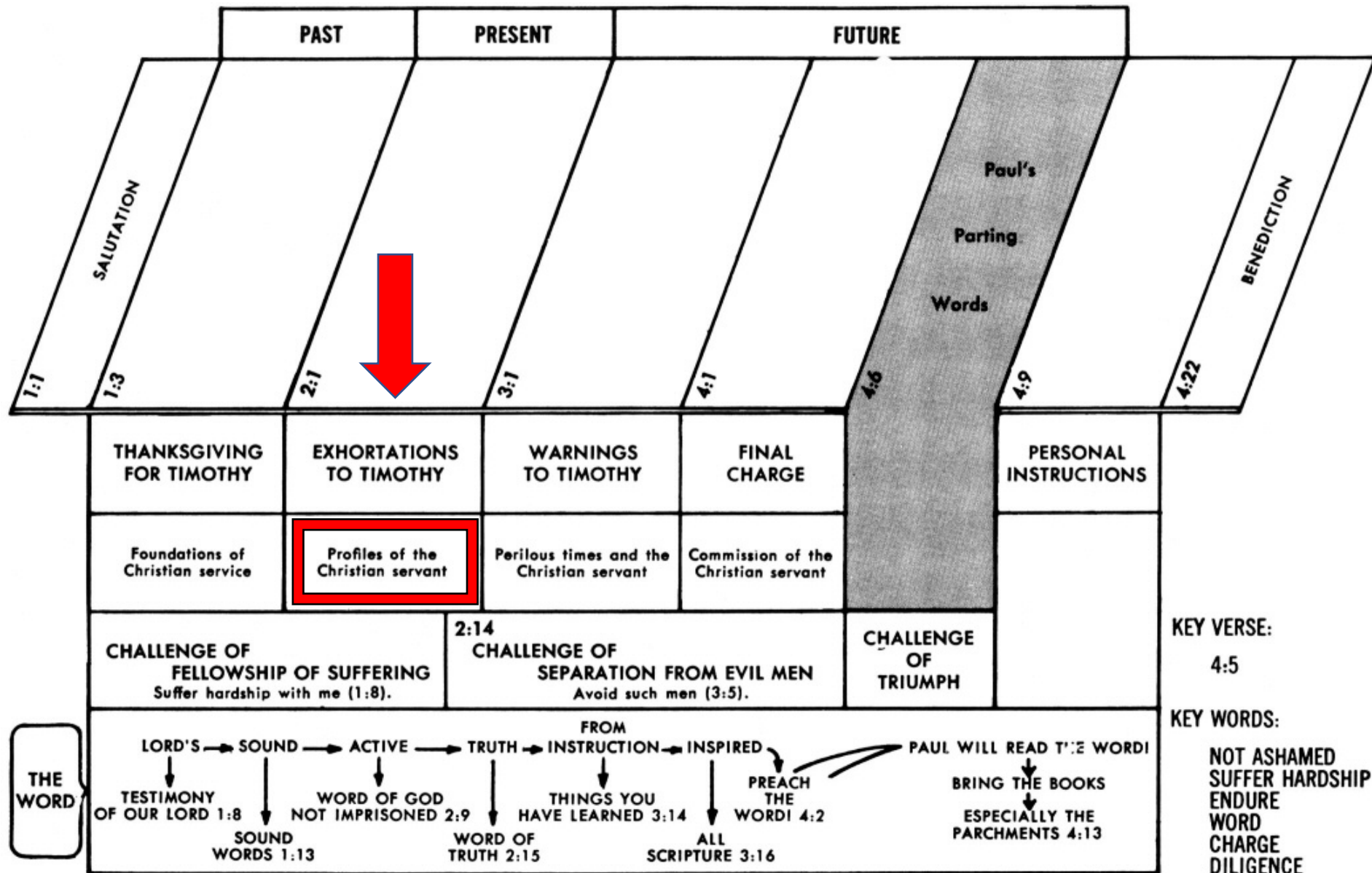




SOLDIER ★ ATHLETE ★ FARMER

2 Timothy 2:1-7



KEY VERSE:
4:5

KEY WORDS:

