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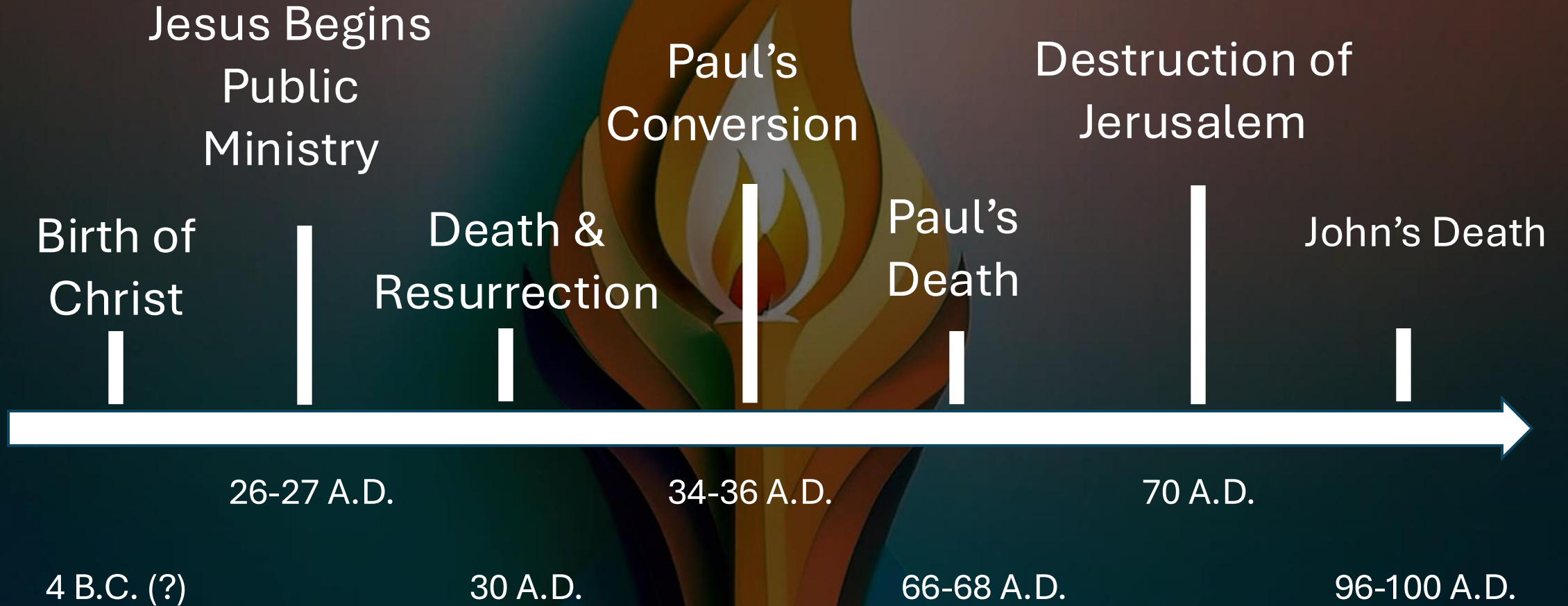
*2 Timothy*



# 2 Timothy

*Week 1: Introduction*

# New Testament Timeline



# New Testament Books

History		Letters		Apocalypse	
<i>Life of Jesus</i>	<i>Growth of Church</i>	<i>Paul's Letters</i>		<i>General Letters</i>	<i>Prophetic Literature</i>
Matthew	Acts of Apostles	Romans		Hebrews	Revelation
		1 Corinthians	Philemon	James	
Mark		2 Corinthians	1 Thess.	1 Peter	
		Galatians	2 Thess.	2 Peter	
Luke		Ephesians	1 Timothy	1 John	
		Philippians	2 Timothy	2 John	
John		Colossians	Titus	3 John	
			Jude		



# Reading Epistles of NT

- The word epistle means “letter,” and in New Testament studies it refers to letters written by the apostles to churches or individuals.
- The epistles usually start with a personal greeting, often identifying the sender and the intended recipient.
- Then the writer explains the purpose & topic for their letter.
- From there, the writer moves into the last section, which often combines “business matters” with a final farewell.

