

# Paul's Second Letter to Timothy



## 2 Timothy — Chapter 3

1 But realize this, that in the last days difficult times will come.

2 For men will be lovers of self, lovers of money, boastful, arrogant, revilers, disobedient to

parents, ungrateful, unholy,

3 unloving, irreconcilable, malicious gossips, without self-control, brutal, haters of good,

4 treacherous, reckless, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than

lovers of God, <sup>5</sup> holding to a form of godliness, although they have

denied its power; Avoid such men as these. <sup>6</sup> For among them are

### DIFFICULT TIMES TO COME...

- Paul calls the times that are coming “difficult”; given that he was living in a world full of pagan immorality and persecution, what does that say about the times that he is talking about in verse 1?
- What is a lover of self, and what do such people do?
- What is a lover of money, and what do these people do?
- What is boasting?
- What is arrogance and how is it different from boasting?
- What is “reviling”?
- What is disobedience to parents and how is that different from modern day teenage rebellion?
- What is it to be ungrateful and how do such people act?
- What would it mean to act unholy? (What is the opposite of holy?)
- What would it mean to be unloving?
- What does irreconcilable mean?
- What might be the difference between a gossip and a malicious gossip?
- When a person has no self-control, how do they act? Examples?

those who enter into households  
and captivate weak women  
weighed down with sins, led on  
by various impulses, <sup>7</sup> always  
learning and never able to come  
to the knowledge of the truth.

<sup>8</sup> Just as Jannes and Jambres  
opposed Moses, so these men also  
oppose the truth, men of depraved  
mind, rejected in regard to the  
faith. <sup>9</sup> But they will not make  
further progress; for their folly will  
be obvious to all, just as Jannes's  
and Jambres's folly was also.

<sup>10</sup> Now you followed my  
teaching, conduct, purpose, faith,  
patience, love, perseverance,  
<sup>11</sup> persecutions, and sufferings,

- Define brutal...
- What does it mean to be a hater of good?
- Can you trust a treacherous person?
- What does it mean to be reckless and how would such people act?
- What is the attitude of the person who is conceited?
- How would people act who are lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God??
  - What would mean to hold to a "form of godliness"?
  - What should be the power of godliness that these lovers of pleasure are denying by their behavior?
  - Who would these lovers of pleasure corrupt?
- Where do we find biblical reference to Jannes and Jambres?
  - What's the story behind these men?
  - Will people like this be part of the difficult times?
  - What will such people be doing?
    - What are the reasons that Paul says that such men do such things as this?
  - What happened to Jannes and Jambres (the Egyptian magicians that opposed Moses)?
    - What does that teach us about all those who oppose God?

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#### PERSONAL EXHORTATIONS

- About how long had Timothy been following and working with Paul?
  - Are examples important?
    - In what areas?
    - Why?

such as happened to me at Antioch, at Iconium and at Lystra; what persecutions I endured, and out of them all the Lord rescued me! <sup>12</sup> Indeed, all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will be persecuted. <sup>13</sup> But evil men and impostors will proceed from bad to worse, deceiving and being deceived. <sup>14</sup> You, however, continue in the things you have learned and become convinced of, knowing from whom you have learned them, <sup>15</sup> and that from childhood you have known the sacred writings which are able to give you the wisdom that leads to salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. <sup>16</sup> All Scripture is

- Why does Paul mention Antioch and Iconium? (see Acts 13 and 14)
  - Did Timothy see these things?
  - What lesson was Paul wanting Timothy to take away?
  - Was Timothy going to be an exception?
  - Is anyone going to be an exception?
- How does evil in the world seem to grow?
  - From bad to worse
  - Deceiving and being deceived
- But what should Timothy do anyway?
  - He learned (From who?)
  - And been convinced of (How?)
    - Where had Timothy first learned of God?
    - Where had Timothy continued learning about salvation and the Gospel?
  - Where is the best place to learn about these things?
  - How authoritative is Scripture?

inspired by God and  
profitable for teaching, for  
reproof, for correction, for  
training in righteousness;<sup>17</sup>  
so that the man of God may  
be adequate, equipped for  
every good work.

- Why?
- What is good for?
  - Reproof (what is this?)
  - Correction (what is this?)
  - Training in righteousness (what is this?)
- To be adequate
- equipped for every good work