

Timothy

Introduction

About Timothy:

Paul's friend and chief associate who is mentioned as joint sender in six of Paul's epistles.

Timothy first appears in the second missionary journey when Paul revisited Lystra. He was held in high regard in Lystra and Iconium. He was the son of a Gentile father and a Jewish-Christian mother named Eunice and the grandson of Lois.

He played a prominent role in the remainder of the second missionary journey of Paul. When Paul was forced to leave Berea because of an uproar started by Jews from Thessalonica, Silas and Timothy were left behind to strengthen the work in Macedonia.

After they rejoined Paul in Athens, Paul sent Timothy back to the believers in Thessalonica to establish them and to encourage them to maintain the faith. Timothy's later report of the faith and love of the Thessalonians greatly encouraged Paul.

Timothy's strongest traits were his sensitivity, affection, and loyalty. Paul commends him to the Philippians, for example, as one of proven character, faithful to Paul like a son to a father, and without rival in his concern for the Philippians.

Paul was probably closer to Timothy than to any other associate.

- 1. The apostle Paul spoke highly of this young man.**
Philippians 2:19-24
- 2. Timothy was well spoken of as a follower of Christ. This even though he came from a mixed culture background.**

Acts 16:1 Then he came to Derbe and Lystra. And behold, a certain disciple was there, named Timothy, the son of a certain Jewish woman who believed, but his father was Greek.

3. **Timothy was trained early in life to do those things that would be pleasing to God the father. His basic principles were established very early in life.**
2 Timothy 1:5
2 Timothy 3:14-15
4. **What were those things that made him a valuable asset and very useful to Paul?**

His Personality

1. **Paul asked that no one despise him.**

1 Corinthians 16:10-11 Now if Timothy comes, see that he may be with you without fear; for he does the work of the Lord, as I also do. Therefore let no one despise him. But send him on his journey in peace, that he may come to me; for I am waiting for him with the brethren.

1 Tim 1:2 To Timothy, a true son in the faith: Grace, mercy, and peace from God our Father and Jesus Christ our Lord.

1 Tim 4:12 Let no one despise your youth, but be an example to the believers in word, in conduct, in love, in spirit, in faith, in purity.

2 Tim 1:7 For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.

- A. **What a wonderful thing it must have been for Timothy to be brought up under the apostle Paul.**
 - 1) **Truly it was a wonderful thing for him to have been referred to as a “true son in the faith” by this apostle.**
 - 2) **No doubt Paul was teaching Timothy how to live a life for the Lord and because Timothy was a good student, he trusted him with various assignments.**

His Assignments

1. **Timothy was taught and commanded to teach and to be an example.**
1 Timothy 4:11-16
 - A. **He was to be a leader of people, to read scripture and to exhort others.**

1 Corinthians 4:17 For this reason I have sent Timothy to you, who is my beloved and faithful son in the Lord, who will remind you of my ways in Christ, as I teach everywhere in every church.

2. **Paul urged him to charge others not teach any other doctrine.**
1 Timothy 1:3-5
 - A. **The goal is to love from a pure heart the things that God would be proud of.**
3. **He was to be a teacher in truth.**
1 Timothy 4:6
4. **He reminded those that were rich that their riches would one day pass away.**
1 Timothy 6:17
5. **Paul finishes the sixth chapter by telling Timothy to guard those things that were committed to him.**
1 Timothy 6:20-21

