

**CONTEND FOR THE  
GOSPEL  
KEEP THE FAITH**

**AS FOR YOU....**



Written by Paul to Timothy

- In Prison awaiting execution (64-67AD)
- Final Letter before his death

Themes so far

- contend for the gospel, keep the faith, endure suffering
- deep care for Timothy, encouraging him to be faithful and persevere in the hardships of ministry
- warning to be on guard for, divisive people, false teachers, foolish arguments, that which leads people away from the truth



“<sup>10</sup> You, however, have followed my teaching, my conduct, my aim in life, my faith, my patience, my love, my steadfastness, <sup>11</sup> my persecutions and sufferings that happened to me at Antioch, at Iconium, and at Lystra—which persecutions I endured; yet from them all the Lord rescued me. <sup>12</sup> Indeed, all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted, <sup>13</sup> while evil people and impostors will go on from bad to worse, deceiving and being deceived. <sup>14</sup> But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly



believed, knowing from whom you learned it<sup>15</sup> and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.<sup>16</sup> All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness,<sup>17</sup> that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.”



## 1. You Had a Front Row Seat

### a) My life an open book for you

- what I taught
- how I lived
- my aim in life (Acts 21:21, Phil 1:21)
- my faith, patience, love, steadfastness
- \* work of Holy Spirit evidenced in my life and story you have seen
- persecutions & suffering – specific places
- \* Lord Rescued Me – He is faithful



## b) Eyes Wide Open

- 'all who desire to live a Godly life in Jesus Christ will be persecuted'
- the name of Jesus brings opposition, will be directed at His followers
- look at my story, God rescues & redeems, he is faithful and it is worth it.



## 2. Stay Rooted in a Changing World

### a) clear progression away from truth

- bad to worse
- deceiving and being deceived
- Rom. 1:21-31

### b) as for you – be anchored here

- remember what you have learned & believed
- remember who you have learned it from
- remember where it was from – sacred



## 3. Rooted in the Scripture

### a) truth is revealed here

- wisdom – knowledge rightly applied
- salvation through Christ alone

### b) inspired (God breathed)

- 2 Peter 1:21 “<sup>21</sup> For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.”





## c) Profitable

- teaching – passing on truth
- reproof – correcting error
- correction – returning to the truth
- training in righteousness – how to remain living in the truth

## d) Completes and Equips

- rounded and ready, all that is needed
- all the necessary pieces for the job

## e) For Action – good works



## So What?

### 1. Take in the Story of Others

- the evidences of God at work
- the rescue of God in difficult times
- count the cost, know the value

### 2. Check your roots

- culture has a current
- recall the what, whom and basis
- stay grounded



## 3. Renew your commitment to Scripture

- are you living by the truth
- is scripture your basis for information, the filter for cultures lies, the roadmap for redemptive work of God, the place for training?
- am I seeing the outworking of this?

