

## How to Finish Well 2 Timothy 4:5-8

Paul wrote from prison with a sense that \_\_\_\_\_ was near. His two letters to Timothy were designed to equip and challenge him to follow Paul's footsteps into \_\_\_\_\_ ministry (2 Tim 4:5).

Consider that in this stage of Paul's life, he didn't appear to have a \_\_\_\_\_ ministry in the eyes of the world (4:9-16). But what Paul DID have was the \_\_\_\_\_ of Christ and His abiding \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ and the \_\_\_\_\_ of eternal life (4:17-18). Note how Paul finished well:

### I. No \_\_\_\_\_ 4:6; Phil 2:17; Mat 25:41

#### 1. His life was in \_\_\_\_\_ hands

We live in a world where people are FULL OF THEMSELVES. But in Philippians 2 we read that Christ \_\_\_\_\_ HIMSELF of His rights of deity in order to \_\_\_\_\_ the will of the Father, even if it meant going to the cross.

#### 2. His \_\_\_\_\_ would be a blessing

The Greek word ANALUPSIS ("departure") had a variety of meanings:

- It implied \_\_\_\_\_
- It implied going \_\_\_\_\_ (2 Cor 5:1-2)
- It implied a change of \_\_\_\_\_ (Phil 1:21-23)

### II. No \_\_\_\_\_ 4:7

#### 1. He \_\_\_\_\_ the good fight

The Greek word AGOWN ("agony") implies that to experience \_\_\_\_\_ in the battle it requires effort, hard work, discipline and struggle (2 Cor 11:23-27; 2 Cor 4:17; Rom 8:37). The fight for the Christian is on three fronts:

- 1) \_\_\_\_\_ from the world Acts 9:16; Col 1:24
- 2) \_\_\_\_\_ with his own flesh Rom 7:21-23; Gal 5:16
- 3) \_\_\_\_\_ against Satan and his principalities and powers Eph 6:10-13

#### 2. He \_\_\_\_\_ the race Acts 20:24

God had set for Paul a \_\_\_\_\_ course (an apostle to the Gentiles). Note three essentials to run well and reach the finish line:

- 1) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ 1 Cor 9:24-27
- 2) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Heb 12:1
- 3) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Heb 12:2

#### 3. He \_\_\_\_\_ the faith ("the faith" = the truth of the \_\_\_\_\_)

Note two ways in which Paul kept the faith:

- 1) He never lost confidence in the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Scriptures 1 Cor 15:3-4; Rom 1:16

2) He guarded the truth as a good steward of the \_\_\_\_\_ given to him 2 Cor 4:1-2;  
Phil 1:13-14

**III. No \_\_\_\_\_ 4:8**

“Henceforth” = LOIPON – “what remains”. Paul knew that death wasn’t the \_\_\_\_\_. He looked forward to leaving this earth and seeing \_\_\_\_\_.

Paul’s confidence was based on his faith in the \_\_\_\_\_ of Christ:

1. **At salvation we \_\_\_\_\_ the righteousness of Christ 2 Cor 5:21**
2. **After salvation we \_\_\_\_\_ to live out that righteousness Rom 6:13**
3. **At death we are \_\_\_\_\_ with righteousness 1 John 3:2**

Note that one of the marks of a true Christians is one who loves the \_\_\_\_\_ of Christ. And he \_\_\_\_\_ for that to happen (Phil 3:20).

**Study Questions:**

1. If you facing death, what would be the last words you would want to leave with your loved one?
2. Why do unsaved people fear death? Why do some Christians fear death?
3. Note the phrase in 2 Timothy 4:17, “but the Lord stood with me.” Share a time in your life when you felt alone and fearful but were strengthened by the Lord’s presence.
4. Consider Paul’s words, “I have fought the good fight.” How does our 21<sup>st</sup> Century Christian culture expectations contradict with Paul’s perspective of the Christian life?
5. From the following verses, how are we to experience victory over the world, the flesh and Satan?
  - “the world” – 1 John 2:15-17
  - “the flesh” – Colossians 3:1-17
  - “Satan” – 2 Cor 2:11; 1 Pet 5:8
6. What hinders Christians today from persevering in their faith?
7. What prevents Christians today from “loving Christ’s appearing?”

<b>January 2024</b>			
<b>Week 1</b> Starting January 6	<b>Week 2</b> Starting January 13	<b>Week 3</b> Starting January 20	<b>Week 4</b> Starting January 27
Day 1: Luke 6	Day 1: Luke 10	Day 1: Luke 14	Day 1: Luke 18
Day 2: Luke 7	Day 2: Luke 11	Day 2: Luke 15	Day 2: Luke 19
Day 3: Luke 8	Day 3: Luke 12	Day 3: Luke 16	Day 3: Luke 20
Day 4: Luke 9	Day 4: Luke 13	Day 4: Luke 17	Day 4: Luke 21
Day 5: John 12:44-50	Day 5: John 13:1-20	Day 5: John 14:1-14	Day 5: John 14:15-31

<sup>1</sup>Blessed is the one whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.  
<sup>2</sup>Blessed is the one whose sin the Lord does not count against them and in whose spirit is no deceit.  
<sup>3</sup>When I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long.  
<sup>4</sup>For day and night your hand was heavy on me; my strength was sapped as in the heat of summer.  
<sup>5</sup>Then I acknowledged my sin to you and did not cover up my iniquity. I said, “I will confess my transgressions to the Lord. “And you forgave the guilt of my sin.

Psalm 32:1-5 (NIV)