

# Prison Mission Association



## SECOND TIMOTHY Answer Key

Paul's second letter to Timothy is the last record we have from him. The Roman emperor, Nero, had probably ordered Paul's execution. Paul had been left alone by all but one of his companions. They either deserted him or went on to other places for ministry. Paul recognized that he was about to die and he rejoiced in the fact that he had been faithful to God's calling for his life. In this letter Paul expressed concern about false teaching that had entered the church. Paul instructed Timothy to preserve the truth that he received by passing it on to faithful men who would continue to teach and preach the Word of God with power and authority.

### INTRODUCTION

**AUTHOR:** The apostle Paul

**PLACE OF WRITING:** Second Timothy was probably written from a prison cell in the city of Rome.

**DATE OF WRITING:** The letter was probably written around 67 AD during the persecution of Christians by Nero, the emperor of Rome.

### **PURPOSE, THEME AND SUBJECT**

**MATTER OF THE LETTER:** The evidence in the Pastoral epistles suggests that Paul was released from prison in Rome after two years and that he traveled to several cities and churches. During that time he left Titus in Crete (Titus 1:5) and Timothy in Ephesus (1 Timothy 1:3) to set things in order and appoint elders. At some point Paul must have been rearrested and sent back to Rome, this time to die at the executioner's hand. Paul clearly understood his fate and he wrote a final letter to his dear friend, coworker and son in the faith, Timothy, encouraging him to come to Rome so Paul could see him one more time.

Paul used this letter to give Timothy some important final instructions about how to conduct himself as a servant of Christ, to remind him of the importance of his calling to the ministry and to warn him that there will be many who will fall away from the pure teaching they had received and follow false teachers.



## CHAPTER ONE

Please read the entire book of 2 Timothy. \_\_\_\_\_ Check.

**Please memorize the following verse and be prepared to write it out at the end of this lesson.**

“Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.”

(2 Timothy 2:15 – NKJV)

Which Bible version are you using to do this lesson? \_\_\_\_\_  
(You should be able to complete this lesson using any good translation of the Bible, however, it is recommended that you use the King James Version, the New King James Version or the New International Version)

### GREETING AND ENCOURAGEMENT

Read II Timothy Chapter 1 \_\_\_\_\_ Check

1. (vs. 1) Who wrote this letter? Paul
2. (vs. 1) What position of authority did Paul claim to have? An apostle of Jesus Christ
3. (vs. 1) How was Paul called into his ministry? By the will of God
4. (vs. 1) Through whom is the promise of life? Christ Jesus
5. (vs. 2) To whom is this letter written and how does Paul describe him? Timothy, his dear son in the faith
6. (vs.2) What does Paul wish upon the reader of the letter? Grace, mercy and peace
7. (vs. 3) How did Paul serve God? With a clear conscience
8. (vs. 3) What was Paul doing for Timothy? Praying for him constantly
9. (vs. 4) Why did Paul desire to see Timothy? That he would be filled with joy.
10. (vs. 5) Who were the examples that inspired Timothy’s faith? His grandmother Lois and his mother Eunice
11. (vs. 6) What does Paul encourage Timothy to do? Fan into flames (stir up - KJV) the gift that he received when Paul laid hands on him
12. (vs. 6) What did Paul do to acknowledge the gift of God that Timothy received? He placed his hands on him
13. (vs. 7) God did not give us what kind of spirit? A spirit of fear

14. (vs. 7) What kind of spirit did we receive? **Of power of love and of self-discipline (a sound mind – KJV)**
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15. (vs. 7) Give examples of how the kind of spirit described in this verse is lived out in our daily activity.  
**Answers will vary**
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16. (vs. 8) What can we learn about Paul’s situation when he wrote the letter from this verse? \_\_\_\_\_  
**That he was in prison**
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17. (vs. 8) What instruction did Paul give to Timothy? **Not to be ashamed of the Lord or of Paul**
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18. (vs. 9) What two things has God done for us according to the first part of this verse? **He saved us and called us to a holy life ( holy calling)**
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19. (vs. 9) What have we done to deserve this calling? **Nothing**
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20. (vs. 10) Through whom has this grace now been revealed? **Our savior, Christ Jesus**
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21. (vs. 10) What has Jesus Christ done through the gospel? **Destroyed (abolished – KJV) death and brought life and immortality to light**
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22. (vs. 11) What is Paul’s relationship to this gospel? **He is a herald (preacher – KJV), an apostle and a teacher**
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23. (vs. 12) Why is Paul not ashamed and willing to suffer? **He knows in whom he has believed**
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24. (vs. 12) How does this demonstrate that we have security in our relationship with the Lord? \_\_\_\_\_  
**He is convinced that Christ is able to guard what Paul has entrusted to Him until the final day (answers will vary somewhat)**
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- 25.(vs. 13) What is to be the pattern of sound teaching (form of sound words – KJV) that Paul encourages Timothy to cling to? **The things that he has learned from Paul**
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26. (vs. 14) The truth of the gospel had been entrusted to Timothy as it has been to us. What has God given us to protect it? **The Holy Spirit**
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27. (vs. 15) What has happened to Paul's companions in Asia? They have deserted him

