

Second Timothy: Overview and Outline

- Paul's last recorded letter
- During Nero persecution that began in 64 AD with the burning of Rome
- Likely written fall of 67 AD (maybe 66 AD)
- Paul has been arrested in 66-67 AD in Troas or Ephesus or Corinth or Nicopolis or, even, Rome and imprisoned likely in the Mamertine Prison.
- Paul was left alone or abandoned because of:
 - Members of his ministry team and network are working in other cities and churches
 - Christians in Rome are still fearful of brutal persecution that began in 64 AD
 - Betrayed by false believers who have turned Paul in to get rid of him
 - Forsaken by ministry team members because they have forsaken the faith.
- Timothy is told to remain faithful to Jesus and to Paul
- Timothy is commanded to continue:
 - Overcome his personal weaknesses with his faith and the life of Jesus
 - Endure persecution that will continue because of the Truth and the Word
 - Follow Paul's example in doctrine, teaching, endurance and life

Outline:

1. Endurance (1:3-2:13)
 - a. Timothy told he has faith (1:3-5)
 - b. Timothy told to use his faith, activate the power and not to fail (1:6-14)
 - c. Spiritual losers and spiritual winners are identified by name (1:15-18)
 - d. Continue in Truth, but to do so will require Endurance (2:1-13)
2. False Teachers (2:14-3:9)
 - a. Contrast between Timothy's doctrine and lifestyle with the false teachers (2:14-26)
 - b. Detailed description of false teachers (3:1-9)
3. Command and Charge (3:10-4:8)
 - a. Teach the Scriptures (3:10-17)
 - b. Paul's charge to Timothy to Preach and Teach the Word of God (4:1-8)
4. Ministry Details (4:9-22)