# Reading Epistles of NT



- Epistles are “occasional documents,” meaning that they are often responding to a known or perceived need, issue, or question from the recipient.
- When reading & interpreting epistles it is helpful to think in paragraphs as the primary literary unit.
- While historical books like Acts are primarily descriptive, the epistles are primarily prescriptive.

# The Apostle Paul

- Paul was a Jewish Pharisee (Acts 23:6; Php. 3:5) originally from Tarsus and was trained by a well-known Jewish Rabbi named Gamaliel (Acts 22:3).
- In his zealous pursuit of “righteousness” as understood through the Judaism of his day, Paul, then known as “Saul,” excelled beyond his peers in the ways of Judaism (Gal. 1:13-14)
- Paul persecuted the church before his conversion (Acts 23:3-4).

# The Apostle Paul

- But after meeting the risen Jesus on the road to Damascus (Acts 9), Paul became a Christ-follower and was called to be an Apostle (1:1) who would preach, primarily, to the Gentiles (Gal. 1:15-16; Eph. 3:1-11).
- Paul was eventually martyred under Nero around A.D. 67-68 (2 Tim. 4).
- For an excellent resource on learning more about the apostle Paul, I recommend F.F. Bruce's book, *Paul: Apostle of the Heart Set Free*.



# Timothy



- We first meet Timothy on Paul's 2<sup>nd</sup> Missionary Journey when he returns to Lystra & Derbe to strengthen the churches planted on the 1<sup>st</sup> Missionary Journey.
- It is likely that Timothy (and his mother) became Christians during the 1<sup>st</sup> Missionary Journey.
- Timothy's mother was Jewish, but his father was Greek.
- Timothy had a good reputation in the church.

# Acts 16:1-3

[1] Paul came also to Derbe and to Lystra. A disciple was there, named Timothy, the son of a Jewish woman who was a believer, but his father was a Greek. [2] He was well spoken of by the brothers at Lystra and Iconium. [3] Paul wanted Timothy to accompany him, and he took him and circumcised him because of the Jews who were in those places, for they all knew that his father was a Greek.

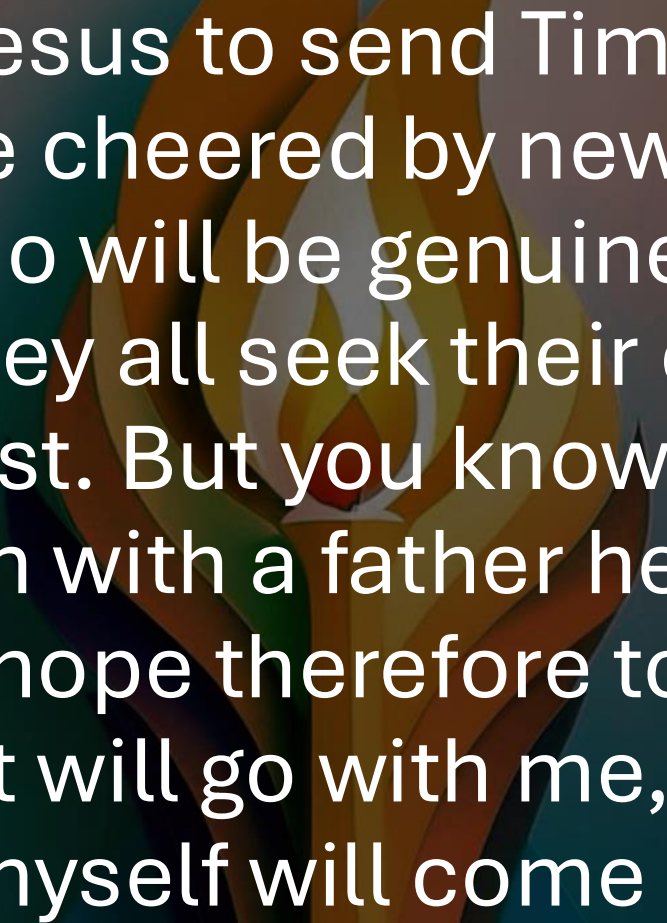
# Timothy



- Had grown up learning the Hebrew Scriptures from his mother & grandmother (2 Tim. 1:5; 3:14-15)
- Perhaps sickly (1 Tim. 5:23)
- Perhaps shy/timid (1 Cor. 16:10-11; 2 Tim. 1:6-7)
- Timothy was a young leader in the church (1 Tim. 4:12)
- Paul's "beloved and faithful son in the Lord" (1 Cor. 4:17; 1 Tim. 1:2; 2 Tim. 1:2)
- Paul's "fellow worker" in the gospel" (Rom. 16:21; 1 Thess. 3:2; 1 Cor. 16:10; Php. 2:22)

