

(3:1-4) But realize this, that in the last days difficult times will come. For people will be lovers of self, lovers of money, boastful, arrogant, slanderers, disobedient to parents, ungrateful, unholy, unloving, irreconcilable, malicious gossips, without self-control, brutal, haters of good, treacherous, reckless, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God,

1. **Difficult days come, not from people outside the church living in the world, but from people \_\_\_\_\_ the church living \_\_\_\_\_.**

(3:5a) holding to a form of godliness although they have denied its power;

(3:5b) avoid such people as these.

2. **We are to \_\_\_\_\_ those that wear the \_\_\_\_\_ of Christianity and do not display the character of Christ.**

(3:6-7) For among them are those who slip into households and captivate weak women weighed down with sins, led on by various impulses, always learning and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth.

3. **The accumulation of information does not equate to spiritual \_\_\_\_\_.**

(3:8) Just as Jannes and Jambres opposed Moses, so these men also oppose the truth, men of depraved mind, worthless in regard to the faith.

(3:9) But they will not make further progress; for their foolishness will be obvious to all, just as was that also of Jannes and Jambres.

--- Pursuing Authentic Faith ---

(2:22) Now flee from youthful lusts and **pursue** righteousness, faith, love, and peace **with those who call on the Lord from a pure heart.**

(3:10-11) Now you followed my teaching, conduct, purpose, faith, patience, love, perseverance, persecutions, and sufferings, such as happened to me at Antioch, at Iconium, and at Lystra; what persecutions I endured, and out of them all the Lord rescued me!

1. **Let's press through the \_\_\_\_\_ in serving Christ by honoring the \_\_\_\_\_ of Christ.**

(3:12) Indeed, all who want to live in a godly way in Christ Jesus will be persecuted.

2. **Let's stay \_\_\_\_\_ to our \_\_\_\_\_ in Christ and our \_\_\_\_\_ in Christ.**

(3:13) But evil people and impostors will proceed from bad to worse, deceiving and being deceived.

(3:14-15) You, however, continue in the things you have learned and become convinced of, knowing from whom you have learned them, and that from childhood you have known the sacred writings which are able to give you the wisdom that leads to salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.

3. **Let's weather the storms of deception and discouragement by being \_\_\_\_\_ to the \_\_\_\_\_ of Christ.**

(3:16-17) All Scripture is inspired by God and beneficial for teaching, for rebuke, for correction, for training in righteousness; so that the man or woman of God may be fully capable, equipped for every good work.

- ✓ Teaching – What does \_\_\_\_\_ living look like?
- ✓ Rebuke – What does \_\_\_\_\_ living look like?
- ✓ Correction – How do we \_\_\_\_\_?
- ✓ Training – How do we remain \_\_\_\_\_ in Christ?