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28. (vss. 16-18) What are some of the ways in which Onesiphorus demonstrated concern for Paul? Onesiphorus often refreshed him, he was not ashamed of Paul's chains, he searched for Paul when he was in Rome and he ministered to Paul when he was in Ephesus

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## CHAPTER TWO

### ENCOURAGEMENT TO BE STRONG AND THE FAITHFULNESS OF GOD

Read 2 Timothy 2:1-13 \_\_\_\_\_ Check

**Note:** It has been suggested that Timothy may have had a meek personality and was easily discouraged and intimidated. For this reason there are many passages in which Paul encourages him to be bold and courageous (1 Timothy 1:18; 4:12; 6:12; 2 Timothy 1:7; ). Paul wanted Timothy to lead others with confidence and he assured him that he could do so with the help of God. Certainly the same promises given to Timothy apply to us today. God, through His Holy Spirit will give us the power to serve Him with confidence and courage.

1. (vs. 1) What instructions does Paul give to Timothy? To be strong in the Lord

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2. (vs. 2) Describe the pattern for training that Paul gives in this verse. The things that Timothy heard from Paul were to be taught to faithful men that would then teach others.

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3. (vs. 3) Does this verse teach that the Christian life should be easy? No

**Note:** There are many passages in which Paul teaches that living a life that honors God will be a challenge and that we will face opposition and persecution. We should reject any preacher or Bible teacher that tries to say that when someone becomes a Christian they will be blessed with health, prosperity and a worry free life. We know from the book of Acts and Paul's own writings that his life was full of struggles and hardship. If someone as committed and full of faith as Paul could endure such difficulties, we should not expect anything different.

4. (vss. 4-6) Paul uses three metaphors in these verses to illustrate the need for a servant of God to be committed in their service to the Lord. List each of the three metaphors and describe in your own words how they teach about our service to Christ. (It is best to read these verses in a modern translation such as the New King James or New International Version to better understand the intent of the passage.)

a. A soldier does not concern himself with the affairs of this world but seeks to please his commanding Officer. In the same way we should be seeking to please the Lord in our struggle against sin and the world  
(Answers will vary)

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b. An athlete who wants to win a prize must compete according to the rules. God expects us to serve Him according to His will and we should always be obedient to His commandments. (Answers will vary)

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c. A farmer who plants a crop is the first to have a part in the harvest. This could refer to a servant of Christ being the first to be blessed through his study and ministry of the Word. (Answers will vary)

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5. (vs. 7) Who gives us understanding of the truth? The Lord

6. (vs. 8) What two things does Paul ask us to remember about Jesus Christ? That he is descended from (of the seed of – KJV) David and raised from the dead

7. (vss.8-9) What is it that Paul is suffering for? The Gospel

**Note:** Paul uses the term “my gospel” in verse 8 to describe the message that he has been commissioned by the Lord Jesus Christ to preach to the world. He refers to “my gospel” in two other passages in his writings (Romans 2:16 and Romans 16:25) and he is the only author in the Bible to use the term. In Romans 16:25 he states that his gospel was a message that had been a secret that God did not reveal to anyone in the past, he also refers to this as “the mystery.” Paul’s gospel was a unique message that he had received directly from Jesus Christ (Galatians 1:12). What makes Paul’s gospel message unique (from that which was preached by the other Apostles) is that through his gospel alone we learn that Jews and Gentiles are joined together on equal terms as members of the Body of Christ (Ephesians 3:1-7).

8. (vs. 9) What does this verse tell us about Paul’s circumstances when he wrote this letter? He is in chains like a criminal (evildoer – KJV)

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9. (vs. 9) What comments can you make about the phrase in this verse “God’s word is not chained?” Answers will vary and be personal responses

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10. (vs. 10) For whose sake is Paul suffering and for what purpose? Paul is suffering for the elect that they obtain the salvation that is in Jesus Christ

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11. (vs. 13) What does this verse say about God? He is faithful when we are faithless and he cannot disown Himself.

