

# EPISTLES FOR EVERYDAY LIVING

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2 Timothy 3

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2 TIMOTHY 3:1 NET 2ND ED.

1 BUT UNDERSTAND THIS, THAT IN THE LAST DAYS DIFFICULT TIMES WILL COME.

1. In living for God, we find that things are not \_\_\_\_\_. There are seasons. There are good times, and there are harder times.

2 TIMOTHY 3:2-4 NET 2ND ED.

2 FOR PEOPLE WILL BE LOVERS OF THEMSELVES, LOVERS OF MONEY, BOASTFUL, ARROGANT, BLASPHEMERS, DISOBEDIENT TO PARENTS, UNGRATEFUL, UNHOLY, 3 UNLOVING, IRRECONCILABLE, SLANDERERS, WITHOUT SELF-CONTROL, SAVAGE, OPPOSED TO WHAT IS GOOD, 4 TREACHEROUS, RECKLESS, CONCEITED, LOVING PLEASURE RATHER THAN LOVING GOD.

2. As long as the gospel is being preached, we are going to see \_\_\_\_\_.

**We are now seeing the widespread acceptance of ideas that are fundamentally opposed to Scripture.**

- \_\_\_\_\_ – a system of thinking that allows for more than one “truth,” even when those truths contradict each other.
- \_\_\_\_\_ – a way of living that removes God entirely from consideration and rejects the necessity of anything spiritual.
- \_\_\_\_\_ – the outright denial of anything eternal or divine, reducing reality to only what can be seen, measured, or experienced in the moment.

***We are called to love people. But we are not called to embrace the ideas that produce separation from God.***

3. There is a difference between loving someone and \_\_\_\_\_ with everything they stand for.

**There is a push to keep those who oppose the Word of God comfortable, and that push shows up in three ways:**

- Be \_\_\_\_\_.
- Be \_\_\_\_\_.
- Or \_\_\_\_\_ what is currently acceptable.

4. Acceptance of anything outside of truth is not \_\_\_\_\_. It is a backsliding.

**We are living in a society that is dominated by three things:**

- \_\_\_\_\_ – taking no responsibility, avoiding commitment to others, and ultimately just looking after yourself.
- \_\_\_\_\_ – the constant insistence that everything must be bigger, better, newer, and more.
- \_\_\_\_\_ – the pursuit of pleasure, enjoyment, and happiness, with a constant effort to avoid pain at all costs.

5. Where people love \_\_\_\_\_ more than God, you will find pride, arrogance, and self-centeredness.

6. Where people love \_\_\_\_\_ more than God, you will find greed, exploitation, and dissatisfaction.

7. Where people love \_\_\_\_\_ more than God, you will find lack of self-control, indulgence, and rejection of anything that brings discomfort.

***When God is removed from the center, everything else takes His place.***

*The Big Idea: We are living in the last days, and that means we are living in tension. God is moving in power, but the world is pushing back. And the reason for that pressure is simple, the world loves the wrong things, and when love is misplaced, truth will always be resisted.*

## THE FRAUDS

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2 TIMOTHY 3:6-9 NET 2ND ED.

6 FOR SOME OF THESE INSINUATE THEMSELVES INTO HOUSEHOLDS AND CAPTIVATE WEAK WOMEN WHO ARE OVERWHELMED WITH SINS AND LED ALONG BY VARIOUS PASSIONS. 7 SUCH WOMEN ARE ALWAYS SEEKING INSTRUCTION, YET NEVER ABLE TO ARRIVE AT A KNOWLEDGE OF THE TRUTH. 8 AND JUST AS JANNES AND JAMBRES OPPOSED MOSES, SO THESE PEOPLE—WHO HAVE WARPED MINDS AND ARE DISQUALIFIED IN THE FAITH—ALSO OPPOSE THE TRUTH. 9 BUT THEY WILL NOT GO MUCH FURTHER, FOR THEIR FOOLISHNESS WILL BE OBVIOUS TO EVERYONE, JUST LIKE IT WAS WITH JANNES AND JAMBRES.

8. Truth requires a \_\_\_\_\_, and truth requires submission. What these individuals do is keep everything open so that nothing ever has authority.
9. Relationship with God is not built on knowing \_\_\_\_\_, but it is built on submitting to what He has revealed.
10. Truth does not collapse under \_\_\_\_\_, and error does not stand indefinitely.