# Philippians 2:19-24

I hope in the Lord Jesus to send Timothy to you soon, so that I too may be cheered by news of you. For I have no one like him, who will be genuinely concerned for your welfare. For they all seek their own interests, not those of Jesus Christ. But you know Timothy's proven worth, how as a son with a father he has served with me in the gospel. I hope therefore to send him just as soon as I see how it will go with me, and I trust in the Lord that shortly I myself will come also.





# Timothy



- **Unique** – “I have no one like him...”
- **Sympathetic** – “who will be genuinely concerned for your welfare”
- **Right Priorities** – “they all seek their own interests, not those of Jesus Christ...”
- **Faithful** – “proven worth”
- **Servant** – “as a son with a father he has served with me in the gospel”
- **Sacrificial** – implication he doesn’t seek his own interest, but looks out for the welfare of others

# Timothy



- Paul had given him important assignments to represent him to other churches and assist in dealing with the conflicts or strengthening needed in those churches:
  - Thessalonica – 50 AD (1 Thess. 3:1-10)
  - Corinth – 53-54 AD (1 Cor. 4:16-17; 16:10-11)
  - Philippi – 60-62 AD (Php. 2:19-24)
- In 1 & 2 Timothy, he is on another assignment from Paul: to provide spiritual leadership in Ephesus, including:
  - Guarding against false teaching in the church (1 Tim. 1, 4; 2 Tim. 2:14ff)
  - Preaching & teaching the gospel (1 Tim. 4; 2 Tim. 1, 3)
  - Choosing good leaders (1 Tim. 3)
  - Shepherding men, women, rich, & poor (1 Tim. 2, 5)





# Occasion / Purpose



- Paul is in prison in Rome – 64-65 A.D. (?)
- Acts ends with Paul under house arrest in Rome but having much more freedom and personal comfort than the current imprisonment.
- Currently, the setting is bleaker – perhaps a dungeon type environment after being arrested in Troas ( ? )
- He likely had a preliminary hearing before a Roman tribunal (2 Tim. 4:16-18) and perhaps bound for a full trial to result in execution.



# Occasion / Purpose



- Meanwhile, he had received some aid, care, and physical provisions from Onesiphorus (2 Tim. 1:15-18).
- Paul wrote to Timothy and requested that he come to him soon (perhaps replacing him with Tychicus, 2 Tim. 4:12).
- But Paul knows that even after the trial, he has little hope of release and is facing imminent execution (2 Tim. 4:6-8).
- So, the letter is written with extreme urgency for Timothy – not only to come visit, but to carry on the gospel ministry in light of his departure, Timothy's calling and the opposition from false teachers

# Theme



*To be devoted to the message & mission  
of the gospel in the face of false teaching  
& suffering.*

# Theme



Following Jesus involves risk, sacrifice, and inviting tension and discomfort into your life. Dark, painful, or difficult moments are not a sign of Jesus' absence but opportunities for Jesus' love and faithfulness to be most tangible. ([The Bible Project: 2 Timothy Overview](#))

# Key Verses



Follow the pattern of the sound words that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. By the Holy Spirit who dwells within us, guard the good deposit entrusted to you. (2 Timothy 1:13–14 ESV)



# Key Verses



And what you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses entrust to faithful men, who will be able to teach others also. Share in suffering as a good soldier of Christ Jesus.

