

INTRODUCTION

- Walk through Rome.
- Tiny Prison
- Paul.
- Mamertine.
- Show photo
- Old man.
- Important words.
- What matters.
- Timothy.
- Ephesus.

1 Fear of God

Leadership vs Pastoral
nch

↳ Would Timothy put
me in leadership
in Ephesus

2 Timothy 2:1-9, 20-21

1 You then, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. 2 And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable people who will also be qualified to teach others. 3 Join with me in suffering, like a good soldier of Christ Jesus. 4 No one serving as a soldier gets entangled in civilian affairs, but rather tries to please his commanding officer. 5 Similarly, anyone who competes as an athlete does not receive the victor's crown except by competing according to the rules. 6 The hardworking farmer should be the first to receive a share of the crops. 7 Reflect on what I am saying, for the Lord will give you insight into all this.... 8 Remember Jesus Christ, raised from the dead, descended from David. This is my gospel, for which I am suffering even to the point of being chained like a criminal. But God's word is not chained.

In a large house there are articles not only of gold and silver, but also of wood and clay; some are for special purposes and some for common use. Those who cleanse themselves from the latter will be instruments for special purposes, made holy, useful to the Master and prepared to do any good work.

Its useless to build something from the platform you will tear down with your life

THE CRISIS OF THE MOMENT

- Metoo.
- Leaders falling into scandal.
- People leaving the church.

- Who can you even trust?
- Rise and Fall of Mars Hill
Hybels. MacDonald, Ravi, Carl Lentz

Metaphors Matter

1-THE KIND OF PEOPLE GOD IS LOOKING FOR

1 You then, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. 2 And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable people who will also be qualified to teach others.

A. THOSE WHO HE CAN TRUST **ENTRUST**

Prison Pen of Guy

Paratithēmi (entrust) is here an imperative and carries the idea of depositing something valuable for safekeeping.

- THEY CAN PASS THIS ON TO OTHERS.
- THEY HAVE A VISION.

When I first moved to New York and was planting David Nicholas would call me everyweek.

Who have you shared the gospel with?

B. THOSE WHO ARE RELIABLE

- Consistent.
- Prioritize.
- Hustle
- Whatever it takes.

When I was first being **disciplined** and I was inconsistent. Late, busy, distracted, last minute bailing things like that.

God can do anything with your life, but if you are inconsistent and unreliable, you will squander your inheritance

C. PEOPLE STRONG IN GRACE

Be Strong in grace.

The verb be strong is also passive, however, indicating that the source of Timothy's strength was not in himself but in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. A somewhat better rendering would be, "by means of the grace that is in Christ Jesus."

- Don't neglect the gift of God that is in you.
- Fan into flame the gift that is in you

Weak
strong

2-THE KIND OF LIVES THEY LIVE

"Join me in suffering"

A. SOLDIER.

V3. Join with me in suffering, like a good soldier of Christ Jesus. 4 No one serving as a soldier gets entangled in civilian affairs, but rather tries to please his commanding officer.

METAPHOR

SOLDIER

In Roman army, serve 20 years, could not marry.

- Had legion tattooed on them.
- Commitment.
- Could not abandon or desert.
- the Roman code of Theodosius: "We forbid men engaged in military service to engage in civilian occupations."

FOCUS

- courage,
- commitment,
- sacrifice.

ENEMY

Our need to villainize. Politics. Business. Groups. Beliefs, Ideologies.

- Satan wants to destroy people.
- He wants to steal the seed of the gospel

- He wants to create shame and guilt and accuse
- He wants to blind the eyes of people to the gospel of Jesus
- He wants his own kingdom

For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds. We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.

2 Corinthians 3

GAME.

ENTANGLED

Entangle himself translates a passive form of *empelekō*, which literally means **to weave**.

Please his commanding officer.

ENTANGLED IN TRIVIALITIES

ENTANGLED IN THE FEAR OF MAN

Desire for the approval and affirmation of man is one of the marks of the fall.

Desire for the approval and affirmation of the Father is the mark of the Christian.

SOLDIER OR CIVILIAN IN THE KINGDOM OF GOD.

The Hurt Locker

Find people willing to live like soldiers.

100 hours
Sons of Anub

B. ATHLETE. VICTORY

V5 Similarly, anyone who competes as an athlete does not receive the victor's crown except by competing according to the rules

2:5 competing according to the rules. Athletes were pledged by oath to ten months of intense discipline preceding their participation in the Olympic games. Isthmain games nearby.

In the Greek games

- First, he had to be a **true-born Greek**.
- Second, he **had to prepare at least ten months** for the games and swear to that before a statue of Zeus.
- Third, he had to compete within the specific rules for a given event.
- To fail in any of those requirements meant automatic disqualification.

SECRECY

Prayer.

(Sinkhole) Life just collapses.

