

## II Timothy 3 – 10 March 2024

### “Protected By The True Word”

#### Introduction

\*Chap 1 was Paul teaching us to be ‘proud to live for Jesus’

\*Chap 2 was Paul teaching us to be ‘profitable as a good soldier’

\*Now Chap 3 is Paul teaching us to be ‘protected by the true Word’

\*Paul will be off the scene soon and is wanting to prepared Timothy for the future

\*Paul wants to protect Timothy from the apostasy that’s all around – and will only be getting worse

\*Like a good father, Paul wants to protect Timothy

**Today, we’ll see the progression of allowing God’s Word to protect us from apostasy & false teaching**

# **1<sup>st</sup> – How We Got Here: We resist the truth & live for self (Vs 1-9)**

Read Vs 1

1. What are the ‘last days?’
  - a. Joel prophesied the pouring out of the H.S. in the last days as Peter recounted at Pentecost (Act 2:17)
  - b. Heb 1:1-2 tell us that Jesus has spoken for the last days
  - c. Read Hos 5:15-6:2 – 2 days and three
  - d. So last days are from Jesus until right now
2. As we get deeper into the last days, they are to become even more dangerous and difficult

Read Vs 2a

1. ‘Lovers of selves’ - Topping the list is self-love
  - a. Read Matt 16:15 – Highly esteemed is...
  - b. Making yourself the god of your life
2. Attention is on looks & what they get

Read Vs 2b

1. ‘Covetous’ – living unsatisfied & discontent

## Read Vs 2c

1. The rest of these demonstrate a self-centered universe and life rather than a theocentric universe
2. Notice that this is allowed to begin as children
  - a. Tell our children a God-centered life

## Read Vs 3a

1. ‘W/o natural affection’ – Jesus said (Matt 24:12) in last days, “the love of many will wax cold”
2. Looking at the stats on crimes against children – you have to say that we live in this world

## Read Vs 3b

1. ‘Trucebreakers’ – How many stood b4 God saying ‘til death do us part’ & then broke their word

## Read Vs 3c

1. Rest of these express, not just self-promotion, but intentionally putting down other good people
2. Read Isa 5:20 – Evil will usually justify itself as a good thing; wants Christians to be seen as wrong

## Read Vs 4a

1. 'Traitors' – Those that know the truth but work against it
2. America has been given much Gospel light & yet many work against God's declared will & Word
3. This word is used rarely but it's used of Judas

## Read Vs 4b

1. 'Heady' – Don't be rash or of quick judgement

## Read Vs 4c

1. 'Pleasures or God' – Do we follow God wherever He leads, or only if it's into pleasure?
2. Problem: earthly pleasures wear off, the high ends
  - a. So man seeks another pleasure
  - b. For a lover of God; pleasure will never end

## Read Vs 5

1. Did you think this list was the heathens at the club only? No, many of them can be found in the churches, mosques and synagogues

2. And what is the power of God?
  - a. Read Rom 1:16 – The Gospel
  - b. Gospel is God making a way into eternal life for us by forgiveness of our sins at cross
3. “From such turn away” – Not enough to say you’re not like this, get away from those that do

### Read Vs6

1. Evil doers aren’t content w/ their own evil but they want to come into your house & change you
  - a. Gender issues – used to be “Let us do what we want” now it’s “You need to support it”

### Read Vs 7

1. Evil doers aren’t generally “big dumb oafs”
  - a. Read Act 17:21 – A college education can be the worst education in pursuit of God
  - b. Read II Thes 2:10b – B/c they wouldn’t believe truth, they’re open to receive anything

## Read Vs 8-9

1. These are religious men that withstood Moses
  - a. They did spiritual miracles (Exo 7&8 – rod to snake, water to blood, frogs from water)
2. Evil can look evil, but it often looks good
3. “They shall proceed no further” – just as in Egypt, they couldn’t change dust to lice, all that oppose the truth will find the end to their selfishness

## **2<sup>nd</sup> – The Pivot Point: Choosing whom we will serve (Vs 10-12)**

### Read Vs 10-11

1. Paul lived the exact opposite life than that described in vss 1-5
2. There’s always great difference when Christ saves
  - a. God role-modeled this taking Israel out of Egypt (Exo 11:7)
  - b. God taught this in the Law of clean & unclean (Lev 11:47)
  - c. Read Eph 5:13-16 – Jesus will give us light

3. You'd think the world would admire godliness, but they don't b/c it brings them conviction
4. C. Chapel has always been known, not just as Bible-teaching church, but as Bible-believing church
  - a. We've been greatly affected by Jesus Christ

Read Vs 12

1. You are choosing a side
  - a. Choose Christ & the world will hate you (Read John 16:33)
  - b. Trying to live w/ one foot in both worlds is torture (Jam 4:3-4)
  - c. Choose the world & Christ will keep on loving you seeking to show our sin, His righteousness & judgement to come

**3<sup>rd</sup> – Where We're Going: Confidence in the Word brings us to completion (Vs 13-17)**

Read Vs 13-14

1. There will always be some evil ones that won't accept the Gospel, we need to continue down the road without them toward Christ

2. We can know we're doing things right when we come to the Bible – THAT'S our authority
  - a. Not “I think...”, but “The Bible says...”
  - b. If taught a business process by a new employee, then the general manager shows you different, you know what to do

Read Vs 15

1. OT Scriptures will logically lead people to look for a personal savior – and we know His name!
  - a. Read John 5:39, Life is when we have Jesus

Read Vs 16-17

1. What is the scripture that he's referring to?
  - a. Beginning w/ the OT (vs 15)
  - b. Paul knew God gave scripture to Apostles as the foundation of the church (Eph 2:20)
  - c. Read Col 4:16, I Thes 2:13
  - d. Paul combining OT & NT called it scripture (I Tim 5:18)
  - e. Peter also believed this (II Pet 3:15b-16)



2. The whole Bible is inspired by God, not man
  - a. Read II Pet 1:21 – Yes it’s a self-referral, but it’s been proven to be divine, by prophecy
3. Look at what the Word does in our life
  - a. Doctrine – what is true
  - b. Reproof & Correction – conviction & straightening
  - c. Instruction in Righteousness – Bringing back to good
  - d. God’s Word is knowable, learnable & WILL grow you...if you’ll allow it

## Conclusion

So, are you protected from the lies of the devil by the Word of God?

1. **We fell into sin by resisting the truth & living for self**
2. **But everything changes when we choose to serve the Lord**
3. **Now we grow in our confidence that the Word of God has everything we need!**