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## INSTRUCTION FOR THE SERVANT OF GOD

Read 2 Timothy 2:14-26 \_\_\_\_\_ Check

12. (vs. 14) Why should we avoid quarrelling (striving – KJV) over words? **It does no good and results in harming the listener**

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13. (vs. 15) An approved workman of God will not be **ashamed**.

**Note:** In the King James and New King James versions the last part of verse 15 is translated as “rightly dividing the word of truth.” In the New International Version the verse reads “correctly handles the word of truth.” The phrase in the original Greek literally means “cutting straight the word of truth.” It is teaching us of the importance of properly understanding and interpreting the Scriptures. Paul probably was not specifically referring to the dispensational divisions of the Bible when he wrote this phrase. Those divisions are implied since we cannot accurately understand God’s Word without recognizing the various dispensational programs throughout the history of God’s dealing with mankind.

14. (vs. 16) What is the result of participating in godless chatter (profane and idle babblings – KJV)? **It leads to more ungodliness**

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15. (vs. 17) What happens to the teachings of those who participate in godless chatter? **It spreads like gangrene**

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16. (vss. 17-18) Who are two examples of false teachers and what did they teach? **Hymenaeus and Philetus taught that the resurrection had already taken place.**

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17. (vs. 19) What two truths are stated here that are foundational truths? **The Lord knows those who are His. Everyone who confesses the name of Christ must turn away from wickedness (depart from iniquity – KJV)**

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**Note:** These two statements, “God knows those that are His” and “Everyone that confesses the name of Christ will turn away from iniquity” make an important point. Oftentimes we are confused when we see someone who claims to be a Christian but his life does not demonstrate it. Ultimately we cannot know the state of any person’s soul, only the Lord knows. We often have to accept what a person says about his relationship with the Lord. On the other hand, Paul makes it clear in this passage that if a person claims to know Jesus Christ as Savior, there should be a definite change in behavior. A Christian’s lifestyle should reflect that he is a child of God.

18. (vss. 20-21) Explain the point of the illustration Paul is using in this passage. **Answers will vary, but they should generally reflect the following ideas: The vessels of gold and silver are for honorable use and those of wood and clay are less honorable. Christians are to live so they are honorable vessels, and therefore useful to the Lord for His service**

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19. (vs. 22) What is Timothy to flee from and what is he to pursue? **He is to flee the evil desires of youth and pursue righteousness**

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20. (vs. 22) When someone follows the instructions in this verse what does it indicate about their motives for following Christ? **They are calling on the Lord out of a pure heart**

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21. (vs. 23-24) What is the Lord's servant to avoid and why? **Avoid arguments because they cause strife (quarrels – NIV)**

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22. (vs. 24) What should be the characteristics of the Lord's servant? **He must not quarrel (strive – KJV) He must be kind to everyone, able to teach and not resentful (gentle to all men, apt to teach, patient – KJV)**

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23. (vs. 25) What should the servant of the Lord do when he is opposed? **He should instruct him gently**

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24. (vs. 25) What is the goal of the instruction given to those who oppose the servant of the Lord? **That God would grant them repentance and they would come to a knowledge of the Truth.**

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25. (vs. 26) Describe in your own words how the person who opposes the servant of God can be used by the devil. **Answers will vary but it may include something about how the devil can distract both the believers and the leaders from God's work when arguing and debating**

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## CHAPTER THREE

### GODLESSNESS IN THE LAST DAYS

Read 2 Timothy 3:1-9 \_\_\_\_\_ Check

1. (vs. 1) How does Paul describe the last days? **Terrible (perilous – KJV) times**

**Note:** The book of Revelation describes a period of great tribulation and distress during the time just before Jesus Christ returns to Earth to establish His Kingdom. However, we know that refers to a time after the Body of Christ has been removed from the Earth in the catching away of believers to be taken to heaven in what is commonly called the Rapture. However, the revelation that Paul received from God had to do with the current Dispensation of

Grace and the Body of Christ. Therefore, it is unlikely that the reference to the “last days” in this passage is to the Tribulation. The phrase “last days” could also be translated as “latter days” and could be talking about the entire period of the Dispensation of Grace in which we currently live. Therefore, the description of perilous times may be of an increase in wickedness that will take place throughout the entire Dispensation of Grace.

