

Passing the Baton, a Study of 2 Timothy – Lesson 14

Women of Grace | GraceLife Church

But realize this, that in the last days difficult times will come. For men will be lovers of self, lovers of money, boastful, arrogant, revilers, disobedient to parents, ungrateful, unholy, unloving, irreconcilable, malicious gossips, without self-control, brutal, haters of good, treacherous, reckless, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, holding to a form of godliness, although they have denied its power; Avoid such men as these. - 2 Timothy 3:1-5

Day 1 Verse 1

But realize this, that in the last days difficult times will come. For men will be lovers of self, lovers of money, boastful, arrogant, revilers, disobedient to parents, ungrateful, unholy —2 Timothy 3:1

1. Paul begins chapter 3 with the word “but”. What is he contrasting here?
2. Read 2 Timothy 3:1-9. Are these difficult times coming from within or without?
3. When are the last days?

4. In light of the warning that Paul gives us here (that is also given to us in numerous places in the Bible), why have churches been so surprised by difficult times that have come upon us?

5. One of the ways difficult times in the church will come is because men will supplant God's Word with their own ideas. What are some of these ideas that are rampant in the larger professing church today that you need to be aware of?
 - a. Is this a new problem for God's people? See Jeremiah 14:14; 23:14, 16.

 - b. How bad will the last days become? See 2 Timothy 3:13; 1 John 2:18-19; Matthew 24:11-12, 24.

Day 2 Verse 2

For men will be lovers of self, lovers of money, boastful, arrogant, revilers, disobedient to parents, ungrateful, unholy —2 Timothy 3:2

1. What does it mean to be a lover of self? To be a lover of money?

a. What examples do we see in culture today?

b. What examples do we see in the church today?

Heart Check: what examples of this do you see in your own heart and life?

2. Define these terms and give an example of each one:

a. boastful

b. arrogant

c. reviler

d. ungrateful

e. unholy

3. Why do you think disobedience to parents is included in this list?

Day 3 Verse 3

unloving, irreconcilable, malicious gossips, without self-control, brutal, haters of good, —2 Timothy 3:3

1. What does it mean to be:
 - a. unloving

 - b. irreconcilable

 - c. malicious gossips

d. without self-control

e. brutal

f. haters of good

2. What character quality is the opposite of:

a. unloving

b. irreconcilable

c. malicious gossips

d. without self-control

e. brutal

f. haters of good

Day 4 Verse 4

treacherous, reckless, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, -2
Timothy 3:4

1. What does it look like to be:
 - a. treacherous
 - b. reckless
 - c. conceited
 - d. lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God

2. What does Luke 6:16 and Acts 7:52 tell us about the word treacherous, which is also translated “traitor” and “betrayor”?

3. How does being a lover of pleasure show itself in various movements in the church (e.g., seeker sensitive)?

4. Contrast Jesus command in Matthew 22:37-40 with the description found here in 2 Timothy 3:3-5.

5. Compare Romans 1:28-32 and 2 Timothy 3:2-4. What does this tell you about these false teachers?

Day 5 Verse 5

holding to a form of godliness, although they have denied its power; Avoid such men as these. –2 Timothy 3:5

1. What does it mean to hold a form (morphsis) of godliness? See Titus 1:16 and Matthew 23:25.
2. What examples of religion without godliness do we see in the church today?
3. Read 1 Corinthians 2:14. According to this verse, why do the people Paul is talking about here in 2 Timothy have a form of godliness but deny its power?
4. What power is available to the believer? Use Scripture to support your answer.

5. What is the command in 2 Timothy 3:5?

a. How does this passage line up with passages such as Matthew 7:15; 23:25; John 8:44; and Titus 1:16?

b. How do we avoid falling prey to such men and their teaching?

Heart Check: Do you avoid such men, or do you entertain their teaching?

Dig Deeper

1. Contrast the list in verses 2-4 with the fruit of the Spirit found in Galatians 5:22-23.

Heart Check: Is this fruit evident in your life? How will you grow this fruit in your life?

2. When listening to men who teach the word, there must be 3 areas they teach correctly:
 - a. Scripture

 - b. Saviour

 - c. Salvation

To get one area wrong is to get them all wrong. Why is this? What must they believe to be true about each area of doctrine? Use Scripture and a systematic theology to define what needs to be true.