However we may understand the details, there can be no doubt, on the biblical picture of human life that we were meant to be inhabited by God and to live by a power beyond ourselves. Human problems cannot be solved by human means. Human life can never flourish unless it pulses with the immeasurable greatness of His power for us who believe. But only constant students of Jesus will be given adequate power to fulfill their calling to be Gods person for their time and their place in this world. They are the only ones who develop the character that makes it safe to have such power.

Dallas Willard.

HOW ARE YOU DISQUALIFIED?

- *Porn*
- *Money*

- *Bitterness*

Friend at seminary. Running off with stripper
Other friend stole 800k and went to jail.
Other friend misappropriating funds

As Paul emphasizes in that passage, the wreath (Stephanos) for which the Greek athletes competed was perishable, but the one for which the spiritual Christian competes is imperishable.

It is “the crown [Stephanos] of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day; and not only to me, but also to all who have loved His appearing” (2 Tim. 4:8),

“the unfading crown of glory” we will receive “when the Chief Shepherd appears”
(1 Peter 5:4),

“the crown of life, which the Lord has promised to those who love Him”
(James 1:12; Rev. 2:10).

**ATHLETE OR A SPECTATOR.
IN TRAINING, OR WATCHING.**

C. FARMER, HARVEST

We are severed from the soil, and have no idea where the food comes from.
We are able to get whatever we want, whenever we want.

Hard-working is a participle form of the verb *kopiaō*, which means to toil intensely, to sweat and strain to the point of exhaustion if necessary.

WORKING HARD?

Seed
Soil
Harvest
Season
Watering.
Patience.

Separated from
the LAND

Leadership is often slow, unspectacular, with barely perceptible growth.

BEN GRIZZLE.

Growing stuff in the Poconos.

Ocro, Asparagus

Putting up a fence. Dealing with deer, and pests.

BUT THE TASTE.

Loving the lost. Baptism.

Alpha, then watching someone come all the way through.

Gifts. Seeing someone grow and stumble but then they rise

Matt
Hed

WORKING FARMER OR LAZY CONSUMER

"Therefore, my dear brothers, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain"

1 Corinthians 15:58

"Beyond warfare is victory, beyond the athlete's effort is the prize, and beyond agricultural labor is the crop."

D. REFLECT AND REMEMBER

7 Reflect on what I am saying, for the Lord will give you insight into all this. 8 Remember Jesus Christ, raised from the dead, descended from David. This is my gospel, for which I am suffering even to the point of being chained like a criminal. But God's word is not chained.

REFLECT

- Cant trust
- Unreliable
- Weak in grace.
- Civilian
- Spectator
- Consumer.
- Forgotten Jesus

- Mediocre life.

OR

- Trustworthy
- Reliable
- Strong in grace
- Soldier
- Competitor
- Farmer
- Vision of Jesus
- God will do something eternally significant with them.

REMEMBER

- *Remember his love*
- *Remember his compassion*
- *Remember his devotion*
- *Remember his sacrifice*
- *Remember his discipline*
- *Remember his vision*
- *Remember his patience*

3-KIND OF REWARD THEY GET

20-In a large house there are articles not only of gold and silver, but also of wood and clay; some are for special purposes and some for common use.

21 Those who cleanse themselves from the latter will be instruments for special purposes, made holy, useful to the Master and prepared to do any good work.

SPECIAL PURPOSES

20-In a large house there are articles not only of gold and silver, but also of wood and clay; some are for special purposes and some for common use.

Holy

Useful

Not talking about worldly wisdom or influence.

Growing your Instagram or whatever.

Eternal significance.

C.S. LEWIS

The Great Divorce. In one scene, a man is being given a tour of heaven, where he sees a dazzling woman of astonishing beauty with a group of boys and girls, singing and playing instruments in her honor. Turning to his guide, he whispers, “ ‘Is it? . . .’ ” The guide says, “ ‘She’s someone you have never heard of. Her name on Earth was Sarah Smith and she lived at Golder’s Green.’ ” “She seems to be . . . well, a person of great importance?” “Aye. She is. **But fame on earth and fame in heaven are two very different things.**” “And who are these boys and girls who are dancing and throwing flowers before her?” “They are her sons and daughters.” “She had many children.?” “She had no children of her own. Every boy that met her became her son—even if it was only the boy that brought the meat to her back door. Every girl that met her was her daughter.” “Wasn’t that a bit hard on their own parents?” “No. There are those that steal other people’s children. But her love was of a different kind. Those on whom it fell went back to their natural parents loving them more . . . **“And now the abundance of life she has in Christ flows over into all creation.”**

CLEANSE AND CONSECRATE

21 Those who cleanse themselves from the latter will be instruments for special purposes, made holy, useful to the Master and prepared to do any good work.

- False doctrine.
 - False lifestyle.
 - Flee the evil desires of youth.
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MAJOR CLOSE HERE.

PAUL TO TIMOTHY.

Who is here for this?

Reliable

Teachable

Raising leaders who think like this.

Who knows what God could be like?

Would Timothy put you in leadership?

TIMOTHY. CMON.