2. (vss. 2-4) Choose one of the characteristics of the last days listed and describe how you see it as a reality in our society today. Answers will vary

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3. (vss. 1-5) How are we to respond to people such as the ones described in these verses? Have nothing to do with them. ( Turn away – KJV )

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4. (vs. 7) How are the godless people described in this verse? Always learning but never acknowledging the Truth (never able to come to a knowledge of the truth – KJV)

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**Note:** The two men mentioned in 2 Timothy 3:8, Jannes and Jambres, were the traditional names of the Egyptian magicians mentioned in Exodus 7:11. When Moses tried to convince the Egyptian Pharaoh to release the Israelites from slavery. The magicians of Egypt challenged the miracles that Moses and Aaron performed by trying to do the same thing.

5. (vs. 8) In what way are the godless men talked about in this verse the same as Jannes and Jambres? They oppose the truth and are disapproved by God

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6. (vs. 9) What does Paul say about the impact such people will ultimately have? The will not make progress because their impure motives will be discovered by others.

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## INSTRUCTIONS TO TIMOTHY

Read 2 Timothy 3:10-17 \_\_\_\_\_ Check

7. (vss. 10-11) To what does Paul refer to show the sincerity of his service to the Lord? To the persecution he experienced in his ministry ( the student may list the various sufferings Paul experienced)

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**Note:** Read Acts 13:13-14:20 to learn of the things that Paul endured in Pisidian Antioch, Iconium and Lystra.



8. (vs. 12) What can those who live godly in Christ expect from life? **To suffer persecution.**

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**Note:** This is an important warning for us not to listen to preachers and Bible teachers who say that a Christian should never face difficulties in life. Furthermore, we should not be deceived if we are told that trials and tribulations are the result of sin and disobedience in our lives. In fact, we are told here that hardships await those whose lives are godly.

9. (vs. 13) What will happen as the latter days progress? **Evil men and imposters will grow worse, deceiving and being deceived.**

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10. (vs. 15) From when has Timothy known the Scriptures? **Since infancy ( from a child – KJV )**

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11. (vs. 15) In what way will the scriptures help Timothy? **They will make him wise for salvation**

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12. (vs. 16) How does this verse describe the source of Scripture? **They are God-breathed (given by inspiration of God- KJV )**

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13. (vs. 16) What four ways does this verse list that a knowledge of the Scriptures benefits the readers?

1. **Teaching (Doctrine – KJV)**
2. **Rebuking (Reproof – KJV)**
3. **Correction**
4. **Training in righteousness**

**Note:** It is important to understand the four things in verse 16 for which the Scriptures are to be used.

14. (vs. 17) What will the Scriptures produce in the person who applies their teaching? **He will be thoroughly equipped for every good work.**

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## CHAPTER FOUR

### PAUL'S CHARGE TO TIMOTHY

Read 2 Timothy 4:1-8 \_\_\_\_\_ Check

1. (vs. 1) In whose presence (before whom) does Paul make this commandment. **Before God and Christ**  
**Jesus**

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2. (vs. 1) Whom will Christ Jesus judge? **The living and the dead**

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**Note:** Paul says that Jesus Christ will be the judge of the “living and the dead.” This phrase can have two meanings. On the one hand, it can be speaking of those who are physically alive and those that have died at the time of the judgment, whether the Judgment Seat of Christ after the Rapture or the Great White Throne Judgment after the one thousand year reign of Christ on the Earth. This may also refer to those who are spiritually alive or spiritually dead. According to Ephesians 2:4-5 we were all dead in our sins, but God made us alive in Christ Jesus.

3. (vs. 1) What two other things does Paul consider when making this charge to Timothy? **The appearing of the Lord and His kingdom**

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4. (vs. 2) When should Timothy (or any minister) be prepared to preach the Word? **At any time ( in season and out of season)**

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5. (vs. 2) What things does Paul instruct Timothy to do through the preaching of the Word? **Correct, rebuke and exhort with great patience and careful teaching ( Convince, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine – KJV )**

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**Note:** Like verse 3:16, this verse emphasizes how God’s Word is the primary source of instruction for living our lives. All of the words used above are for ones that provide guidance for living the Christian life. At times, such instruction might seem harsh but that is often what is needed to correct wrong behavior.

