



“TRUE LEADERSHIP!”

2 Timothy Chapter 2:15-26

I) IS TO STUDY HIS WORD! (v15-18)

II) BELIEVERS MUST BRING HONOR TO GOD! (v19-22)

III) CHRISTIANS HAVE COURAGE IN CHRIST! (v22-26)

I) IS TO STUDY HIS WORD! (v15-18)

(v15) (KJV) 2 Timothy 2:15 - Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

> Why STUDY the Word of God?

Because:

- The Bible is **INSPIRED** - 2 Timothy 3:16,17 - *All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.*

- The Bible is **INFALLIBLE** - Psalm 119:89 - *Forever, O LORD, your word is settled in heaven.*

Isa 40:8 - The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God stands forever."

- The Bible is **AUTHORITATIVE** - 2 Peter 1:19-21 - *And so we have the prophetic word confirmed, which you do well to heed as a light that shines in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts; knowing this first, that no prophecy of Scripture is of any private interpretation, for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit.*

- The Bible is **INERRANT** - Psalm 19:8 - *The statutes of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes;*
Matt 5:18 - "For assuredly, I say to you, till heaven and earth pass away, one jot or one tittle will by no means pass from the law till all is fulfilled.

- The Bible is **ALL SUFFICIENT** - Hebrews 4:12 - *For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart. Jer 15:16 - Your words were found, and I ate them, and Your word was to me the joy and rejoicing of my heart; for I am called by Your name, O LORD God of hosts.*

- The Bible is **WONDERFUL** - Ps 119:18 - *Open my eyes, that I may see wondrous things from Your law.*

- The Bible is NOURISHMENT - 1 Peter 2:2 - *as newborn babes, desire the pure milk of the word, that you may grow thereby,*

- The Bible is the TESTIMONY OF JESUS - John 5:39 - *"You search the Scriptures, for in them you think you have eternal life; and these are they which testify of Me. Revelation 19:10 – For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.*

- The Bible is for our LEARNING - Romans 15:4 - *For whatever things were written before were written for our learning, that we through the patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope.*

- The Bible brings FAITH - Romans 10:17 - *So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.*

- The Bible brings SUCCESS – Joshua 1:1-9 (*"observe to do"*)

- The Bible brings REVIVAL – 2 Kings 22:8 - Then Hilkiah the high priest said to Shaphan the scribe, *"I have found the Book of the Law in the house of the LORD."* (During the reign of King Josiah.)

- The Bible brings VICTORY – Matthew 4:1-11 (*"It is written"*)

- The Bible makes you RAPTURE ready – Revelation 3:7-13

* At a very moderate rate, the entire Bible can be read in about 70 hours. That works out to 52 hours for the Old Testament and 18 hours for the New Testament. If one reads systematically 4 chapters per day you will finish the entire Bible in 9 to 10 months.

(v16) *"Shun profane and idle babblings, for they will increase to more ungodliness"* – Pastors beware of the mixed multitude that would rather share personal opinions about God, rather than learning about God from his Word. Remember the ungodly always desire to make into their image, instead of conforming our life into the image of God, according to the Word of God and the life of Christ!

(v17-18) Hymenaeus and Alexander had blasphemed God, as well as Philetus had strayed from the TRUTH with the goal to overthrow the FAITH of others. We read about this in 1 Timothy 1:18-20 - *This charge I commit to you, son Timothy, according to the prophecies previously made concerning you, that by them you may wage the good warfare, having faith and a good conscience, which some having rejected, concerning the faith have suffered shipwreck, of whom are Hymenaeus and Alexander, whom I delivered to Satan that they may learn not to blaspheme.*

II) BELIEVERS MUST BRING HONOR TO GOD! (v19-22)

(v19-21) True Christians will want to depart and will depart from INIQUITY.

The Lord knows those who are His and there are others He does not know, Matthew 7:21-23 - *"Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of*

heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven. Many will say to Me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?' And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!'

