

L7: 2 Timothy 2:22-26 - The Servant of the Lord

Introduction:

- Obtain the Salvation in Christ (2:10)
- Appointed, Sanctified, Prepared (2:20-21)
 - Meet for the Master's Use

Preview:

- Certain characteristics and qualifications of the illustrations he provided earlier in the chapter
 - Soldier - endure hardness
 - Athlete - striving lawfully for the mastery
 - Farmer - laboring first partakes of the fruits
- The potential fruit of a faithful servant
 - Done first unto the Lord
 - Done for the others

Sermon:

{2 Timothy 2:22} Flee also youthful lusts: but follow righteousness, faith, charity, peace, with them that call on the Lord out of a pure heart.

- **"Flee also youthful lusts:"**
 - **"flee"** - escape, shun, forsake (one that is hunted)
 - 1 Cor. 6:18 - "Flee fornication."
 - 1 Cor. 10:14 - "Flee from idolatry."
 - 1 Tim. 6:11 - "Flee these things;"
 - Rejecting authority
 - Strifes of words
 - Envy, strife, railings, evil surmisings
 - Perverse disputings
 - Discontentment
 - Love the money
 - Foolish and hurtful lusts
 - James 4:7
 - **"youthful"** - younger in age
 - Ecc. 11:9
 - Can be both younger in age, but younger in edification
 - There were some particular "youthful lusts" that Timothy struggled with
- **"but follow"**
 - Adverse conjunction
 - Here is what you flee - here is what you follow
 - 1 Timothy 6:1-12

- **"righteousness"** - that which is wise and just (righteousness, godliness)
- **"faith"** - that which stems from the word of God and not the wisdom of the world (faith)
- **"charity"** - the fruit of faith that worketh (worketh no will) (love)
- **"peace"** - no striving or envying (live peaceably) not uproar (patience, meekness)
 - Work of faith - righteousness
 - Labor of love - charity
 - Patience of hope - peace
- **"with them that call on the Lord"**
 - Call on the name of the Lord
 - Calling on the name of the Lord is the action of drawing upon that which the Lord has specifically revealed He is providing at given points in history, and in recognition of that which He supplies, calling on the name of the Lord is your complete dependency to take full advantage of His sufficiency in all things unto His purpose.
- **"out of a pure heart."**
 - Submission to the Word of God
 - Not looking for selfish gain

{2 Timothy 2:23} But foolish and unlearned questions avoid, knowing that they do gender strifes.

- **"But"**
 - Another adverse
 - Flee, follow, now avoid
- **"foolish and unlearned questions"** - Titus 3:9
 - Debates, quarrels
 - You may not understand what these "foolish and unlearned questions" are; however, they hint to 1) an ulterior motive, and 2) Paul implies Timothy knew what they were.
 - Ulterior motive is manifest in dealing with the individual on more than one occasion and the question has been raised more than once and the Biblical answer was not received, thus the question remains and it becomes - "foolish and unlearned".
 - **"foolish"** - the rejection of the sound wisdom of God's Word is foolish and thus the questioner is foolish in rejecting the clear teaching of God's Word
 - **"unlearned"** - cast off the instruction of God aside
 - **"questions"** - 1 Timothy 6:4
 - **"avoid"** - to keep at a distance, to escape
- **"knowing that they do gender strifes."**
 - By their foolish and unlearned questions they gender strifes

- Beget stripes which is contrast to :24-25

{2 Timothy 2:24-25} And the servant of the Lord must not strive; but be gentle unto all men, apt to teach, patient, In meekness instructing those that oppose themselves; if God peradventure will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth;

- The pure heart, faithful, patience, strong servant of the Lord
 - **"must not strive"** - quarrel, debate, infighting, contentions
 - **"but be gentle"** - the contrast of "strive" and the manner of stripes
 - **"unto all men"** - believers and unbelievers
 - **"apt to teach"** - fit, suitable
 - Certain things that make one fit and suitable
 - Skill of teaching
 - Qualification of "bishop" - 1 Timothy 3:2
 - **"patient"**
 - Having the quality of enduring evils without murmuring or fretfulness; sustaining afflictions of body or mind with fortitude, calmness to the God's will
 - "Patience applies to any troubles or pains whatever small or great. It consists in the abstaining from all complaint or indication of what one suffers. There are perpetual occurrences which are apt to harass the tempter, unless one regards them with patience. Patience applies only to the evils that actually hang over us. As patience lies in the manner and temper of suffering, and endurance in the act: we may have endurance and not patience: for we may have much to endure and consequently endurance: but if we do not endure it with an easy mind and without the disturbance of our looks and words, we have not patience: on the other hand we may have patience but not endurance: for our patience may be exercised by momentary trifles, which are not sufficiently great or lasting to constitute endurance."
 - **"in meekness"**
 - Softness of temper
 - Power under control; humble attitude expressed in patient endurance of offenses
 - Gentleness; leniency, longsuffering, forbearance
 - Not easily provoked or irritated; given to forbearance under injuries
 - (Such irritation, such self-avengement is an indicator of mis-placed value of this life and this world)
 - **"instructing those that oppose themselves;"**
 - Providing them something they do not possess
 - Obvious they do not possess because they are going after a presumed good, but a worldly good contrary to the good God has for them, thus they oppose themselves unknowingly rejecting God's good for them and holding tight to the perceived good.
 - Inner man is governed, filled with the Spirit of God and His things, remembering not only what needs to be taught, but assessing the spiritual need of the individual, is not responding through that which is "seen" and "heard", but by what he/she sees with the eyes of faith and what he/she has been taught in the word of God - speaking it

which restraint of the flesh and with salt and grace.

- **"if God peradventure will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth;"**
 - God sovereignty
 - If the preceeding doesn't take place, God will not give them repentance
 - Not a guarantee if you do, but hope if you do
 - Your aptness to teach in the manner of grace is God's means to "give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth;"
 - They may or may not "change their mind"

{2 Timothy 2:26} And that they may recover themselves out of the snare of the devil, who are taken captive by him at his will.

- "And that they may recover themselves"
 - We do not recover, but labor with God in giving that to man in which they are to willingly take hold of in view of everything else.
 - Now, if they do take the truth and "recover themselves" is it them - of course not, without the truth there is no "recovery".
- "out of the snare of the devil" - who is behind all these things, and the goal behind them
 - Trap to not proceed further
- "who are taken captive by him at his will."
 - Prisoner of war, taken alive - "at his will" - that is the error in which the individuals are following

Conclusion: