separated from *such* a father and friend. It is not wrong thus to weep, for religion is not intended to make us stoics or savages” [Albert Barnes, *Notes on the New Testament: I Thessalonians to Philemon*, ed. Robert Frew (London: Blackie & Son, 1884–1885), 212].
 3. **UNFEIGNED FAITH** (5)... “**73.8** ἀνυπόκριτος, ον: pertaining to being genuine and sincere, and hence lacking in pretense or show” [Louw Nida]. |||||
 4. **GRANDMOTHER LOIS** (5)... “The grandmother of Timothy, and evidently the mother of Eunice, Timothy’s mother. The family lived at Lystra (Acts 16:1). It was on the occasion of Paul’s first missionary journey (Acts 14) that Eunice and Timothy were converted to Christ, and it was, in all likelihood, on the same occasion that Lois also became a Christian. Paul speaks of the unfeigned faith that there was in Timothy, and he adds that this faith dwelt at the first

in thy grandmother Lois, and thy mother Eunice. This is the only passage where Lois is mentioned; but by comparing 2 Timothy 1:5 with 2 Timothy 3:15 (the King James Version), where Paul refers to Timothy's having **from a child known the holy scriptures**, it would appear that Lois was associated with Eunice, both in a reverent faith in God and in the careful instruction in the Old Testament which was given to Timothy" [ISBE, an e-Sword Module].

5. **MOTHER EUNICE** (5)... "There was no pretense in the faith of Lois and Eunice. Transparent sincerity is such a blessing—to the possessor and to all who associate with him. The faith of Lois and Eunice, as well as Timothy, was first in the Old Testament Scriptures of the God there revealed. This same attitude was transferred to Jesus Christ when the good news was announced by Paul. The heart condition of these two women reminds us of the good and honest heart of Lydia. Wherever such conditions prevail, the seed of the kingdom grows to produce its glorious harvest" [Don DeWalt].

III. A Call to Bold Endurance in Ministry (6-14).

2 Timothy 1:6-14 **Wherefore I put thee in remembrance that thou stir up the gift of God, which is in thee by the putting on of my hands. (7) For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind. (8) Be not thou therefore ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, nor of me his prisoner: but be thou partaker of the afflictions of the gospel according to the power of God; (9) Who hath saved us, and called us with an holy calling, not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began, (10) But is now made manifest by the appearing of our Saviour Jesus Christ, who hath abolished death, and hath brought life and immortality to light through the gospel: (11) Whereunto I am appointed a preacher, and an apostle, and a teacher of the Gentiles. (12) For the which cause I also suffer these things: nevertheless I am not ashamed: for I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day. (13) Hold fast the form of sound words, which thou hast heard of me, in faith and love which is in Christ Jesus. (14) That good thing which was committed unto thee keep by the Holy Ghost which dwelleth in us.**

1. **STIR UP THE GIFT OF GOD, WHICH IS IN THEE BY THE PUTTING ON OF MY HANDS** (6)... We learn from Acts 8 that the only way spiritual gifts were passed on to others is for AN APOSTLE to lay hands on the receiver of the gift. Paul had that ability as an inspired apostle. I IIII "Some contend that the metaphor signifies to REKINDLE, in the sense of stirring up embers that are only smoldering and need to be fanned into a flame again (Lock, 85). It is going too far to suggest that Timothy's 'flame' (i.e., the use of his gift) 'had nearly gone out' (Williams, 96); rather, the point of emphasis likely is this: 'make full use' of your gift' (Knight, 370). As Lenski observed, 'There is no touch of censure' (754), only a reminder to keep going. Even though one in the apostolic age might possess a gift of the Spirit, the Spirit did not take control of the individual and overpower the person's will (see 1 Corinthians 14.27-33), as modern 'Pentecostals' allege. Timothy had **freewill** in the exercise of his gift, and he needed to keep busy" [Wayne Jackson, *Before I Die: Paul's Letters to Timothy and Titus*, Christian Courier Publications, 2007, p. 202].
2. **SPIRIT OF FEAR** (7)... "This is the same word (DEILIAS) Jesus used in John 14.27: **AFRAID**. **Timidity** underscores the fact that Timothy is afraid to speak out. Timothy's problem is not with the message. He knows it is God's word, and it saves. His problem is that he is again getting shy in telling that message. That is why **FEARFULNESS** is not a bad translation. What does he fear? He fears all the rejection and ridicule. If God has not given Timothy timidity,

then it can only come from one source—Satan!” [Denny Petrillo, *Commentary on 1, 2 Timothy & Titus*, Quality Publications, 1998, p. 101].

