

2 Timothy Introduction

The Call to Christian Perseverance

Introductory Matters

- Authorship
- Recipient
- Date
- Place of writing
- Occasion for writing
- Message
- Structure
- Unique characteristics

Authorship and Recipient

- Authorship (2 Tim 1:1)
- Recipient (2 Tim 1:2)

Timothy's Biography

- From Lystra, Greek father and Jewish mother (Acts 16:1)
- From a Godly home (2 Tim 1:5; 3:15)
- Converted by Paul (1 Tim 1:2) during visit to Lystra (Acts 14:6-23) on the first missionary journey
- Active in Paul's second (Acts 16:1-3; 16-18) and third (Acts 19:22; 20:1-5) missionary journeys
- Put in charge at church in Ephesus (1 Tim 1:3)

Timothy as Recipient

- Believer
- Spiritual leader
- In Ephesus (Acts 16:6; 18:18-19; 19:10; 20:17-33; Eph 1:1; 1 Tim 1:3; Rev 2:1)

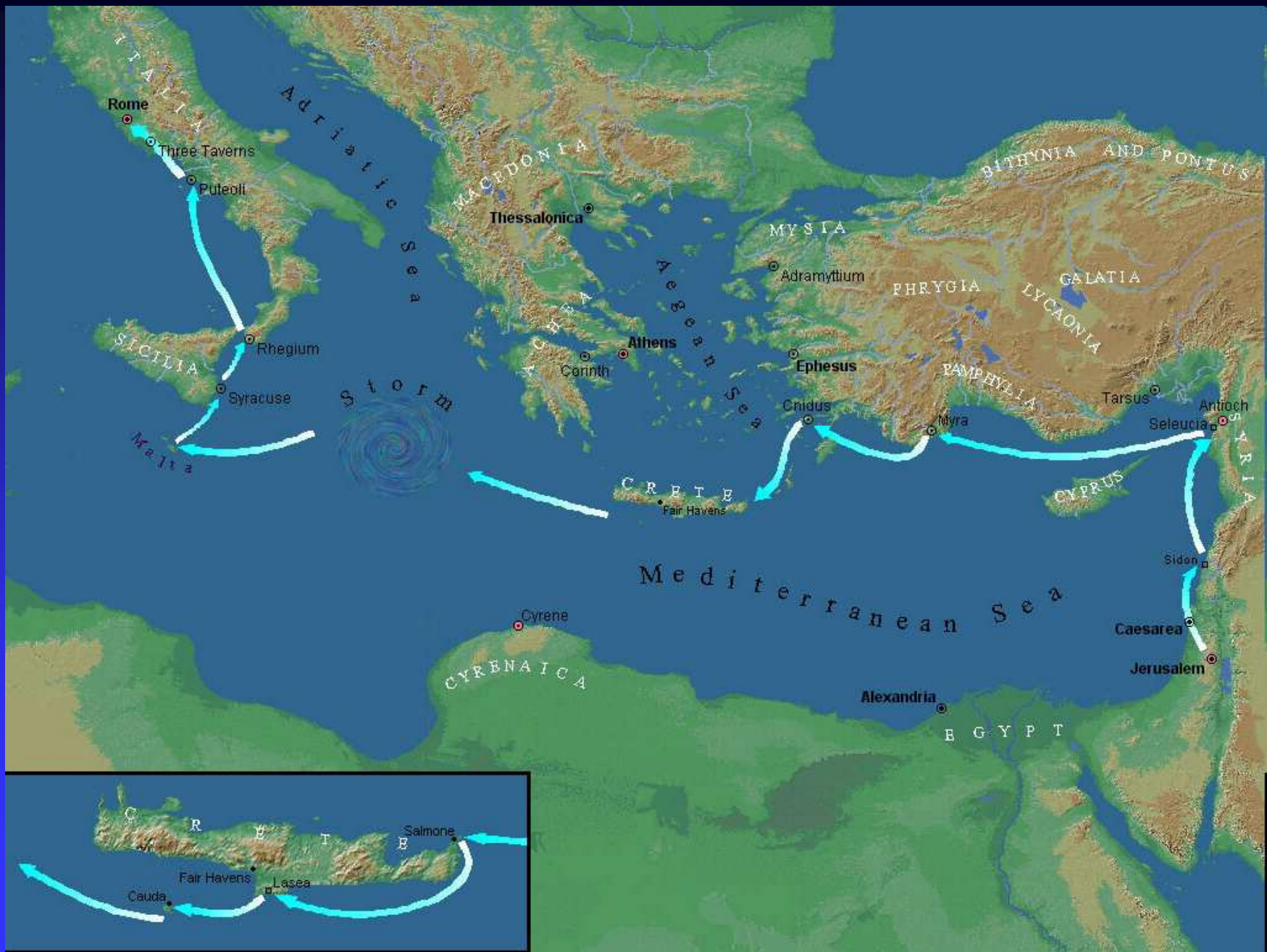
Paul's Ministry Chronology

# of books	Journey	Acts	Date	Books
1	1	13–14	48–49	Gal
2	2	15:36–18:22	50–52	1–2 Thess
3	3	18:23–21:17	53–57	1–2 Cor, Rom
4	4	28:16–31	60–62	Eph, Col, Phlm, Phlp
2	Between imprisonments	Post Acts	62–66	1 Tim, Titus
1	2 nd imprisonment	Post Acts	67	2 Tim

