

2Timothy 1:8–12

“Suffering by the Power of Him Who Predestined Our Salvation and Calling”

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What can stave off discouragement in the sufferings of our callings? Pastor leads his family in today’s “Hopewell @Home” passage. 2Timothy 1:8–12 prepares us for the opening portion of morning public worship on the coming Lord’s Day. In these five verses of Holy Scripture, the Holy Spirit teaches us that the God Who predestined our salvation and our calling will carry us through whatever suffering He has ordained along the way. We know Him and His ability; He will keep us.

Tuesday, October 19, 2021 ◻ Read 2Timothy 1:8–12

Questions from the Scripture text: What is Timothy not to be (v8)? Not of what? Not of whom? As what does the apostle describe himself? In what does he tell Timothy to share? According to what power would he be able to share in this suffering? What two things has God done to us (v9)? With what kind of calling has He called us? Not according to what, but according to what two things instead? In Whom was this grace given? When? When was this grace revealed (v10)? How? What did He do to death? What has He brought to light? Through what? What three things was Paul appointed to be to this gospel (v11)? What did this triple appointment require him to do (v12)? Nevertheless, how hasn’t he responded? What not—what two ways has he responded to the doctrine in this verse? What will Jesus Christ keep? Until when?

Next week’s Call to Worship, Prayer for Help, Song of Adoration, and Prayer of Confession all come from 2Timothy 1:8–12, so that we will see that we are singing God’s thoughts after Him with *I Know Whom I Have Believed*.

Timothy is going to suffer in the ministry, and the apostle wants him to be able to do so without embarrassment or encouragement.

Paul tells Timothy not to be ashamed (v8a), just as Paul is not ashamed (v12b).

Paul tells Timothy to share with him in suffering for the gospel (v8b), just as for the sake of being a preacher/apostle/teacher of the gospel (v11), Paul suffers (v12a).

For the Christian, the gospel is worth suffering for. The gospel has secured the hope not only of those to whom he ministers to, but of the minister himself. A truly effective minister is one who can proclaim the goodness of the Scriptural gospel because he knows the goodness of the Scriptural gospel from profound life experience. This goodness Paul knew.

When you belong to God through the gospel, it is His power that enables you to share in suffering (v8c).

The gospel is not about “how to get saved” but about the God “Who has saved us” (v9a).

Whomever God saves through the gospel God also calls with a holy calling (v9b).

This calling is not one that comes to us through anything we do, but through something that God has purposed this grace in Christ (v9c), long before we did anything. Indeed, before time began (v9d).

What appeared in Jesus’s life, death, and resurrection (v10a) was planned before time began. It is impossible that those He came to save should end up dead (v10b) and absolutely certain that they should have true life (v10c) and immortality (v10d).

The blessings of the gospel are secured by the eternal purpose and power of God. He planned it before the world began. He carries it out. This is why the apostle is not ashamed: “I know Whom I have believed, and am persuaded that He is able.” Paul’s certainty comes from the character of the God who purposed and the power of the God who carries it out. The day of glory is planned and certain.

What the apostle was sure of, and what he wanted Timothy to be sure of, is the same thing that you must be sure of, dear believer. What can suffering take from someone who has the hope of this gospel? If you have committed yourself into His care, then your everlasting blessedness is as sure as the purpose and power of God!

In what ways are you currently suffering? Which of them can undo the purpose of God? Which can overcome His power? If you’re a believer, why has God done this for you?

Sample prayer: Lord, You are full of grace, loving from before time began and not doing according to our works but according to Christ’s worthiness. You are full of wisdom, purposing and planning all things well. You are full of power—stronger than death, able to give life and immortality, able to keep what we’ve committed unto You. Forgive us for when we are embarrassed or discouraged by our suffering, and grant unto us to live from the confidence of knowing You. This we ask in Your merciful, powerful Name, Jesus Christ, AMEN!

Suggested songs: ARP73C “Yet Constantly, I Am with You” or TPH517 “I Know Whom I Have Believed”

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(The following is a machine-generated transcription. Please be aware of—and patient with—transcribing errors. If there is something confusing or obviously erroneous, you are invited to listen to the audio recording referenced above)

Second Timothy Chapter one verses 8 through 12, these are God's words. Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony of our Lord.

Nor of me his prisoner, but share with me in the sufferings for the gospel according to the power of God, who has saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works.

But according to his own purpose and grace, which was given to us in Christ Jesus before time began, but has now been revealed by the appearing of our Savior Jesus Christ.

Who has abolished death?

And brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.

To which I was appointed a preacher.

An apostle and a teacher of the Gentiles.

For this reason I also suffer these things.

Nevertheless, I am not ashamed for I know whom I have believed and then persuaded that he is able to keep what I have committed to him until that day.

Behind you.

So far the reading of the word of God.

So he is telling Timothy that he is not ashamed.

And that Timothy is not to be ashamed either, and he takes the part that we have and he places it within God's plans for redemption in Jesus from before eternity began.

Before time began, rather until the great and last day in which it is all fulfilled.

In the second coming, and the judgment and then especially the everlasting glory, in the new heavens and the new Earth that comes in that day.

And he says, when you are suffering in a particular day or a particular time, or a particular moment of your life, what you need to do is take that day that.

