

I. Paul's Instruction to Timothy

2 Timothy 1:3-7 (NKJV) – ³*I thank God, whom I serve with a pure conscience, as my forefathers did, as without ceasing I remember you in my prayers night and day, ⁴greatly desiring to see you, being mindful of your tears, that I may be filled with joy, ⁵when I call to remembrance the genuine faith that is in you, which dwelt first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice, and I am persuaded is in you also. ⁶Therefore I remind you to stir up the gift of God which is in you through the laying on of my hands. ⁷For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.*

A. Timothy had a great experience with God.

1. He had faith.
2. He had a great heritage of faith – *relatives*.

B. Timothy was experiencing a *Weak Season* in His faith walk.

1. Timidity and fear had set in.
2. This affected HOW Timothy was serving the Lord.
3. Some things had changed.
4. Spiritual things were not the same.

C. Paul, "*Therefore I remind you to STIR UP the gift of God.*"

1. **Timothy you need to be stirred up.**
 - a. **Stirred** = *to fan the flame – to arouse the mind, to awaken, to awaken to action*
 - b. Timothy needs to awaken – to be stirred to become active again.
 - c. There are many today who need a stirring.
 - d. They need to be stirred to action again.

- e. To be stirred to action means – some actions have ceased that need to be awakened once again.
 - f. Action of prayer.
 - g. Action of reading and listening to the Word of God.
 - h. Action of church attendance.
 - i. Action of service to God – Back to Work
2. **Paul, “I remind you to STIR UP the gift” Verse 6.**
 - a. The way you are stirred comes by REMEMBRANCE.
 - b. I am going to remind you of some things.
3. **Whenever I need to be STIRRED – I can do so through remembrance – reminding myself of some things.**
 - a. Everyone experiences these times when it is necessary to stir yourself up.
 - b. Timothy was extremely blessed with family and the Apostle Paul.
 - c. If timothy needed stirred – everyone needs to be stirred.
4. **2 Timothy 1:13 (KJV)** – *Hold fast the form of sound words, which thou hast heard of me, in faith and love which is in Christ Jesus.*
 - a. **One of the things you need to stir up is the remembrance of the Word you have received.**
 - b. **2 Timothy 1:13 (GNT)** – *Hold firmly to the true words that I taught you, as the example for you to follow, and remain in the faith and love that are ours in union with Christ Jesus.*
 - c. **The Word that we have received has the potential to stir us up.**
 - d. **When times are tough.**
Remind yourself of the Word you have received!
Remind yourself of the promises you have received!
The Word will stir you like nothing else!

D. Other Scriptures to Consider

1. **2 Peter 3:1-2 (NKJV)** – *¹Beloved, I now write to you this second epistle (in both of which I stir up your pure minds by way of reminder), ²that you may be mindful of the words which were spoken before by the*

holy prophets, and of the commandment of us, the apostles of the Lord and Savior.

- a. Peter – *The Reasons I am writing these letters to you is to stir up your mind. You need to be stirred.*
- b. The way Peter stirred them was through the way of reminder
Reminder was the means for stirring.
- c. I remind you of the words spoken by the prophets the apostles.
- d. The way to be stirred – awakened back to action – is to be reminded of the WORD.
- e. Nothing stirs you like the Word.

2. **Revelation 3:1-3 (NLT)** – ¹*Write this letter to the angel of the church in Sardis. This is the message from the one who has the sevenfold Spirit of God and the seven stars: “I know all the things you do, and that you have a reputation for being alive—but you are dead. ²Wake up! Strengthen what little remains, for even what is left is almost dead. I find that your actions do not meet the requirements of my God. ³Go back to what you heard and believed at first; hold to it firmly. Repent and turn to me again. If you don’t wake up, I will come to you suddenly, as unexpected as a thief.*

- a. The Church at Sardis need to be stirred.
- b. You have a reputation of being alive, but you are dead.
- c. You have a reputation of being a church, but you are really dead.
- d. Wake Up! – *Be watchful and strengthen the things that remain and are ready to die.*

*To stir up – to arouse from sleep – to recall the dead to life
After COVID – Some are asleep! – Some are dead! – Some need to
awaken from sleep! – Others may need to be raised from the
dead!*

- e. Some things in you have already died.
- f. The things that remain will also die if you do not take action to stir yourself up.
- g. There are some people who have a suffered loss spiritually in this season.
- h. Unless you become STIRRED – *you’re not going to get back to the place with God where you once stood.
You will not get back to church.*

You will not get back to strong faith.

You may not renounce your faith but – you are in danger of losing the good relationship you once had with the Lord.

REMEDY – STIR yourself!

- i. **Revelation 3:3 (NKJV)** – *(The Key to being Stirred) – Go back to what you heard and believed at first; hold to it firmly. Repent and turn to me again. If you don't wake up, I will come to you suddenly, as unexpected as a thief.*
 - **Go back!** – *Sometimes you need to go back to where you once were. KJV – REMEMBER*
 - **Go back to the things you have heard!**
Remind yourself of the teaching – word – preaching – promises.
 - **Hold to It.** – *guard it – to attend to it carefully*
Don't allow spiritual things to keep slipping or to slip away from you.
 - *Denotes that previously you allowed things to slip away slowly depart – so that they slipped away un-noticed.*
 - *Spiritual things are not usually lost instantly.*
I didn't stop praying all at once.
I didn't stop attending church all at once.
I didn't stop feeding myself all at once.
Subtly the enemy led me away.
Before I even realized what was happening.
I moved so slowly in the wrong direction – I didn't even realize I was moving.

E. CLOSING – It's time to MOVE FORWARD! Stir yourself up!