3. **POWER (7)**... “(DUNAMIS)—God gives the person the power that he needs. The work that Timothy was given did not have room for timidity. It is effective only when the message is preached with power. The Gospel is the power of God for salvation (Romans 1.16). This is our first occurrence of this word in 2 Timothy (cf., 1.8; 2.1, 13; 3.6, 7, 15; 4.17). The word carries the idea that one can overcome all obstacles and face all dangers because one’s source of strength is the Almighty God. The importance of this idea in the writings of Paul is seen in that it is also found in all of Paul’s epistles, except for Philemon. God has given His preachers the power to overcome the various dangers and pitfalls of the ministry. Timothy is no exception” [Denny Petrillo, p. 101].
4. **LOVE (7)**... “If His word is preached in power without love, then it is not what God wants. There has to be an obvious love in the message. When preachers preach, they need to preach with power and love” [Denny Petrillo, p. 101].
5. **A SOUND MIND (7)**... “Finally, they also were provided with a sense of DISCIPLINE (*sophronismos*, literally ‘to save the mind,’ hence, ‘sound mind,’ KJV). For those who put their trust in God, and rely on him no matter what lies ahead, there is sanity of mind; they don’t ‘go to pieces’ at every adverse ripple” [Wayne Jackson, p. 204]. |||| “In the NT the group occurs only 14 times (eight in the Pastorals). It is usually of little material significance. In Mark 5:15, for example, a sign of the healing of the demoniac is that he is in his right mind, and in Acts 26:25 Paul answers the charge of mania by arguing that he speaks sober truth, or true and rational words” [Gerhard Kittel, Gerhard Friedrich, and Geoffrey William Bromiley, *Theological Dictionary of the New Testament* (Grand Rapids, MI: W.B. Eerdmans, 1985), 1151].
6. **AFFLICTIONS OF THE GOSPEL (8)**... “Rather than being ashamed, Paul tells Timothy to share with him in the sufferings. Those who boldly proclaim the Gospel will suffer, as Paul had. Yet, Paul recognized that this would be for Timothy’s good. Adam Clarke points out: *No parent could love a child better than Paul loved Timothy; and, behold! he who could wish him nothing but what was great, honorable, and good, wishes him to be a partaker of the afflictions of the Gospel! Because, to suffer for Christ, and suffer with Christ, was the highest glory to which any human being in this state could arrive. The royal way to the crown of glory, is by the cross of Christ*” [Michael Hatcher, pp., 242-243].
7. **ACCORDING TO HIS OWN PURPOSE AND GRACE (9)**... “Our salvation and calling are according to God’s own purpose and grace. God’s grace is His love in action (John 3.16; Titus 2.11). His purpose is to save men by the gospel of Christ from their past sins, keep them clean by their walking in the light of the gospel (1 John 1.6-10), and ultimately bring them into heaven where eternal life and every eternal glory and bliss are provided. This purpose he accomplishes through Christ by the gospel” [Bob Winton, p. 141].
8. **GIVEN US IN CHRIST JESUS BEFORE THE WORLD BEGAN (9)**... “It is our connection with Christ that introduces us to grace (Romans 5.1-2). It was manifested in Christ, and it will not be given outside Christ. **FROM ALL ETERNITY** (BEFORE THE WORLD BEGAN, KJV), shows that this was no afterthought on the part of God. He planned to offer salvation through Christ from the beginning. This point would be an encouragement to Timothy because he would be

reminded that he is a part of the great purpose and plan of God (1 Peter 1.10-12)” [Denny Petrillo, p. 104].