6. (vs. 3) What will be the response of the majority of people to instruction they receive from the Word of God? **They will not put up with (endure- KJV) sound doctrine**

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7. (vss. 3-4) Describe how people will reject the teaching of God in the latter days. **They with itching ears will gather teachers to themselves, they will turn from the truth and follow myths (fable – KJV)**

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8. (vs. 5) Paul gives four instructions to Timothy in this verse. List them.

1. **Keep your head in all situations (watch thou in all things – KJV)**

2. **Endure hardship**

3. **Do the work of an evangelist**

4. **Discharge all the duties of your ministry (make full proof of thy ministry – KJV)**

9. (vss. 6-8) In these verses Paul is telling Timothy that he believes the end of his life is near. He was probably going to be executed by the Roman authorities. Based on these verses describe how you believe Paul felt as he was facing death.

Answers will vary

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10. (vs. 8) What does Paul say is awaiting him and all who love Christ's appearing? A crown of righteousness.

### FINAL COMMENTS

Read 2 Timothy 4:9-22 \_\_\_\_\_ Check

11. (vs. 9) What does Paul urge Timothy to do? To come to him quickly

12. (vs. 10) Describe what has happened to the three companions of Paul mentioned in this verse. \_\_\_\_\_  
Demas has forsaken him and gone to Thessalonica, Crescens has gone to Galatia and Titus to Dalmatia

13. (vs. 11) Who is the only companion still with Paul? Luke

14. (vs. 11) What does Paul say about Mark in this verse? He asks Timothy to bring Mark with him because he is valuable to him for the ministry.

**Note:** The story of Mark is a remarkable account of restoration and reconciliation after failure in the ministry. Mark first appears in the Scripture in Acts 12:12 when Peter went to the home of Mark's mother, Mary, after his miraculous release from prison. We then learn in Acts 12:25 that Mark joined Paul and Barnabas on their missionary journeys. Barnabas was a relative of Mark, either a cousin or uncle (Colossians 4:10). Later we find that Mark had deserted Paul and Barnabas and that when he tried to join them on their second journey Paul did not want him to be part of the team, probably because of his earlier decision to return home early (Acts 15:36-41). The disagreement between Paul and Barnabas over Mark was so great that the two missionaries had to go separate ways. However, now at the end of his life Paul is asking that Mark come to him. We see that even when there are serious disagreements, people can be reconciled and used for God's ministry.

15. (vs.13) What further instructions does Paul give to Timothy in this verse? Bring the cloak that he left in Troas, the scrolls (books –KJV) and parchments

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16. (vs. 14-15) What warning does Paul give to Timothy in these verses? **To be careful of Alexander the metalworker (coppersmith – KJV) because he had opposed their message and done much harm to Paul.**

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17. (vs. 16) What did Paul’s companions do when he had to defend himself in court? **They deserted him**

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18. (vs. 16) What does Paul ask of the Lord for those people that abandoned him? **He prays that the Lord would not hold it against them**

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19. (vs. 17) How was Paul reassured when he stood to make his defense? **The Lord stood by him**

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20. (vs. 18) What is Paul confident that the Lord will do for him? **The Lord will rescue him from every evil attack and will safely deliver Paul into His heavenly kingdom.**

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21. (vs. 19) To whom does Paul send final greetings? **Priscilla, Aquila and the household of Onesiphorus**

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22. (vs. 20) Where was Trophimus when Paul left him and what condition was he in? **He was left sick in Miletus**

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**Note:** The fact that Paul had to leave Trophimus sick in Miletus is very significant. It is evidence that even within Paul’s lifetime the sign gift of healing was already fading away from the normal life of the Body of Christ. Healing was part of the proclamation of the Gospel of the Kingdom that was preached by Jesus and the 12 Apostles (Luke 4:18; 7:22). It was a sign that the age of the Messiah had arrived and that God was now fulfilling his prophecies for the end times. However, Israel denied Jesus as their Messiah. God then revealed the Body of Christ and the truth that Jews and Gentile can approach God on an equal basis. He gave the same sign gifts to Paul and others to prove that the message of God’s grace was legitimate. However, based on 1 Corinthians 13:8 we learn that the sign gifts,

meant for the Church in its infancy, would pass away at some point. Although there was a time when Paul could heal the sick at will (Acts 19:11-12; 28:7-9) this verse shows that at the end of his ministry that power had been taken from him.

23. (vs. 21) What does Paul encourage Timothy to do? **To come to him before the winter**

24. (vs. 22) How does Paul end the letter? **He wishes that the Lord be with Timothy's spirit and grace be with him**

Use the space below for any questions or comments:

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**RETURN COMPLETED LESSON TO:**

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