

2 Timothy 5

1. When are the last days?

-We can say that the last days are now.

2. What is the foundation of sin?

-The love of self.

3. Who are the people with whom we should have nothing to do with?

-These are people who say that they believe in God, but do not.

4. Why should we have nothing to do with them?

-Because even though they say that they believe in God, they have rejected Him, and their lives may hurt us.

5. Does simply listening to the truth mean that we will understand it and believe it?

-No.

-We need God's help to understand and believe the truth.

6. Just as Jannes and Jambres opposed Moses, and just as teachers in Paul's day opposed the truth, are there teachers today who oppose the truth?

-Yes.

7. Why are Christians persecuted?

-Because Satan and his demons and many non Christians hate us.

-This will be the last lesson in the letter of 2 Timothy.

Let's read 2 Timothy 4:1-2

1-In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who will judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I give you this charge:

2-Preach the word; be prepared in season and out of season; Correct, rebuke and encourage—with great patience and careful instruction.

-In verse 1 above, we learn that the Lord Jesus will judge the living and the dead.

-What does it mean to judge the living and the dead?

-In the Bible, there are three judgments:

-One judgment is judging the work of Christians who will be rewarded in heaven according to their work on earth (1 Cor 3:12-15 & 2 Cor 5:10).

-A second judgment is God separating Christians from non Christians (Mt 25:31-33).

-The third judgment will be the Great White Throne judgment when non Christians will be sent to the Lake of Eternal Fire (Re 20:11-15).

-For non Christians, their judgment has already happened because they have rejected God who is Christ.

-As God through Paul is writing to Timothy and to all Christians, this judgment is the judging of the work of Christians who will be rewarded in heaven according to their work on earth.

-As Paul is expecting to leave earth, both God and Paul want us to remember that our works on earth will be judged by Christ.

-This means that we must use every opportunity to teach the Word of God.

-All Christians should teach about God to those who do not know.

-We correct the belief of others, as there are many religions and beliefs that are not true.

-We rebuke others for only a rebuke will help some to question the lies that they believe.

-We encourage others because all people need to be encouraged by the truths of God.

-Most of all, our teaching should be careful with great patience.

Let's read 2 Timothy 4:3

3-For the time will come when people will not put up with sound doctrine. Instead, to suit their own desires,

they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear.

-Even today, there are people who do not want to hear the truths of God.

-These people follow teachers who teach them what they want to hear instead of the truths of God.

-There are many churches which do not teach the Word of God, but only teach that which people want to hear.

Let's read 2 Timothy 4:4

4-They will turn their ears away from the truth and turn aside to myths.

-What is a myth?

-A myth is a story that is not founded on truth, but rather, founded on lies.

-Why would people want to hear myths instead of the truth?

-Because there are many people who attend church, but do not believe that Christ alone can save them.

-When Paul taught in Berea, what did the Bereans do?

-They compared Paul's teaching to the Word of God to

make sure that Paul's teaching and the Word of God were one.

-This is what all Christians should do.

-We should compare the teaching with the Word of God to make sure that the teaching and the Word of God are one.

Let's read 2 Timothy 4:5

5-But you, keep your head in all situations, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, discharge all the duties of your ministry.

-For all who teach about our God, it is important for us to be calm, as Satan and evil will continue to try to hurt us.

-All Christians should do the work of an evangelist which is to reach out to people who have never heard the truths of God.

-Instead of trying to teach those who have heard the truth of God yet continue to reject Him, we should teach those who have never heard the truths of God.

-Every Christian should have a ministry of teaching others about our God.

Let's read 2 Timothy 4:6-7

6-For I am already being poured out like a drink offering, and the time for my departure is near.

7-I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.

-From verse 6 above, we learn that Paul knew that his time on earth was coming to an end.

-The Christian life is like a fight against evil, and Paul fought a good fight.

-The Christian life is also like a race, and Paul did not stop, but finished the race.

-We must all keep the faith that God Himself has given us, as our faith in Christ is our greatest gift.

Let's read 2 Timothy 4:8

8-Now there is in store for me the crown 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 longed for his appearing.

-At the end of our lives, God will reward all Christians with a crown of righteousness.

-We should all look forward to seeing Christ.

Let's read 2 Timothy 4:16

16-At my first defense, no one came to my support, but everyone deserted me. May it not be held against them.

-Even though Paul had done nothing wrong, there was no one to support him.

-Even though there was no one to support him, Paul was not angry.

Let's read 2 Timothy 4:17

17-But the Lord stood at my side and gave me strength, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it. And I was delivered from the lion's mouth.

-Even if the world will abandon us, the Lord Jesus will never abandon us.

-The Lord Jesus stands by our side, and will never leave us.

-Just like God saved Daniel from the mouths of the lions, Paul knew that God had also saved him from all of the evil that was around him.

-The Bible says that Satan prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour (1 Peter 5:8).

-Yet even Satan has no power over those who belong to Christ.

Let's read 2 Timothy 4:18

18-The Lord will rescue me from every evil attack and will bring me safely to his heavenly kingdom. To him be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

-Paul was not afraid of physical death, and we should also not be afraid of physical death.

-Our God is more powerful than sin and evil.

-Our God is more powerful than physical death.

-Our God will rescue us from sin, evil, and physical death.

Let's read 2 Timothy 4:19-22

19-Greet Priscilla and Aquila and the household of Onesiphorus.

20-Erastus stayed in Corinth, and I left Trophimus sick in Miletus.

21-Do your best to get here before winter. Eubulus greets you, and so do Pudens, Linus, Claudia and all the brothers and sisters.

22-The Lord be with your spirit. Grace be with you all.

-Even though Paul was near the end of his life, he always remembered his family in Christ.

-After God, the family of Christ is our very best for all of eternity.