9. **ABOLISHED DEATH** (10)... “In accomplishing His great work, God through Christ abolished death. Christ was raised up from the dead, becoming the first of many who would be resurrected [in the last day—John 5.28-29; 1 Thessalonians 4.13-18]. Although men still die, there is the hope of the resurrection (Hebrews 2.14-15; 1 Corinthians 15.19-20; Revelation 14.13)” [Bob Winton, p. 142].
10. **I ALSO SUFFER THESE THINGS: NEVERTHELESS I AM NOT ASHAMED ... HE IS ABLE TO KEEP THAT WHICH I HAVE COMMITTED** (12)... “‘Because I am a preacher, apostle and teacher, I am suffering.’ Paul’s sufferings are minimized by the use of the phrase. **THESE THINGS**, but Timothy knew well to what Paul alluded. In the immediate context, they refer to all he is suffering in Rome. For a larger reference, we should read his account in 2 Corinthians 11.23-28. The thought of Job’s friends is back of all references to being ashamed, i.e., ‘*if you are doing God’s will, why are you suffering?*’ Paul’s answer is the same as Job’s. It is found in a person, not in a dogma. I know Christ and Christ knows me; I am perfectly willing to commit my case to Him, I do not understand or enjoy this chain, but I am not embarrassed or discouraged by it. My life is under the direction of my Lord. He is able to work something good out of every circumstance” [Don DeWelt].
11. **HOLD FAST** (13)... “**18.6 κρατέω; ἔχω; ἄπτομαι**: to hold on to an object—‘to hold on to, to retain in the hand, to seize” [Louw Nida].
12. **KEEP** (14)... “**35.48 παραθήκη, ης f.** that which has been entrusted to the care of someone—‘what is entrusted, what is someone’s responsibility to care for” [Louw Nida].
||||| “In verse 12 we learned that God is able to keep that which is committed to Him. Now Timothy is urged to keep that which is committed to him (both **KEEP** and **COMMITTED** are the same words in both verses). Paul had committed himself to God Who was able to keep or guard that commitment, and now Paul is placing in Timothy’s hands something which he calls **that good thing**. Paul is showing great confidence in his young protégé That good thing is the Word of God which he was to hold fast (v. 13). It is the same thing which God had placed into his care and over which he had been faithful. 2 Timothy 2:2 **And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also**” [Michael Hatcher, p. 250].
13. **BY THE HOLY GHOST WHICH DWELLETH IN US** (14)... “Timothy had to do what he could to guard the Truth committed to him, but he could also call upon the Holy Spirit, even as Paul had been able to do. It is this author’s conviction that Paul here refers to the miraculous power of the Holy Spirit which he possessed by the direct action of God in being an apostle, and which Timothy possessed by the laying on of Paul’s hands (2 Timothy 1.6). **US**, to this writer, seems to be referring only to Paul and Timothy (as one reads through this chapter) and not to all Christians. Paul is encouraging Timothy to keep or guard the Gospel, and one of the nine spiritual gifts is the discerning of spirits (1 Corinthians 12.8-10). Additionally, since the Spirit was not an overpowering influence to the person and the person controlled the miraculous powers within his life (1 Corinthians 14.30), Paul is encouraging Timothy to go ahead and use the gifts given to him in keeping the Doctrine of Christ pure” [Michael Hatcher, pp., 250-251].

IV. EXAMPLES: Positive and Negative (15-18).

2 Timothy 1:15-18 **This thou knowest, that all they which are in Asia be turned away from me; of whom are Phygellus and Hermogenes. (16) The Lord give mercy unto the house of Onesiphorus; for he oft refreshed me, and was not ashamed of my chain: (17) But, when he was in Rome, he sought me out very diligently, and found me. (18) The Lord grant unto him that he may find mercy of the Lord in that day: and in how many things he ministered unto me at Ephesus, thou knowest very well.**

1. **PHYGELLUS AND HERMOGENES** (15)... “Nothing else is known of the two; perhaps they were prominent among the dissenters and were named on that basis. It is prudent on occasion to identify offenders for example’s sake. It is impossible to determine whether their defection was doctrinal, or merely out of fear for their safety. It does seem unlikely that the apostle would have publicized them if they were sincere Christians who merely had wilted a bit under pressure. Were they a portion of that hateful group in Rome who sought to multiply Paul’s afflictions during his first Roman confinement (Philippians 1.15-16)? Inspiration leaves them under a cloud” [Wayne Jackson, p. 218].
2. **THE LORD GIVE MERCY UNTO THE HOUSE OF ONESIPHORUS; FOR HE OFT REFRESHED ME...** (16)... “In stark contrast to those who deserted him, Onesiphorus had been like a cool breeze under a shade tree for an over-heated traveler, which is the idea behind the word **REFRESHED**. This kind brother had not been ashamed of the apostle’s chains in prison. Thus, Paul expressed his desire that the entire house of Onesiphorus obtain mercy. He had put forth a great deal of effort to find the imprisoned apostle. Paul’s specific desire for this helpful brother was that he would find mercy in the Day of Judgment. Timothy was well aware of how helpful Onesiphorus had been in Ephesus and from the above statements would likely conclude that he had continued in the same manner” [Gary Hampton].