Paul's Two Roman Imprisonments Contrasted

- **First Imprisonment (Acts 28:16-31)**
- Wrote prison epistles
- Religious charges
- Local and sporadic persecutions (AD 60-63)
- Decent conditions (house)
- Many friends
- Evangelistic opportunities
- Optimistic for release (Phil 1:24-26)
- **Second Imprisonment (2 Tim)**
- Wrote 2 Timothy
- Political charges
- Neronian persecution (AD 64-68)
- Poor conditions (dungeon)
- Virtually alone
- Opportunities restricted
- Execution anticipated (2 Tim 4:6)

Adapted from *Nelson's Complete Book of Charts and Maps*, 433.



Occasion for Writing

- Timothy's non assertiveness
 - Core makeup: youthful (1 Tim 4:12), sickly (1 Tim 5:23), timid (2 Tim 1:7)
 - Neronian persecution (2 Tim 4:9-11)
 - Paul's arrest (2 Tim 1:8)
 - Persecution within the church (2:18; 3:1-13; 4:3-4)
- Paul's imminent death (2 Tim 4:6)
- Next generation?

Message

Faithful endurance in the ministry, even in the midst of encroaching persecution and apostasy, so that the Christian message will be preserved for the next generation

Four Part Structure

- General call to faithful endurance in the ministry (chapter 1)
- Ten metaphors describing what faithful endurance looks like (chapter 2)
- What to do in the midst of the coming apostasy (3:1–4:8)
- How God met six needs in Paul's life (4:9-22)

Unique Characteristics

- Pastoral letter
- Personal rather than theological
- Paul's last will and testament

2 Timothy 1

A General Call to Perseverance

Salutation (1:1-2)

- Sender (1)
 - Apostle by the will of God
 - Sustained by the promise of eternal life
- Recipient (2a)
 - “Son”
- Benediction (2b)
 - Mercy added
 - Beyond mercy
 - Only from Christ

Thanksgiving (1:3-5)

- Prayers (3)
 - Plural
 - Night and day
- Longing (4)
 - Confidence
- Heritage (5)
 - 2 Tim 3:15

Call to faithfulness in the exercise of spiritual gift (1:6)

- Definition of a spiritual gift
- Expression of God's grace (1 Pet 4:10)
- 12/12/4/4
- Every believer has at least one spiritual gift (1 Cor 12:7)
- Three steps: discover, develop, deploy

Call to Courage (1:7)

- Act consistently with the indwelling Spirit
- Rev 21:8
- Josh 1:6-7

Call to not be ashamed (1:8-14)

- Evangelism (1:8a)
- Paul (1:8b)
- Gospel (1:9-14)

Unashamed of the Gospel (1:9-14)

- Benefits (1:9-10)
 - Saving power (1:9a)
 - Manifestation of God's grace (1:9b)
 - Eternality (1:9c)
 - Conquers death (1:10)
- Paul's connection to the Gospel (1:11-12)
 - Paul's role (1:11): herald, apostle, teacher
 - Paul's confidence (1:12)
- Guard the gospel (1:13-14)

Negative examples of endurance (1:15)

- Asia (1:15a)
- Phygelus (1:15b)
- Hermogenes (1:15c)

Onesiphorus as a positive example of endurance (1:16-18)

- Refreshed Paul (1:16a)
- Was not ashamed of Paul (1:16b)
- Searched for Paul in Rome (1:17)
- Earned his reward (1:18a)
- Searched for Paul in Ephesus (1:18b)

2 Timothy 2

Ten Metaphors Illustrating Endurance

Key to Endurance (Tim 2:1)

- Be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus

Ten Metaphors

- Teacher (2:2)
- Soldier (2:3-4)
- Athlete (2:5)
- Farmer (2:6)
- Christ (2:7-8)
- Paul (2:9-10)
- Trustworthy statement (2:11-13)
- Workman (2:14-18)
- Vessel (2:19-23)
- Servant (2:24-26)

2 Tim 2:2-4

- Teacher (2:2): four generations (from Paul to Timothy, from Timothy to faithful men, from faithful men to others)
- Soldier (2:3-4)
 - Endures hardship
 - Un-entangled
 - Limited options

