

2 Timothy 2:8-13

By Jon Brandt

Intro: Analogy of a Race

1. Personal experience
2. Representation of Salvation
 - a. 3 Stages of a race picturing the 3 aspects of salvation
 - i. Salvation as a past fact (start of the race) Titus 3:4-6, Ephesians 2:5-8
 - ii. Salvation as a present work (running the race) Philippians 2:12
 - iii. Salvation as a future completed work (finishing the race) Romans 13:11
3. While we focus the completed aspect of salvation, Paul's concerns were often for the "present work" of salvation
 - a. The reasons for this:
 - i. Not everyone running is truly an athlete in the race. 1 John 2:19, 1 Corinthians 10:1-6
 - ii. There is a great reward if the race is completed and run well. Philippians 3:12-14
 - iii. Suffering is a part of a race run well Acts 14:22
 1. Paul's concern for Timothy is that he endure through suffering and for this reason seeks to encourage Timothy – Same truths should encourage every Christian.

The Command to Remember (2Tim 2:8)

1. Remember Jesus
 - a. Seed of David means he is the Messiah. The promised coming one and the king
 - b. Raised from the dead. His resurrection is proof of God's acceptance of his sacrifice. His sacrifice was an acceptable payment for sin.
2. This was Paul's Gospel
 - a. Paul is an apostle and what he says is God's word to men. His gospel is the correct gospel God wants proclaimed
 - i. Does our gospel message match? **DISCUSS THIS WITH THE GROUP**
 - b. Why would remembering this about Jesus encourage Timothy?
 - i. Jesus did not deserve to suffer, but he greatly suffered. Yet it was through this that Jesus is

exalted and that men are saved. Philippians 2:8-11

Paul's encouraging example (2Tim 2:9-10)

1. Paul suffered as a bound criminal (evil doer)
 - a. Maybe why he was abandoned (2Tim 1:15)
 - b. This doesn't sound encouraging
2. His ministry was not restricted!
 - a. Paul got to preach and be used by God while in chains (2Tim 4:16-17). Notice how far reaching he describes this event.
3. Therefore, he was willing to endure suffering for the sake of the "elect".
 - a. Elect would be a reference to all believers and encompass evangelism and discipleship – the two active stages of the race
 - i. Discipleship: Remind congregation about Peter's last message on 2Tim 2:2 and his comment about a relationship with God.

A Saying to Remember (2Tim 4:11-13)

1. Vs11 Dead is past tense (start of the race) Result is future life (end of race)
2. Vs12a Suffer is present tense (the struggle of the race) Result is future reigning (end of race)
3. A warning Vs12b
 - a. Don't explain away warnings. They are there for a purpose!
 - b. If deny he will deny (if someone quits running the race they won't reap the benefits of completing the race)
4. Vs13 both terms are about being "faithful". Same Greek root.
 - a. If we are unfaithful at times, be encouraged, he is always faithful
 - b. Clear distinction between this and "denying". This is a someone who trips in the race or forgets to tie their shoes before the race. Despite your failure he is still at the finish line with life and a seat to reign with him if you will only get back up and run.