V. Lessons & Applications.

2 Timothy 1:5 **When I call to remembrance the unfeigned faith that is in thee, which dwelt first in thy grandmother Lois, and thy mother Eunice; and I am persuaded that in thee also**—“Since faith comes by hearing and hearing by the Word of God (Romans 10.17), we know that Lois and Eunice taught Timothy the Truth of God’s Word. Later Paul would write, **And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus** (2 Timothy 3.15). **CHILD** is from a word which can refer to either an unborn child or a newborn child. Thus, Lois and Eunice taught Timothy God’s Word from the time he was born. This points out our desperate need to be teaching our children God’s Word from the very earliest of years: **And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord** (Ephesians 6.4). Lois and Eunice stand in stark contrast to Athaliah, the mother of Ahaziah, who counseled her son for evil. **He also walked in the ways of the house of Ahab: for his mother was his counsellor to do wickedly** (2 Chronicles 22.3)” [Michael Hatcher, p. 237]. ||||| **“Eunice—A Mother’s Legacy**... Eunice (v. 5) was Jewish, but apparently her father was not very orthodox: he violated one of the clear commands of the Law in arranging a match for his daughter with a Gentile (Acts 16.1). Later, when Timothy was born, he wasn’t circumcised (Acts 16.3). So it seems that neither Eunice’s father nor husband were observant of Judaism. But Eunice was. Paul praised her for her **GENUINE FAITH**, which she shared in common with Lois, her mother (2 Timothy 1.5). Eunice imparted that faith to her son, Timothy, and more than anyone else equipped him for a lifetime of usefulness for God. Eunice is an encouragement for every woman faced with the daunting task of nurturing the spiritual

life of her children, especially if she can't count on the help of a strong male. Eunice may have had no formal religious education and little encouragement from her family, except for Lois. But she had two crucial things going for her that offer hope for mothers today—the inherent power of being a mother and the dynamic power of a loving God” [*The Word in Life Study Bible*, Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1993, p. 746].

2 Timothy 1:7 **For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind**—“Christians today need to make a personal application of this. God’s message has to be declared with power. When Christians are too shy to talk to neighbors, friends, relatives or co-workers, then they are guilty of this Satan-promoted timidity” [Denny Petrillo, p. 101].

VI. Questions.

True or False

- 01. ____ Timothy did not know about the service Onesiphorus provided Paul.
- 02. ____ The faith of Lois lived in her.
- 03. ____ Paul even mentioned the names of some who had turned away from him.
- 04. ____ Paul’s desire to see Timothy was a strong one.
- 05. ____ Christians are called with a holy calling.

I Found it in Verse(s)

- 06. ____ Someone not ashamed of Paul being in prison.
- 07. ____ The manner in which Paul served God.
- 08. ____ There is a pattern or form of sound words.
- 09. ____ What God has given us as Christians.
- 10. ____ Paul was a preacher, an apostle, and a teacher of the Gentiles.

Short Answer

- 11. Two words that describe HOW Paul prayed for Timothy:

- 12. Two words that describe HOW Onesiphorus sought to find Paul in Rome:

- 13. Two words that describe WHAT Paul wanted Timothy to do regarding his gift from God:

- 14. Two words that describe WHAT Phygellus and Hermogenes did against Paul:

- 15. Two words that describe the amazing accomplishment of our Savior:

VII. Seek-A-Word Puzzle. The words may be backwards, diagonal, upside down, etc. See if you can find them all. The more you use the words of the Bible, the greater blessed you will be! You might be surprised at how much this little exercise will help you retain important truths. THANK YOU for the good effort you are putting forth in Bible study. -DRL

D O M E R C Y J T D M P A
 J T B D A G H E I E G A E
 F H G R S O G S M A I U M
 L I F E H S C U O R V L I
 O N V M A P O S T L E O N
 R G E E M E M F H Y N V D
 D R R M E L M A Y I B E A
 B A Y B D K I I K E E P L
 V C H R I S T T C A L L S
 O E D A F A T H E R O P O
 H M K N O W E S T J V E U
 O A C C O R D I N G E A N
 L S P E R S U A D E D C D
 Y P R O M I S E P O W E R

ACCORDING	ALSO	APOSTLE	ASHAMED	BELOVED
CALL	CHRIST	COMMITTED	DEARLY	FAITH
FATHER	GIVEN	GOSPEL	GRACE	HOLY
JESUS	KEEP	KNOWEST	LIFE	LORD
LOVE	MERCY	MIND	PAUL	PEACE
PERSUADED	POWER	PROMISE	REMEMBRANCE	SOUND
THING	TIMOTHY	VERY		

IX. EXTRA CREDIT FOR “SUPER” Bible Students...

Will you please consider answering these three SIMPLE questions based on the Bible text of this chapter? I will try to make use of your answers. Bring them with you next week. Tear out this last sheet from the Study Guide and be prepared to put it in a basket. I think it will be a great help to all of those in the class if you will do so. Thank you in advance for your marvelous cooperation!

W O R D: What word would you like to know more about in this chapter?

W O N D E R: I wonder what this phrase, verse, or series of verses means...

W I S H: I wish myself—or others whom I know or even don’t know—would understand this fact, principle, or concept from this chapter...