

Understand your Bible

Suggested notes

2 Timothy 3

Background to the chapter

Timothy was one of the apostle Paul's main helpers in his preaching work. In this second letter to Timothy, Paul encourages him to be faithful despite the problems he is facing.

What we will see in this chapter:

- Attitudes we should avoid in a godless world
- How we remain faithful in a godless world

1 Read the chapter

2 Questions to help us in our understanding of this chapter. Look at the chapter verses in your Bible and use the questions to help you make your notes.

Chapter verses	Questions (to help with your notes)	Suggested notes
1 to 9	1. What did Paul tell Timothy the last days will be like?	People will be: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ self-centred ➤ greedy ➤ arrogant and contemptuous of others ➤ loving pleasure rather than God
10 to 13	2. How was Paul an example to Timothy?	Paul: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ had a purpose in life ➤ showed faith ➤ showed patience, love and endurance ➤ suffered persecution
14 & 15	3. How does Paul encourage Timothy (and us) to remain faithful in a godless world?	He encourages him to hold on to what he has learned from the Holy Scriptures.
16 & 17	4. Why does Paul say we should read the Scriptures?	He tells Timothy that the Scriptures help us learn about salvation through faith in Jesus.

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3 Related theme: *Faith (belief) in Jesus Christ.*

Have a look at these related verses and see this theme running through the New Testament. Make a note of the main point(s) in the verse(s).

Verse(s)	Main point(s)
John 20 v 31	John says he has written so that others may believe in Jesus and so have life.
Acts 15 v 11	Peter tells his fellow believers that we are saved through the grace (undeserved favour) of Jesus Christ.
Romans 10 v 9	We must believe that God raised Jesus from the dead.
Galatians 3 v 26 to 28	Baptism is part of expressing our faith in Jesus Christ.
1 John 3 v 23	Belief in Jesus involves obeying him and showing love to others.