(2 Timothy 2:2–3 ESV)

# Overview

## Chapter 1

Call to **Suffer**  
for the  
Gospel

## Chapter 2

Call to  
**Endure**  
for the  
Gospel

## Chapter 3

Call to Be  
**Strengthened**  
by the  
Gospel

## Chapter 4

Call to  
**Preach** the  
Gospel

# Outline

## I. Opening ([1:1–2](#))

## II. Exhortation to Endurance for the Gospel ([1:3–2:13](#))

- A. Thanksgiving for Timothy's sincere faith ([1:3–5](#))
- B. A call to bold endurance in ministry, part 1 ([1:6–14](#))
- C. Examples, positive and negative ([1:15–18](#))
- D. A call to bold endurance in ministry, part 2 ([2:1–13](#))

## III. Dealing with False Teachers ([2:14–3:9](#))

- A. Timothy in contrast to the false teachers ([2:14–26](#))
- B. Description of the false teachers ([3:1–9](#))

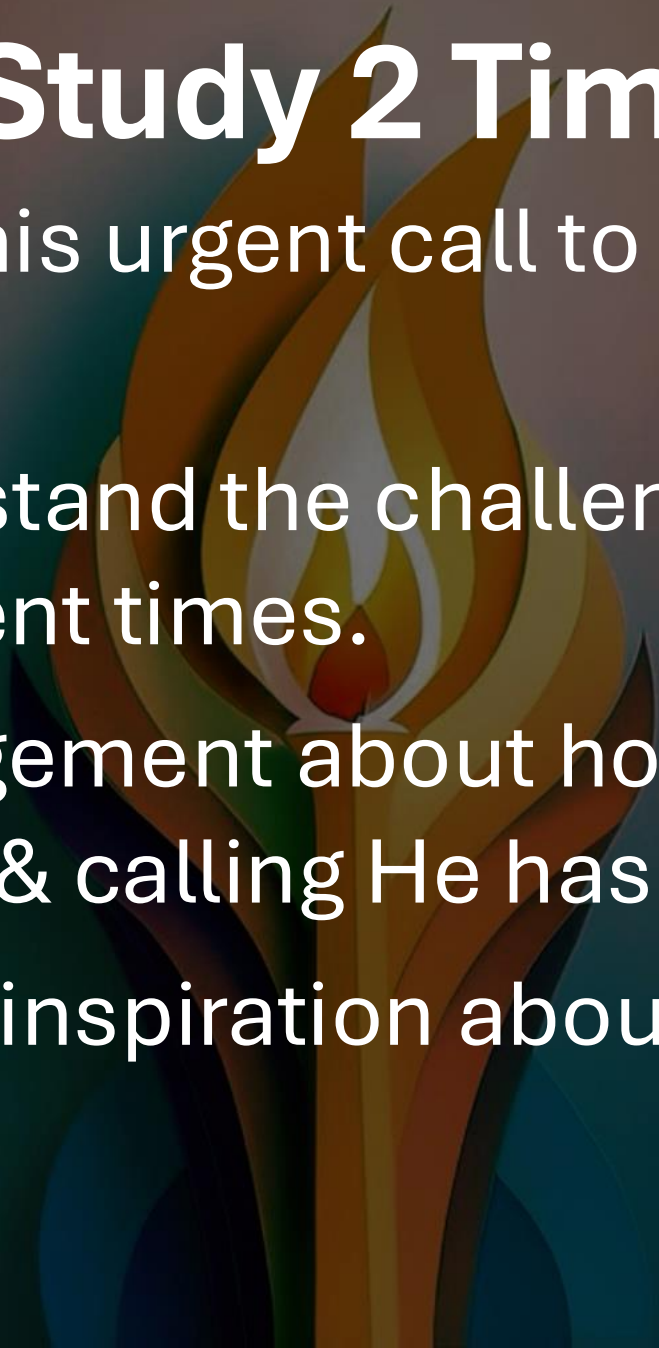
## IV. Exhortation to Timothy in Contrast to False Teachers ([3:10–4:8](#))

- A. Call to hold fast to Scripture and Paul's example ([3:10–17](#))
- B. The ultimate charge ([4:1–8](#))

## V. Conclusion ([4:9–22](#))

# Why Study 2 Timothy?

- We need to hear this urgent call to be disciples who make disciples.
- We need to understand the challenges of being faithful to Christ in turbulent times.
- We need encouragement about how we can serve the Lord with the gifts & calling He has given us.
- We need insight & inspiration about living this life in light of eternity.







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