

**CONTEND FOR THE
GOSPEL**

KEEP THE FAITH

BELIEVERS BEWARE



2 Timothy so Far...

- 2 Timothy Setting & Background
 - Written by Paul while awaiting execution in Roman prison (64-67 A.D.)
 - Paul's final letter before his death



2 Timothy so Far...

- Theme & Message
 - Contend for the gospel, keep the faith and endure suffering
 - Powerful appeal from Paul who knows his time is almost finished
 - Paul is writing to a young Pastor whom he cares deeply for and is encouraging him to endure the hardships of ministry even as Paul did
 - Paul also is sending a warning to watch out for divisive people (quarrelers) and false teachers who want to lead people away from the truth



“But understand this, that in the last days there will come times of difficulty. ² For people will be lovers of self, lovers of money, proud, arrogant, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, ³ heartless, unappeasable, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not loving good, ⁴ treacherous, reckless, swollen with conceit, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, ⁵ having the appearance of godliness, but denying its power. Avoid such people. ⁶ For among them are those who creep into households and capture weak women,



burdened with sins and led astray by various passions,⁷ always learning and never able to arrive at a knowledge of the truth.⁸ Just as Jannes and Jambres opposed Moses, so these men also oppose the truth, men corrupted in mind and disqualified regarding the faith.⁹ But they will not get very far, for their folly will be plain to all, as was that of those two men.”



1. Take this in vs. 1...

a) Understand this....

b) The Last Days

- clear Jesus will return (time unknown)
- signs that we are in last days
- 1 Tim. 4:1 – increased spiritual activity
- 2 Peter 3:3 – scoffers, follow own desires



- Jude 1:18 “In the last time there will be scoffers, following their own ungodly passions.”

¹⁹ It is these who cause divisions, worldly people, devoid of the Spirit.

- Matt. 24:11-12 “And many false prophets will arise and lead many astray. ¹² And because lawlessness will be increased, the love of many will grow cold.”

c) Times of Difficulty

- same word as found in Matt. 8:28
- ‘fierce’, difficulty
- will be affected, not a small thing



2. Traits that Identify 2-5

a) 19 descriptors that describe these people

- lovers of self
- lovers of money
- proud
- arrogant
- abusive
- disobedient to parents
- ungrateful
- unholy



2. Traits that Identify 2-5

a) 19 descriptors that describe these people

- heartless
- unappeasable
- slanderous
- without self control
- brutal
- not loving good
- treacherous
- reckless
- swollen with conceit



- lovers of pleasure over lovers of God
- appearance of Godliness – denying it's power

***Avoid these people**

- they will be found within your group

***Note – who is 1st in the Heart matters, see Romans 1:21-23 “²¹ For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened. ²² Claiming to be wise, they became fools,”**



b) ways they operate 6-7

- creep in to weakness
- burden with sins
- led away by passions
- always learning – never arriving at the knowledge of the truth

3. Imitators Exposed...

a) story from Exd. 7-9, Moses vs Pharaoh and his magicians



b) They will oppose

- truth
- those who stand for it

c) They are....

- corrupted in the mind (thinking)
- disqualified in matters of faith (don't listen)

d) God will expose them

- will make it known



So What?

1. Gather this information - keep your eyes open
2. Examine the List
 - are there some repentance or correction items for me?
 - do I know how to be careful, who I allow influence, who I am following, knowing my bible
3. Putting up my guard
 - renew my posture – love God 1st, allow him to show me how that might improve
 - examine my pursuits and passions

