

# 2 Timothy

## CHAPTER 3:10-17

### Lesson 20

In these last days, there will be more and more attempts to deceive both those who know Christ and those who do not. Paul reminds us in these last verses of 2 Timothy 3 of the importance and ability of God's word to keep us in truth and equip us in this life. May your appreciation that God wrote His thoughts and intentions in a Book, be expanded as you study.

#### Read 2 Timothy 3:10-17

1. Read through this week's verses using at least two different translations or paraphrases. After reading through these verses, what would you say to someone if they asked you what they are about?
2. The contrasting word, *but*, is used three times in this section. Choose one instance of its use and record what is being contrasted.

#### Read 2 Timothy 3:10-12

1. In contrast to those described in the first verses of this chapter who *resist the truth*, Timothy was known for *carefully following*. Describe the phrase *carefully following*.

2. Record the following verses and reflect upon the importance of true *doctrine*.

John 7:17

2 John 1:9,10

3. In addition to *carefully following Paul's doctrine*, using verses 10,11 list the other things about Paul that Timothy *carefully followed*.

- a. Why are each of these important to the furtherance of the gospel?

4. Paul mentioned three cities where he *endured persecutions*. Read each account and summarize them.

**Antioch** (Acts 13:42-52)

- a. Notice verse 52. What was the reaction of the disciples after experiencing this persecution?

- 1.) Why do you think they were rejoicing?

**Iconium** (Acts 14:1-7)

## Lystra (Acts 14:8-20)

5. Acts 14:20 states that Paul and Barnabas left Lystra and went to Derbe. Acts 14:21 states that *when they had preached the gospel to that city and made many disciples, they returned to Lystra, Iconium and Antioch.* According to verses 22,23, what did they:

do:

say:

- a. How might his last words in verse 23 *strengthen the souls of the disciples?*

- 1.) Paul wrote similar words in 2 Timothy 3:12, applying it to *all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus.* Describe the *persecution* all believers should expect.

## Read 2 Timothy 3:13,14

1. According to verse 13, what can we expect?

- a. What is an example of this that you have witnessed?

2. In contrast to those described in verse 13, what did Paul tell Timothy to do?

- a. Sometimes we have doubts about what we have *learned and been assured of.* How does *knowing from whom you have learned them* restore your confidence?

1.) In what ways is this a challenge to you to live and speak in a way that others can trust?

**Read 2 Timothy 3:15,16**

1. 2 Timothy 3:15,16 supply glorious benefits of the *Scripture*. Notice the phrase *are able*. What is our part if we are to experience these benefits?

2. List the *abilities of Scripture* as recorded in verses 15,16.

a. Next to each ability, record the verse that furthers your understanding. Then reflect how you have personally experienced the work of Scripture in your life.

*make you wise for salvation:* Psalm 19:7

1 John 5:11

*profitable for:*

*doctrine:* Romans 6:17

*reproof:* Proverbs 6:23

*correction:* Psalm 119:11

*instruction in righteousness:* Hebrews 12:11

3. Record the first phrase of 2 Timothy 3:16.

a. How does it help you to know that God has *inspired* the words in the Bible?

b. What do you think your life would be like if you were saved, but did not have God's word?

### Read 2 Timothy 3:17

1. 2 Timothy 3:15,16 remind us to what Scripture is *able* to do. According to verse 17, what is one of the purposes of God's word?

a. Using the word *complete*, list:

synonyms

antonyms

2. As believers, we will not experience the perfection of total *completion* as God intends for us to be until we are in heaven. Yet, believers experience a transformation that brings us closer and closer to God's goal for us. Share what that has been like for you?

3. Meditate on the phrase *thoroughly equipped for every good work*. Bask in the words of 2 Corinthians 9:8 and record some thoughts about God's ability to *equip* you.

## Review 2 Timothy 3:10-17

1. In what ways has God used this lesson in your life regarding:  
your fear of *persecution*

the importance of your witness

the ability of Scripture

the purpose of Scripture

2. Share a few thoughts expressing your appreciation of God's word.

*You, through Your commandments, make me wiser than my enemies;*

*For they are ever with me.*

*I have more understanding than all my teachers,*

*For Your testimonies are my meditation.*

*I understand more than the ancients,*

*Because I keep Your precepts.*

*- Psalm 119:98-100*