

## Paul's Second Letter to Timothy – Part 1 (c. 66)

### 2 Timothy 1

#### Salutation

1 Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, according to the promise of life in Christ Jesus,  
2 To Timothy, my beloved son: Grace, mercy *and* peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

#### Paul's Gratitude for Timothy's Faith

3 I thank God, whom I serve with a clear conscience the way my forefathers did, as I constantly remember you in my prayers night and day,  
4 longing to see you, even as I recall your tears, so that I may be filled with joy.  
5 For I am mindful of the sincere faith within you, which first dwelt in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice, and I am sure that *it is* in you as well.

#### Paul Urges Timothy to Rededicate Himself to the Ministry of the Gospel

6 For this reason I remind you to kindle afresh the gift of God which is in you through the laying on of my hands.  
7 For God has not given us a spirit of timidity, but of power and love and discipline.  
8 Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony of our Lord or of me His prisoner, but join with *me* in suffering for the gospel according to the power of God,  
9 who has saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace which was granted us in Christ Jesus from all eternity,  
10 but now has been revealed by the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel,  
11 for which I was appointed a preacher and an apostle and a teacher.  
12 For this reason I also suffer these things, but I am not ashamed; for I know whom I have believed and I am convinced that He is able to guard what I have entrusted to Him until that day.  
13 Retain the standard of sound words which you have heard from me, in the faith and love which are in Christ Jesus.  
14 Guard, through the Holy Spirit who dwells in us, the treasure which has been entrusted to *you*.  
15 You are aware of the fact that all who are in Asia turned away from me, among whom are Phygelus and Hermogenes.  
16 The Lord grant mercy to the house of Onesiphorus, for he often refreshed me and was not ashamed of my chains;  
17 but when he was in Rome, he eagerly searched for me and found me—  
18 the Lord grant to him to find mercy from the Lord on that day—and you know very well what services he rendered at Ephesus.

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#### Chronological Notes

- 1) "It may be assumed that Paul was released from his first Roman imprisonment (Acts 28) and that he engaged in a subsequent second Aegean ministry that provides the proper framework for 1 and 2 Timothy and Titus. If so, Paul probably wrote his first letter to Timothy some time after the year 60 (the most likely date of Paul's release from his first Roman imprisonment), but before 66, the likely date for Paul's second Roman imprisonment that was followed by his martyrdom under Nero, who died in AD 68. The most natural reading of 1 Timothy 1:3 is that Paul wrote from Macedonia. Timothy, who was at that time

stationed in Ephesus, needed counsel on how to deal with the false teachers in the Ephesian church. To this end Paul interwove personal instructions with those on community life, so that Timothy received public apostolic support while it was acknowledged that he also had certain standards to meet. Paul probably wrote 2 Timothy from Rome in the year 66. Titus was likely written in the interim between 1 and 2 Timothy (or possibly prior to 1 Timothy) from an unknown location.”<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Andreas J. Kostenberger, L. Scott Kellum, Charles L. Quarles, *The Cradle, the Cross, and the Crown*, (B&H Academic, 2009), p. 644.