

A Life Well Lived (1)

Seeing Jesus Face to Face has been our focus this quarter. What a glorious thought! One day we will see Him as He is ... because we will be just like Him. In our lesson today we will look at Paul, who anticipates his death with the spirit of triumph. He is going home. He is going to be with Jesus.

2 Timothy 4.6-8 is an expression of triumph, joy, exhilaration and victory! Paul is facing impending death. He knows he will not leave this prison alive. And yet... he is filled with confident expectation and peace. This is what Christianity prepares us for ... a glorious entry into the glory and presence of our Lord.

I. 2 Timothy 4.6: The Present: Paul is Ready

- A. *For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time for my departure is close.*
 - 1. The ***“for I”*** at the beginning of the verse is emphatic.
 - 2. Paul’s leaving is imminent. ***“already.”*** I am now leaving.
- B. A Drink Offering
 - 1. *I am already being poured out as a **drink** offering...*
 - a) Numbers 15.4-5 explains the typical sacrifice...
 - b) An animal sacrifice, a meal offering, and a drink offering
 - c) Given in totality ... everything poured out on the altar.
 - 2. This is the final pouring out of his life. The final act of total dedication to the Lord.
- C. The Time Has Come
 - 1. *The **time** for my departure is close.*
 - a) “Time” - think season or period of time ... rather than hours or days.
 - b) He would be around for a little while, but maybe not past winter (see 4.21).
- D. What is Paul’s view of death?
 - 1. *The time of my **departure** is close.*
 - 2. Four ways this word was used in Paul’s time:
 - a) To unyoke an animal from a cart or a plow from a yoke
 - b) To loosen chains or the bonds on a prisoner
 - c) To take down a tent
 - d) Slipping the ropes to allow the ship to leave the harbor

II. 2 Timothy 4.7: The Past: A Life Well Lived

- A. *I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.*
- B. 2 Timothy 4:7 YLT: *the good strife I have striven, the course I have finished, the faith I have kept,*
 - 1. I ***fought***. “The good fight I have fought.”
 - a) Colossians 1.29 - labor unto weariness... Amplified version...
 - b) 2 Timothy 4.7 - “Good” fight - he knew it was a noble calling. A high/heavenly calling.
 - 2. I ***finished***. “The course I have finished.”
 - a) self-discipline to stay on track.
 - b) Unnecessary baggage we pickup and sin knock us off track.
 - c) Hebrews 12.1-2
 - 3. I ***kept***. “The faith I have kept” Paul lived under the authority of the Word.

III. As We Close...

- A. This is A Life Well Lived ... So we can see Jesus in the future. How do we do it?
- B. We do all we have been called to do. We offer our life as a total sacrifice. Do you need Jesus?