The Chapters of 2 Timothy

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SECTION OUTLINE ONE (2 TIMOTHY 1)
Paul opens his second letter to Timothy with encouragement and some news.

I. PAUL SPEAKS CONCERNING HIS SON (1:1-8, 13-14): The apostle regards Timothy as his spiritual son.
   A. The reassurance by Paul (1:1-3): He tells Timothy that he is praying for him night and day.
   B. The remembrance by Paul (1:4-5)
      1. He is aware of Timothy's tears (1:4).
      2. He is aware of Timothy's testimony (1:5).
         a. The faith of Timothy (1:5a)
         b. The faith of Timothy's family (1:5b)
   C. The requests by Paul (1:6-8, 13-14): The apostle urges Timothy to:
      1. Stir up his gift (1:6)
      2. Be fearless, strong, and loving (1:7)
      3. Be unashamed of Jesus or of Paul (1:8a)
      4. Be ready to suffer for Jesus (1:8b)
      5. Guard the great body of scriptural truth that has been given him (1:13-14)

II. PAUL SPEAKS CONCERNING HIS SAVIOR (1:9-10)
   A. He has redeemed and called us to a holy life (1:9a).
   B. He did this by his grace before the world began (1:9b).
   C. He has destroyed death and has introduced eternal life (1:10).

III. PAUL SPEAKS CONCERNING HIMSELF (1:11-12, 15-18)
   A. The apostle's calling (1:11): His calling from God is twofold:
      1. To be an apostle and preacher (1:11a)
      2. To be a teacher of the Gentiles (1:11b)
   B. The apostle's confinement (1:12a): Because of his calling, he is suffering as a prisoner.
   C. The apostle's confidence (1:12b): In spite of everything, Paul is not ashamed, for he knows the one in whom he trusts.
   D. The apostle's companions (1:15-18)
      1. His deserting friends (1:15): Most of Paul's coworkers in Asia have abandoned him.
      2. His devoted friend (1:16-18): Onesiphorus has remained a faithful and helpful friend.

SECTION OUTLINE TWO (2 TIMOTHY 2)
Paul describes the duties assigned to a pastor.

I. THE ROLE MODEL (2:1-7): Paul likens the ministry to four secular occupations.
   A. A teacher (2:1-2)
      1. As a student Timothy was taught many things by Paul (2:1-2a).
      2. As a pastor Timothy must now teach those things to other godly people (2:2b).
   B. A soldier (2:3-4)
      1. Give all of your energies to the warfare (2:3).
      2. Give none of your energies to worldly affairs (2:4).
   C. An athlete (2:5): Strive for the victor's crown.
   D. A farmer (2:6-7): Work hard to harvest a large crop.

II. THE REMINDERS (2:8-10): A prisoner in Rome, Paul asks Timothy to reflect on two things.
A. God's messenger is chained (2:8-9a).
B. God's message cannot be chained (2:9b-10).

III. THE RESULTS (2:11-13)
A. If we die for Christ, we will live with Christ (2:11).
B. If we endure hardship for Christ, we will reign with Christ (2:12a).
C. If we deny Christ, he will deny us (2:12b).
D. If we are unfaithful, Christ remains faithful (2:13).

IV. THE RESPONSIBILITIES (2:14-26): Paul lists some of Timothy's duties as a pastor.
A. Remind your people of the great scriptural truths (2:14a).
B. Warn them against petty arguments (2:14b).
C. Strive to become an approved workman before God (2:15).
D. Avoid godless controversies (2:16-19, 23-26).
   1. The examples (2:16-17): Paul points out two men, Hymenaeus and Philetus, who have involved themselves in these controversies.
   2. The error (2:18-19): They are claiming that the resurrection from the dead has already occurred.
   3. The endeavor (2:23-26): Timothy must gently instruct those who would oppose him with the goal of leading them to repentance.
E. Present your body as a clean vessel to God (2:20-21).
F. Avoid evil, and pursue good (2:22).

SECTION OUTLINE THREE (2 TIMOTHY 3)
Paul warns of the coming great apostasy.

I. THE PERVERSIONS (3:1-9)
A. The evil (3:1-5)
   1. People will love only themselves and their money (3:1-2a).
   2. They will be proud, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, and unholy (3:2b).
   3. They will be without love, unforgiving, slanderous, without self-control, and brutal (3:3).
   4. They will be treacherous and will be lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God (3:4).
   5. They will have a form of godliness but will deny its power (3:5).
B. The examples (3:6-8): Paul lists two types of people involved in apostasy.
   1. Sexually weak-willed, sin-burdened women (3:6-7)
   2. Depraved men who will oppose God as Jannes and Jambres once opposed Moses (3:8-9)

II. The Prescription (3:10-17): Having diagnosed the disease, Paul now proposes a twofold preventative against it.
A. Timothy is to continue in the work of God (3:10-13): Paul offers his own ministry as a pattern.
B. Timothy is to continue in the Word of God (3:14-17).
   2. What the Scriptures will do for Timothy the leader (3:16-17)
      a. The guidelines (3:16): Timothy will find the divinely inspired book useful.
         (1) For doctrine and reproof (3:16a)
         (2) For correction and instruction in righteousness (3:16b)
      b. The goal (3:17): To equip Timothy for every good work.

SECTION OUTLINE FOUR (2 TIMOTHY 4)
Paul closes his letter (which is most likely his last letter before being executed) with six “finals.”

I. PAUL'S FINAL CHARGE (4:1-2, 5)
A. Timothy is to preach the Word of God (4:1-2).
   1. How he is to preach it (4:1, 2b): He is to use it for correction, rebuke, and encouragement.
   2. When he is to preach it (4:2a): Urgently, at all times.
B. Timothy is to reach his world for God (4:5).

II. PAUL’S FINAL WARNING (4:3-4, 14-15): The apostle issues a twofold warning.
   A. In regard to apostasy (4:3-4)
      1. Men will someday turn from sound doctrine (4:3).
      2. Men will someday turn to satanic doctrine (4:4).
   B. In regard to Alexander (4:14-15): Paul warns Timothy to beware of this godless coppersmith who has caused Paul so much grief.

III. PAUL’S FINAL TESTIMONY (4:6-8)
   A. What he has done (4:6-7)
      1. He has fought a good fight (4:6-7a).
      2. He has finished his cause (4:7b).
      3. He has kept the faith (4:7c).
   B. What God will do (4:8): He will reward the apostle with a crown of righteousness.

IV. PAUL’S FINAL REQUEST (4:9, 11-13)
   A. The individuals (4:9, 11-12)
      1. He asks that Timothy come as soon as possible (4:9).
      2. He asks that Timothy bring Mark with him (4:11).
      3. He has sent Tychicus to Ephesus (4:12).
      1. His cloak (4:13a).
      2. His study books (4:13b).

V. PAUL’S FINAL SORROW (4:10, 16)
   A. Demas has forsaken him (4:10).
   B. His Roman friends have forsaken him (4:16).

VI. PAUL’S FINAL SONG OF PRAISE (4:17-18)
   A. God has delivered him from the mouth of the lion (4:17-18a).
   B. God will deliver him to the Kingdom of Heaven (4:18b).

VII. PAUL SENDS HIS FINAL GREETINGS (4:19-22).