NOT ASHAMED
SUFFER HARDSHIP
ENDURE
WORD
CHARGE
DILIGENCE

9 Personalities of Faith

- Timothy as a Son
- Timothy as a Teacher
- Paul's Illustrations:
 - **Soldier** ←
 - **Athlete**
 - **Farmer**

- Paul as:
 - Prisoner
 - Workman
 - Vessel
 - Bond-Servant

Paul's Illustrations

- Soldier – Discipline
- Athlete – Dedication
- Farmer – Diligence
- Each giving a dimension of truth
- Together giving a composite of truth

“To be a disciple is to be committed to Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord and committed to following Him every day. To be a disciple is also to be disciplined in our bodies, minds, and souls.”

Billy Graham

Soldier – Athlete – Farmer

- Strong as a believer
 - Strong as a disciple
 - Strong as a teacher
- Strong = Maturity
 - Walk (God, Body World)
 - Talk (God, Body, World)
 - Feed (themselves, others)
 - Serve (family, community)
 - Reproduce (faith, calling)

“The word discipline has disappeared from our minds, our mouths, our pulpits, and our culture. We hardly know what discipline means in modern American society. And yet, there is no other way to attain godliness; discipline is the path to godliness.” Jay Adams

2 Timothy 2:1 You therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus.

2 The things which you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses, entrust these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.

Chiasm of 2 Timothy 2:2

- The things which you have heard from me
 - in the presence of many witnesses
 - **entrust these**
 - to faithful men
 - who will be able to teach others also

Our Cause

- ‘strong in grace – in Christ Jesus
- ‘which we have heard’ - disciple
- ‘entrust these!’ – disciple maker
- ‘faithful men’ – disciples
- ‘able to teach others’ - disciple makers

Our Cause

- Response then – Acts 17:32
- “Now when they heard of the resurrection of the dead, some began to sneer,
- “but others said, “We shall hear you again concerning this.”
- “But some men joined him and believed” 34



3 Suffer hardship with me,
as a good soldier of Christ Jesus.

4 No soldier in active service
entangles himself in the affairs of
everyday life,
so that he may please the one
who enlisted him as a soldier.

Our Commitment

- ‘suffer hardship with me’
- Things we do – God’s Word – God’s family
- Things we do without – affairs of everyday
- Php 4:8 – ‘think on these things!’
- “Your daily routine has a worldview. It orients your mind to the world and you then experience it in specific ways.”

“Christian discipleship is a decision to walk in his ways, steadily and firmly, and then finding that the way integrates all our interests, passions, and gifts, our human needs and eternal aspirations. It is the way of life we were created for.”
Eugene H. Peterson



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Our Contender

- ‘soldier in active service’
- ‘be sober – be vigilant!’
- An army is only needed for facing an enemy!

1 Peter 5:8

“Be of sober spirit, be on the alert. Your adversary, the devil, prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.”

“The battle of prayer is against two things in the earthlies: wandering thoughts and lack of intimacy with God's character as revealed in His word. Neither can be cured at once, but they can be cured by discipline.” Oswald Chambers



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Our Commander

- ‘that he may please’
- ‘please’ - to accommodate one's self to the opinions desires and interests of others
- My Church – the body to which I belong!



“We will never become truly spiritual by sitting down and wishing to become so.”

Phillips Brooks

Discipline of a Soldier

- Boot Camp – break down routines & new command structure
- Drills & Training – Skills for defense and offense
- Deployment – Engagement for defense or offense
- “deny himself – take up cross – follow Me!

“We must remember that the methods of spiritual disciplines are a means to the end, not the end themselves.”

Jerry Bridges

“We must face the fact that many today are notoriously careless in their living. This attitude finds its way into the church. We have liberty, we have money, we live in comparative luxury. As a result, discipline practically has disappeared. What would a violin solo sound like if the strings on the musician's instrument were all hanging loose, not stretched tight, not *disciplined*?”

A. W. Tozer



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