

2 Timothy 3 - The Word of God

CHAPTER 3.
1 He foretelleth the wickedness of the last days, 6 and describeth the enemies of the truth.
THIS know also, that ^a in the last days perilous times shall come.
2 For men shall be lovers of their own selves, ^c covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy,
3 Without natural affection, trucebreakers, ⁴ false accusers, ^e incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good,
4 Traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God ;

10 But ⁷ thou hast fully known my doctrine, manner of life, ⁸ purpose, faith, longsuffering, charity, patience,
11 Persecutions, afflictions, which came unto me at ^a Antioch, at Iconium, at ^b Lystra ; what persecutions I endured : but ^a out of *them* all the Lord delivered me.
12 Yea, and ^d all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution.
13 But evil men and seducers

2 Timothy 3 The Last Days of Judah's Commonwealth

This chapter speaks about events leading up to AD70, called the "Last Days". These were the final days before the Jews were sent into captivity by the Romans.

We are **also** living in the "last days" before Armageddon and Christ's return. See **Matt 24:37-51**; **Luke 17:26-37**. As we get closer to Christ's return people become more and more selfish.

The situation described in **2 Tim 3:1-4** exactly describes what it is like in our world today. This is similar to what it was like in the lead up to AD70.

Faith in God must be seen in the way we live our lives: **James 2:14-18**.

If we do what is right, it is inevitable that people will persecute us. It is through much tribulation that we enter the Kingdom of God: **Acts 14:22**.

God's Word is powerful to change us and transform our lives:

1 Pet 1:23-25 We are "born again" through understanding God's Word

John 6:63 The words of Jesus are Spirit and they are life

Prov 2:1-10 Seek for knowledge and wisdom. Wisdom is applying knowledge.

Prov 3:1-6 Write God's Word on our hearts

Psalms 119:9-16, 81-82, 97-105 God's Word is a lamp for our feet to guide our path

Heb 4:12 God's Word helps us to look deep inside our hearts.

Colour code: Blue (God & Jesus); Red (sin/devil/judgment of wicked); Green (Kingdom); Orange (important words and phrases); Purple (Israel and return of Jews to the land); Yellow (practical exhortation).

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2 Timothy 3v13-17 God's Word is the answer in the Last Days

v13-14 So that we are not deceived, we need to remember what God says in the Bible. This means reading the Bible every day and remembering what we have learnt in our youth: **Acts 17:10-11**.

v15-17 Key Verses: Belief in what God has taught in the Scriptures can save us.

"**Inspiration**" means "God breathed". Through His Word, God is breathing His ideas. He wants us to become like Him through knowing Him: **John 17:3**. Our life is changed so we become more like God and His Son Jesus Christ.

2 Timothy 4v1-4 Practical implications of believing in the Bible

A true understanding of God's Word can have a dramatic influence upon us. It is life changing.

"**quick**" = ie. living. The judgment occurs **at Christ's return** for the setting up of God's Kingdom.

v2 If God's Word really is inspired and infallible, then our response must be to preach to others. We must speak about what we believe even when it is inconvenient to do so (ie. "out of season")

In the 1st century, there was a falling away from the Truth: **Acts 20:29-32**; **2 Pet 2:1-3**; **2 Thess 2:1-13**. They believed teachers telling what they wanted to hear. The Truth became corrupt and developed into the Roman C. Church: **Rev 17:1-6**.

Very important verses: **2 Pet 1:19-21** Men wrote the Bible as they were "moved by the Holy Spirit". The Bible is therefore God's infallible Word.

Parable of the Sower: **Mark 4:2-12** Reading the Bible is like sowing seed in our minds. We must allow the Word to grow in our minds like a farmer tends to a crop. This must then result in good growth, the fruit of the Spirit: **Gal 5:22-23**.

The Bible is the only source of knowledge today about God and His purpose: **Isa 8:20**; **John 15:17**.

The Scriptures were accepted as the Word of God when they were received: **2 Pet 3:16**; **John 10:35**.

Jesus unquestionably believed what the Bible taught: **Jn 5:46-47**; **10:34-36**. This included events in the first chapters of Genesis: **Matt 24:37-38**.

shall ^a wax worse and worse, deceiving, and being deceived.

14 But ^b continue thou in the things which thou hast learned and hast been assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned *them* ;

15 And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, ^c which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.
16 ^b All scripture *is* given by inspiration of God, and ^b *is* profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness ;

17 That ^a the man of God may be perfect, ² throughly furnished unto all good works.

CHAPTER 4.
1 His solemn charge to Timothy. 6 The nearness of his death. 9 Directions to Timothy.

I CHARGE *thee* therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, ^a who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom ;

2 Preach the word ; be instant in season, out of season ; reprove, ³ rebuke, ⁴ exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine.

3 For the time will come when they will not endure "sound doctrine" ; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears ;

4 And they shall turn away *their* ears from the truth, and ^a shall be turned unto fables.