

A Worker Approved by God

2 Timothy 2:14-26

Introduction: My Father the Workman

The Workman Approved by God (14-15; 23-26)

Unwavering Protector (14, 23)

Faithfully Handles the WORD (15, 24)

Gently Instructs the Wayward (14, 23-26; 1 Tim. 3:2-7)

1 Timothy 3:2-4 Now the overseer must be above reproach, the husband of but one wife, temperate, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, able to teach,³ not given to drunkenness, not violent but *gentle*, not quarrelsome, not a lover of money.⁴ He must manage his own family well and see that his children obey him with proper respect.

The Enemy Within (16-18)

The False Teachers (16-17; 4:14-15; 1 Tim. 1:18-20)

1 Timothy 1:18b-20a Timothy...*fight the good fight*,¹⁹ holding on to faith and a *good conscience*. Some have rejected these and so have shipwrecked their faith.²⁰ Among them are *Hymenaeus* and Alexander,

2 Timothy 4:14-15 Alexander *the metalworker* did me a great deal of harm. The Lord will repay him for what he has done.¹⁵ You too should be on your guard against him, because he strongly opposed our message.

1 Timothy 1:3-4 As I urged you when I went into Macedonia, stay there in Ephesus so that you may command certain men not to teach false doctrines any longer⁴ nor to devote themselves to *myths* and *endless genealogies*. These promote controversies rather than God's work--which is by faith.

1 Tim. 6:4-5 He is conceited and *understands nothing*. He has an unhealthy interest in controversies and quarrels about words that result in *envy, strife, malicious talk, evil suspicions*⁵ and constant friction between men of corrupt mind, who have been robbed of the truth and who think that godliness is a means to financial gain.

The Blaspheme of the False Teachers (18; 1 Cor. 15:12-14; 1 Thes. 4:13-16)

1 Corinthians 15:12-14 But if it is preached that Christ has been raised from the dead, how can some of you say that there is no resurrection of the dead?¹³ If there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised.¹⁴ And if Christ has not been raised, our preaching is useless and so is your faith.

The Discipline of the False Teachers (19; 1 Cor. 5:5; 1 Tim. 1:20)

1 Corinthians 5:5 hand this man over to Satan, so that the sinful nature may be destroyed and his spirit saved on the day of the Lord.

1 Timothy 1:20 Among them are *Hymenaeus* and Alexander, whom I have handed over to Satan to be taught not to blaspheme.

The Fortress in the Fight (19-21)

The Pillar and Foundation of the Truth (19; 1 Tim. 3:15)

1 Timothy 3:15 if I am delayed, you will know how people ought to conduct themselves in God's household, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and foundation of the truth.

God's Seal (19; John 10:27-29; Num. 16:5)

John 10:27-29 My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me.²⁸ I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one can snatch them out of my hand.²⁹ My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all; no one can snatch them out of my Father's hand.

Numbers 16:5 Then he said to Korah and all his followers: "In the morning the LORD will show who belongs to him and who is holy, and he will have that person come near him. The man he chooses he will cause to come near him.

A Clarion Call to Holiness (19b-22)

Pursue Christ Together (22; 1 Tim. 6:12)

1 Timothy 6:11 But you, man of God, flee from all this, and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance and gentleness.

Conclusion: Let Us Pursue the Lover of Our Souls!