~ What is LAWLESSNESS?

To be lawless is to be contrary to the law or to act without regard to the law. Laws are necessary in a sinful world, IN 1 Timothy 1:9-11 - *But we know that the law is good if one uses it lawfully, knowing this: that the law is not made for a righteous person, but for the lawless and insubordinate, for the ungodly and for sinners, for the unholy and profane, for murderers of fathers and murderers of mothers, for manslayers, for fornicators, for sodomites, for kidnappers, for liars, for perjurers, and if there is any other thing that is contrary to sound doctrine, according to the glorious gospel of the blessed God which was committed to my trust.*

Those who choose to act lawlessly further sin in the world. The word for “lawlessness” in the Bible is often translated “iniquity.” According to the Bible, the root of all lawlessness is rebellion.

First John 3:4 defines sin as lawlessness: *“Everyone who sins breaks the law; in fact, sin is lawlessness.”* To commit sin is to be lawless; that is, the sinner breaks God’s law.

In this way, lawlessness is a rejection of God. Satan, who models the ultimate rejection of God, will one day empower the Antichrist, called *“the lawless one,”* whose rise to power *“will be in accordance with how Satan works”* (2 Thessalonians 2:9).

Lawlessness is contrasted with righteousness in verses such as Romans 6:19, 2 Corinthians 6:14, and Hebrews 1:9. The righteous, who have the nature of Jesus Christ, hate the deeds of lawlessness. Lot, a godly man living in Sodom, *“was tormented in his righteous soul by the lawless deeds he saw and heard”* (2 Peter 2:8). The psalmist said, *“I abhor the assembly of evildoers and refuse to sit with the wicked”* (Psalms 26:5). Christians are to be law-abiding (1 Peter 4:15).

The Bible connects man’s lawlessness and rebellion against God with his need for God’s forgiveness. In Romans 4:7, Paul (quoting Psalms 32:1) says, *“Blessed are those whose lawless deeds are forgiven, and whose sins are covered”* (ESV). God’s righteousness is imputed to us at salvation, and God forgives us of our lawlessness: *“Their sins and lawless acts I will remember no more”* (Hebrews 10:17, quoting Jeremiah 31:34). Christ died on the cross *“to redeem us from all lawlessness and to purify for himself a people for his own possession who are zealous for good works”* (Titus 2:14, ESV). Our lawless deeds resulted in Christ’s death, but God’s grace overcomes our lawless hearts.

In the judgment many will stand before Christ claiming a connection with Him that exists only in their own minds. They will rehearse their good deeds done in His name, only to hear Jesus declare them to be *“workers of lawlessness”* whom Christ never knew (Matthew 7:23, ESV). At that time, those who practice lawlessness will be cast

“into the blazing furnace,” while those who are covered by the righteousness of Christ “will shine like the sun” (Matthew 13:41–43). Christ will have the ultimate victory and will eliminate lawlessness forever.

- Believers are called to depart from iniquity and become a vessel of HONOR, but the question is how? In 1 John 1:8 – 2:2 - If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar, and His word is not in us.
My little children, these things I write to you, so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. And He Himself is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the whole world.

- King David understood this principle of confession and repentance when he wrote Psalm 32 and Psalm 51.

III) CHRISTIANS HAVE COURAGE IN CHRIST! (v22-26)

~ Have COURAGE to:

- Flee youthful lusts!***
- Pursue righteousness, faith, love, peace – call on the LORD!***
- Avoid foolish and ignorant disputes!***
- Be a servant of the LORD!***
- Humbly correct those in opposition, providing repentance and the knowledge of the TRUTH!***
- Set the captives FREE!***

***DUTY DESTROYS THE LIES OF THE DEVIL!
HONOR DEFEATS THE STRONGHOLDS OF THE DEVIL!
COURAGE DELIVERS US FROM THE CAPTIVITY OF THE DEVIL!
LET’S GO FOR GOD!***