

II Timothy 1 – 25 February 2024

“Proud To Live For Jesus”

Introduction

Read Vs 1

1. Paul became an Apostle (sent one) some 30 years before writing this, at God’s will
 - a. Do you know your calling?
2. But why does God call us into the work of the ministry?
 - a. To spread the word of eternal life to come
 - b. Read I John 5:11-13
3. Paul’s writing while imprisoned in Rome and will be shortly beheaded by Nero (His last letter)

Read Vs 2

1. Timothy has been closely involved w/ Paul since the 2nd Missionary Trip (from Acs 16)
2. Timothy has been entrusted w/ leading Ephesus
3. This is a very personal letter as to a close son
4. Notice Paul adds ‘mercy’ to normal greeting

*So, what would you want to say, as you're departing the seen, to your son (or son in the faith)?

If you could see the deepest places of your daughter (or daughter in the faith)'s heart, what would you ask?

I would ask, "Are you ready to live proudly for Jesus?"

Today, we'll see 3 ways to grow our pride in Jesus

#1 – Stir up God's Spirit within you (Vs 3-8)

Read Vs 3

1. When your children grow up and move out, it's not possible to forget them – you pray for them
 - a. Timothy is Paul's son that he never had
2. The people God uses are people of prayer
 - a. 13 of 14 letters he speaks of praying for others
3. When Paul looks at his experience w/ God, he remarks that he's always wanted to serve God
 - a. Read Rom 10:2 – Passion but is it to serve self-interest or God's interest?
 - b. Paul, like all Israel, needed a severe change to adjust to the revelation of what God's doing

Read Vs 4-5

1. Three times in this short book Paul talks of his great desire to see Timothy face to face
 - a. *What joy just to be in the same room!*
 - b. Going to church is like a little slice of the presence of the Lord...then we must go back out into the world and work
2. It should bring us joy to see a Christian legacy being passed down from generation to generation
 - a. Greatest thing you can ever give your kids is a godly legacy to role-model their lives after
 - b. There are some ladies hearing Timothy's life-story here needing to be encouraged to keep living for Jesus even if they don't have any other support in doing it

Read Vs 6-7

1. 'Laying on of hands' it's identification & imparting
2. Just as you began in the spirit & power of God, stoke yourself to continue therein (Read Gal 3:2-3)

3. Be “stirred” to remember whom we rely on
 - a. Relying on self brings a spirit of fear & impotence
 - b. Relying on God’s Spirit brings three things
 - i. Dynamic action (power)
 - ii. Kindness (love)
 - iii. A mind controlled by peace (sound mind)
4. I want to stir you today, to believe all that God wants for you, use your gifts!

Read Vs 8

1. ‘Testimony’ is *martyrdom, witnessing, or life*
 - a. Don’t be ashamed of the life Jesus lived
2. The call is to embrace the life of a servant or even martyr for Jesus
 - a. Read Phil 3:10-11 – In this, we know Jesus greater
 - b. All the while trusting God to empower you for it
 - c. We want to say as Paul did in Rom 1:16, “I’m not ashamed of the gospel of Jesus Christ, for it’s the power of God unto salvation”

#2 – Embrace your holy calling (Vs 9-12)

Read Vs 9-10

1. God’s plan to redeem mankind was launched in eternity past & revealed in Jesus Christ!
2. We’re on a special mission from God, it’s a holy mission that’s different than any other
 - a. It’s a mission to carry the legacy of Jesus Christ
 - b. It’s a mission to carry the life of Christ to others
3. “Not of works”: we’re called not b/c we’ve done great works, but so Jesus can work greatly thru us
 - a. You ever been asked to join a club by a member, how about its president?
 - b. Well, you’ve been asked to join the most important club possible by the very Creator!

Read Vs 11-12

1. Lot of people talk about ‘what’ they believe
 - a. We talk of ‘Whom’ we believe!

- b. Christianity isn't a set of rules, it's knowing Jesus
- 2. Remember WHO called us to the work
- 3. This is the source of boldness, that we know Him
- 4. Paul isn't embarrassed of his scar tissue, but he shows them off as trophies won for Christ's cause
- 5. What is it that God is able to keep for Paul?
What did Paul entrust to God?
 - a. His mind, his body & even his eternal spirit

#3 – Live & breath among the faithful (Vs 13-18)

Read Vs 13-14

- 1. 'Hold fast' indicates that our enemies will want to take God's Word, His truth from us
- 2. Paul has given Timothy & us a "pattern of healthy words"
 - a. This indicates that there should be a routine to how we commit God's Word into our life
 - b. Read Act 20:27 & Rom 15:19b

3. The faith it takes to not waver from the Word of God, is something that can only happen by the power of the Holy Spirit

Read Vs 15

1. Even as God's Word thru Paul still endures, many of the people that heard the Word did not
2. This area of Asia is the western ½ of modern Turkey where Ephesus was
3. Whatever these 2 did, got their names recorded for all time as being unfaithful, what a shame

Read Vs 16-18

1. You have a true friend when you have nothing to give them and they come to you anyway
 - a. The gift of being present with Paul in his bonds was extremely valuable to him
2. Refreshment for your soul is found among the faithful

Conclusion

So, you're a Christian. Are you proud of Jesus? Are you proud to live for Jesus? I think we can all benefit from these tips for growing our relationship w/ Jesus

1. **Stir up God's Spirit within you**

- a. Go have a conversation w/ a friend to reignite the flames of passion
- b. Pray for the Holy Spirit to come upon you

2. **Embrace your holy calling**

- a. Believe in faith that God has more for you
- b. You have an incredible message to share with the world – go do it

3. **Live & breath among the faithful**

- a. Among the disobedient lies danger & death
- b. But among God's people healing & hope

We're not perfect, but we're faithfully trying to honor God and let Him use us for His glory!