2 Tim 2:5-6

- Athlete (2:5)
 - 1 Cor 9:25
 - Must compete according to the rules
- Farmer (2:6)
 - Diligence
 - No immediate crop

2 Tim 2:7-10

- Christ (2:7-8)
 - Ultimate example of endurance
 - Heb 12:2
- Paul (2:9-10)
 - 2 Cor 11:23-33
 - For the sake of the elect

Trustworthy Statement (2:11-13)

- Believers died and will live with Christ (2:11)
- Four views (2:12)
 - Hypothetical
 - Arminian
 - Calvinistic
 - Rewards
- Christ will never cancel His promise of eternal life to all believers (2:13)

2 Tim 2:14-26

- Workman (2:14-18)
 - Avoid non biblical speculation (2:14, 16-18)
 - Embrace biblical truth (2:15)
- Vessel (2:19-23)
 - Two kinds of vessels (2:20-21)
 - Avoidance of “these things” (2:19, 22, 23)
- Servant (2:24-26)
 - Teach with patience (2:24-25)
 - Reason for patience (2:26)

2 Timothy 3:10–4:8

What to do in the midst of apostasy

Description of the Apostasy (3:1-9, 12-13)

- Generic description of the apostasy (3:1)
- Characteristics of the apostasy (3:2-7)
- Jannes and Jambres (3:8-9)
- Persecution of the Godly (3:12)
- “From bad to worse” (3:13)

What Timothy is to do in the Midst of the Apostasy (3:10–4:8)

- Imitate Paul's character in nine ways (3:10-11)
 - Teaching, conduct, purpose, faith, patience, love, perseverance, persecutions, sufferings
 - Acts 16:1; 14:19-20; God rescued Paul
- Preach the Word of God (3:14–4:8)
 - Nine reasons to preach the Word of God

Preach the Word for Nine Reasons

- Impact on Paul (2 Tim 3:14)
- Impact on salvation (2 Tim 3:15)
- Divine origin (2 Tim 3:16a)
- Impact on sanctification (2 Tim 3:16b)
- Impact on equipping (2 Tim 3:17)
- Paul's charge to Timothy (2 Tim 4:1a, 2)
- Timothy's evaluation at the Bema Seat (2 Tim 4:1b)
- Preference of men to avoid the word (2 Tim 4:3-4)
- Necessity for Timothy to complete his ministry (2 Tim 4:5-8)

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- Charge (4:5)
- Reason (4:6)
- Reward (4:7-8)
 - Satisfaction of a life well spent (4:7)
 - Bema Seat (4:8)

Mark Twain, *Autobiography*, 2:37

“A myriad of men are born; they labor and sweat and struggle for bread; they squabble and scold and fight; they scramble for little mean advantages over each other. Age creeps upon them and infirmities follow; shames and humiliations bring down their prides and their vanities. Those they love are taken from them, and the joy of life is turned to aching grief. The burden of pain, care, and misery grows heavier year by year. At length ambition is dead, pride is dead, vanity is dead; longing for release is in their place. It comes at last-the only un-poisoned gift earth ever had for them-and they vanish from a world where they were of no consequence; where they achieved nothing, where they were a mistake and a failure and a foolishness; where they left no sign that they have existed-a world that will lament them a day and forget them forever.”

Scripture's Five Crowns (Rev 4:10: 3:11; 2 John 8)

<u>Scripture</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Purpose</u>
1 Cor 9:24-27	Incorruptible crown	Gaining mastery over the old man
1 Thess 2:19-20	Crown of rejoicing	Soul winning
Jas 1:12; Rev 2:10	Crown of life	Enduring trials
1 Pet 5:2-4	Crown of glory	Shepherding God's people
2 Tim 4:8	Crown of righteousness	Longing for His appearing

2 Timothy 4:9-22

God Meets Needs

Loneliness

- **Need:** fellowship in the midst of loneliness
(2 Tim 4:9-12, 16)
- **Met:** God ministered to Paul (2 Tim 4:17)

Deliverance

- **Need:** deliverance from an impossible situation (2 Tim 4:17b)
- **Met:** divine deliverance (2 Tim 4:17b)

Persecution

- **Need:** to be ministered to in the midst of persecution (4:14a)
- **Met:** God will repay the believer's enemies (4:14b)

Spiritual Hunger

- **Need:** to be spiritually fed (4:13)
- **Met:** Timothy to bring Paul the Scriptures (4:13)

Physical Needs

- **Need:** warmth (4:13)
- **Met:** Timothy to bring Paul's cloak (4:13)

Relational Needs

- **Need:** Estrangement from Mark (Acts 13:13; 15:36-40)
- **Met:** Mark and Paul reconciled (2 Tim 4:11)

God Met Paul's Needs

- Loneliness
- Deliverance
- Persecution
- Spiritual hunger
- Physical needs
- Relational needs

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