***So, our response is not to become consumed with them. We are not fighting against flesh and blood, and we are not called to engage in fellowship with darkness. We are called to remain aligned with truth and to walk in discernment without becoming distracted.***

2 TIMOTHY 3:5 NET 2ND ED.

5 THEY WILL MAINTAIN THE OUTWARD APPEARANCE OF RELIGION BUT WILL HAVE REPUDIATED ITS POWER. SO AVOID PEOPLE LIKE THESE.

## THE POWER OF TRUE RELIGION

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11. Part of the evil character of end-time culture is the \_\_\_\_\_ of godliness .
12. True godliness produces \_\_\_\_\_. It does not leave a person unchanged.

***The Big Idea: In the last days, the greatest danger is not just false teaching—it is false religion that looks right but lacks power. When truth is rejected,***

*transformation stops, and what appears godly on the outside becomes empty on the inside.*

## IT WON'T BE EASY

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13. If we are not careful, we can begin to measure \_\_\_\_\_ incorrectly, assuming that favor, acceptance, and ease are signs of faithfulness.

2 TIMOTHY 3:10-12 NET 2ND ED.

10 YOU, HOWEVER, HAVE FOLLOWED MY TEACHING, MY WAY OF LIFE, MY PURPOSE, MY FAITH, MY PATIENCE, MY LOVE, MY ENDURANCE, 11 AS WELL AS THE PERSECUTIONS AND SUFFERINGS THAT HAPPENED TO ME IN ANTIOCH, IN ICONIUM, AND IN LYSTRA. I ENDURED THESE PERSECUTIONS AND THE LORD DELIVERED ME FROM THEM ALL. 12 NOW IN FACT ALL WHO WANT TO LIVE GODLY LIVES IN CHRIST JESUS WILL BE PERSECUTED.

14. Faithfulness does not \_\_\_\_\_ pressure; it often invites it.

15. So we must understand this clearly: to live by and proclaim the name of Jesus in the last days will not make us popular, it will produce \_\_\_\_\_.

2 TIMOTHY 3:13 NET 2ND ED.

13 BUT EVIL PEOPLE AND CHARLATANS WILL GO FROM BAD TO WORSE, DECEIVING OTHERS AND BEING DECEIVED THEMSELVES.

16. While the truth of the gospel continues to go forth and transform lives, the world itself is not moving toward truth. It is \_\_\_\_\_ against it.

***But Paul also gives us perspective. They will not ultimately prevail, and they will not go on indefinitely. Their error will be exposed, and their foolishness will become evident. However, in the meantime, they continue in their evil, and they continue to spread deception. They do not run out of error. They find new ways to believe it and promote it. And that is why discernment and stability in truth are so critical in the last days.***

*The Big Idea: In the last days, faithfulness will not lead to ease, it will lead to opposition. The measure of success is not acceptance, but endurance in truth.*

## COMMANDED TO CONTINUE

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2 TIMOTHY 3:14-17 NET 2ND ED.

14 YOU, HOWEVER, MUST CONTINUE IN THE THINGS YOU HAVE LEARNED AND ARE CONFIDENT ABOUT. YOU KNOW WHO TAUGHT YOU 15 AND HOW FROM INFANCY YOU HAVE KNOWN THE HOLY WRITINGS, WHICH ARE ABLE TO GIVE YOU WISDOM FOR SALVATION THROUGH FAITH IN CHRIST JESUS. 16 EVERY SCRIPTURE IS INSPIRED BY GOD AND USEFUL FOR TEACHING, FOR REPROOF, FOR CORRECTION, AND FOR TRAINING IN RIGHTEOUSNESS, 17 THAT THE PERSON DEDICATED TO GOD MAY BE CAPABLE AND EQUIPPED FOR EVERY GOOD WORK.

17. The true character of the Christian life is not constant movement, but consistent \_\_\_\_\_.

***In the face of opposition, deception, and pressure, the call is to hold fast, to remain steady, and to endure.***

18. Scripture serves a clear purpose. It \_\_\_\_\_ what is right. It \_\_\_\_\_ what is wrong. It \_\_\_\_\_ how to correct what is off. And it \_\_\_\_\_ a person in how to live righteously. There is nothing lacking in what Scripture provides.

***The Big Idea:*** *In the last days, the answer is not to move on to something new, but to remain faithful to what is already true. When everything around you is shifting, stability is found in continuing in truth and being grounded in the Word of God.*