

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

1 Timothy 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 Timothy 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.

- **Good attitude**, wanting to always do the right thing.
 - 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

Conclusion

1. We can look at this man's life and learn a lot from him.
2. He was a willing, eager, faithful student of God's Word as we should be.
3. He listened to authority and tried his best to do what was pleasing to God.
 - A. Can these things be said of us?
4. May we all be as Timothy, to be sincere and obedient.
 - A. He is a man that the young should aspire to be like and then to grow up into a man such as the apostle Paul, willing to serve God with our heart, mind, and soul!

