

A Life Well Lived 2

Today marks the culmination of 52 weeks of preaching and bible classes on the need to fix our eyes on Jesus. During November we have focused on a great reality. One day we will see Him as He is. And its not just us who will see Him as He is. Every person who has lived, is living, and will live will see Jesus as He is. In fact, every knee will bow before Him. As we talked about three weeks ago, He is coming again. We need to be watching. We need to be ready. Because if you miss Him, you've missed everything. Last week we were in 2 Timothy 4.6-7. We see Paul anticipating his death with the spirit of triumph. There is No Better Passage to illustrate the way we want to encounter Jesus when this life is over. There is no better passage to describe a life well lived. Today we will continue our deep dive into this passage by looking closely at verses 7 and 8.

I. 2 Timothy 4.7: How to Finish in Triumph

- A. Expend Maximum Effort
 - 1. 2 Timothy 4:7a: *I have **fought** the good fight, ...*
 - a) Excessive effort and energy expended in a contest.
 - b) Victory will only be gained by maximum effort.
 - 2. Colossians 1:29: *I **labor** for this, striving with his strength that works powerfully in me.*
 - a) "Labor" - effort to the point of sweat and exhaustion.
- B. Stay the Course
 - 1. 2 Timothy 4:7: *... I have **finished** the race, ...*
 - 2. How do we get off track?
 - a) Hebrews 12.1: "**hindrance**" unnecessary baggage.
 - b) Hebrews 12.1: "**sin**" will knock you out of the race.
- C. Treasure Time
 - 1. Ephesians 5:16: *making the **most** of the time, because the days are evil.*
 - 2. Paul finished the race because he filled every moment with maximum effort.
- D. Guard the Word
 - 1. 2 Timothy 4:7: *I have kept **the faith**.*

II. 2 Timothy 4.8: How You Can View Your Future

- A. Anticipate the Reward
 - 1. 4.8: Paul is looking forward to what he will receive. God as faithful. generous. trustworthy.
 - 2. 4.8: "reserved for me."
 - 3. What does he call the reward?
 - a) 2 Timothy 4:8: *There is reserved for me the crown of righteousness, ...*
 - 4. What is the reward? 2 Timothy 4:8: the crown of **righteousness**, ...
- B. Anticipate the Day
 - 1. 2 Timothy 4:8: *which the Lord, the righteous **judge**, will give me. ...*
 - 2. 2 Timothy 4:8: on **that day**, ...
- C. The Basis for our Anticipation
 - 1. 2 Timothy 4:8: *and not only to me, but to all those who have loved his appearing.'*
 - 2. This is the mark of the believer. Love is the supreme identifier of our salvation.

III. As We Close...

- A. Do you love Christ? Are you demonstrating it through a life of obedience. Do you delight in His word?
- B. Have you given yourself to Him?