

COMMITMENT

2 Tim 1:12, 14; 2:2

Intro: There are three times in chs. 1+2 that Paul speaks of commitment: 1:12, 14; 2:2. In the first two it is a noun that is used (Παραθήκη); in the latter it is the related verb, Παρατίθημι.

Premerians
all these
concrete words,
from the same
root.

It literally means something that is placed with someone else, with the idea that they are entrusted to keep it, to guard something which is deposited with another.

Paul speaks of this same commitment in 1 Tim. 6:20.

Around the use of this word Paul describes the ministry which both he and Timothy share. In each of its three uses in 2 Timothy the commitment is different.

All three lead us to see the essentials of the Gospel ministry.

I. Paul had committed something to God which he was certain God was able to keep (2 Tim. 1:12).

What had he committed?

The first part of the verse (12a) as well as the context (vv. 8-12) makes it clear that SALVATION is the subject. What a definition of believing! When I believe, I am committing my salvation into the hands of God himself.

This translation is even used of

ΠΙΣΤΕΩ, believe, in John 2:24.

Paul was "persuaded" about this matter. The verb is ΠΕΙΘΩ, used only elsewhere in the pastorals in 1:5. Paul was sure of his salvation because he was sure of God - "He is able to keep". This is assurance.

And Paul was assured of Timothy's salvation too - because of the evidence of faith. BUT IT WOULD SEEM THAT TIMOTHY HAD BEEN SHAKEN DEEPLY BY WHAT HAD HAPPENED - THAT HIS FAITH WAS SHAKEN.

Look at the others who had either opposed Paul or left him. Surely a man in such circumstances could not be right!

This is the time to get our eyes back on the Lord.

Cf. Jude 24, 25; Rom. 8:38, 39; John 10:27-30.

Any ministry of ~~any~~ consequence must begin at this point. Perse- is of God.

II. Paul had also committed something to Timothy (2 Tim. 1:14).

v. 13 deals with the trust agency, v. 14 with the divine enablement.

As Paul had carefully taught Timothy he had the conception that he was committing a sacred treasure to him.

What was it?

"The form of sound words", or the model, or pattern - (ὑποτύπωσιν) of

sound, healthy (ὑγιαίνοντων) words.

What is he to do with it?

"Hold fast" - ἔχω, lit., have it, keep it in your mind and conduct. Don't forsake it yourself.

and -

"Keep" - guard, protect, preserve. Don't let anyone else change it.

How did Paul commit it to Timothy?

Believing it and loving it (which includes obeying it) - and the source of all was "in Christ Jesus".

So Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit were active in what Paul did for Timothy - and will enable Timothy to keep what had been committed to him.

The very words of doctrine are so important, and must be preserved. Sound words are healthy words and produce healthy souls. False doctrine is made up of sick words.

III. Paul now wanted Timothy to do some committing (2 Tim 2:2).

Four spiritual generations are here:

(1) Paul.

(2) Timothy.

(3) Faithful men: reliable, dependable

(4) Others "able to teach" - capable, qualified

We are not merely to preach to spectators, but to train witnesses.

How is it to be done?

A. The power (v. 1).

- B. The doctrine: "And the things which thou hast heard of me, the same..."
- C. The qualities of service illustrated
1. Suffering - ^{motives} Purpose: (vv. 3, 4). ^{to please Him.}
 2. Lawful - Principle (v. 5). ^{Divine method}
 3. Patience (v. 6). Cf. Jas. 5:7

Concl: So, Paul would have timely realize that sufferings are to be expected

The message must continue to be instilled in the hearts of believers, but

The basis of it is what is taking place in our own hearts.