Time, that moment that's suffering and place it in the proper context that God, who according to verse 9 saved us and called us with a holy calling.

Not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace, which was given to us in Christ Jesus before time began.

She says the fact that we were saved not by what we do not even by our decision, but by a decision that God made before time began.

About an action that God would do in time and he says it has now appeared.

Has now been revealed. Rather in verse 10 by the appearing of our Savior Jesus Christ says the fact that we're saved this way not by our decision or what we do but by God's purpose to do what he would do. That means that what we suffer in any moment of our lives is.

In the middle of a glorious plan that can never be undone. Something that must work even more than that. If our suffering is for doing good. In Paul's case, it was.

He has been appointed for this gospel in which Jesus has abolished death and brought life and immortality to light.

So that's what Jesus did.

What does Paul do to which I was appointed a preacher and an apostle with a teacher of the Gentiles.

And Paul is not ashamed.

Well, what does Timothy?

Supposed to do well back up to verse 8.

Timothy is supposed to give the testimony of our Lord.

He's supposed to preach and teach the word of God about the Lord Jesus Christ.

And there are people who are saying look at what that got Paul.

He's in prison and and Paul says don't be ashamed of the testimony of our Lord or of me, his prisoner.

But share with me in the sufferings of the gospel.

So Jesus is part, of course, was to abolish death.

We couldn't do that.

He brought life into mortality.

But he gives us the privilege of participating in his work.

Paul had the great.

Privilege of being the apostle to the Gentiles.

I'm not going to get that privilege.

Timothy had the privilege of being pastor for the Ephesian Church.

And to preach faithfully and boldly and not be ashamed when time came to suffer for that well, I actually get something like that.

It's kind of exciting for me to read this passage as a.

Esther, and to say, oh, when I suffering for when I suffer for.

Ah, patiently, steadily preaching the testimony of our Lord Jesus.

I actually have the same privilege that Timothy has here, but you each have a part they're suffering for believing in the Lord Jesus Christ.

They're suffering for not trusting in or giving homage and honor to the idols.

Of this world.

They're suffering for testifying, giving an answer for the hope that you have. They're suffering for walking according to God's law. When in culture where they call good evil, even while they're calling evil good, and then you do what's good and they call you evil.

But whatever part the Lord has given you in this work of redeeming sinners through Jesus Christ, if you suffer for it, that's uprev

Don't be ashamed of it because God who powerfully saved us through Jesus, is the one who is powerfully helping you not be ashamed during the suffering, did you?

Notice that about.

The power of God in verse 8.

Share with me in the sufferings for the gospel according to the power of God.

There are a bunch of false teachers in the church, you say?

You don't believe your God is powerful.

If you think suffering is OK, you should have more faith to know that you won't suffer so that what so that what you declare will happen.

And according to the power of God, you can never suffer.

That's false teaching.

The apostle here says, according to the power of God, you can suffer.

Without being ashamed.

You can have faith in the midst of suffering and even joy in the midst of suffering, and that's what the power of God is for, not keeping us from suffering but keeping us in suffering and keeping us through suffering.

As we have a privilege with Jesus.

Of suffering in part of God's plan and he who planned it and he who has accomplished it in his cross, and he who sustains us, he's gonna make fruitful our service to him.

That's done in dependence upon him to begin with, he's going to make that fruitful until in the last day he will have done.

All things well, and God willing by the help of his spirit, he will have sustained us in doing well the part that we are privileged to have, even if it is just believe.

And walking with him and suffering for the sake of believing and walking with him, nevertheless says the apostle, I'm not ashamed, for I know whom I have believed, who he is, and I'm persuaded that he is able to keep what he will do who he is, and his power and his faithfulness I.

I'm persuaded that he is able to keep what I've committed to him until that day, so my dear children, whenever.

In God's Providence, it is time for you to suffer.

Two huge things to keep in mind, one.

That put your moment, your day of suffering in context in its place between God, plan from before time began and the last day when it will have all been completed.

And then remember that at the center of that is Jesus.

Crucified, died, and.

Risen, he has abolished death.

It's defeated and brought to life, light and immortality.

Whatever you are suffering for, if you suffer by faith in Jesus Christ, you may know that certainly it is bearing the planned fruit and you need not be ashamed or discouraged, but can instead rejoice.

Let's pray.

Our father, we thank you for this portion of your word.

Thank you.

For the faith that your spirit worked in the in the apostle that he was able to live.

This way and.

Timothy had the opportunity to see and understand what lived out.

Faith in Jesus looks like.

Thank you for the way you sustained Timothy and many other pastors and many many, many other ordinary Christians.

Who walked with you by that faith in which they know you and they know your ability and they know your faithfulness, and so they were able to suffer well without being ashamed, but confident and rejoicing.

We pray that you would help us to know you.

And to know your ability and to know your faithfulness, that we might cling to the cross.

And know that your purposes from before time will be fulfilled when time has come to its conclusion.

Grant to us to walk with you by faith that we would not be ashamed, but we would be confident and rejoice even in the midst of suffering.

O Lord, Grant that we might have revival in our land.

And yet, Lord, if not, if there are days with comparatively great suffering for Christians ahead of my children.

I pray that your spirit will make this passage which they have heard to bear.

Its marvelous fruit.

And then.

I ask it in Christ name Amen.