



~ Thought For The Day ~

~gathering from the 4 winds~

“come just as you are”

Refresh, Restore, Rebuild = Healing



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Prayer

God Father; in Jesus’ name I ask it, help us, God, to guard and keep with greatest care the precious truth which has been entrusted to us by the help of the Holy Spirit Who makes His home in us. I pray that You would strengthen us inwardly in the grace and spiritual blessing that is found only in You. Lord help us to correctly analyze, accurately divide, rightly handle, and skillfully teach Your Word of Truth, as You send us forth, to share the Word with others. Protect us, keep us and bless us all with our daily bread, and supply our needs, grant us favor, and I pray that we bear fruit to Your glory and Your Kingdom is furthered, in Jesus’ name. Amen.

Worship Music

[Your Not Alone-Rick Pino](#)

[How I Love You-Rick Pino](#)

[We Prepare The Way-Rick Pino](#)

[Penuel \(Face to Face\) Rick Pino](#)

Scripture

2 Timothy Introduction (2005)

2 Timothy 3:16-17 (AMP)

¹⁶ Every Scripture is God-breathed (given by His inspiration) and profitable for instruction, for reproof *and* conviction of sin, for correction of error *and* discipline in obedience, [and] for training in righteousness (in holy living, in conformity to God's will in thought, purpose, and action),

¹⁷ So that the man of God may be complete *and* proficient, well fitted *and* thoroughly equipped for every good work.

Radio Stations...

[KWVE ...Calvary Chapel](#)

[KLOVE](#)

Bible Studies

[Chuck Smith](#)

[Through The Bible](#)

[Bob Coy/Teachings](#)

[Mike MacIntosh](#)

[Jon Courson](#)

[Biblos.com](#)

2 Timothy 4:7-8 (AMP)

⁷ I have fought the good (worthy, honorable, and noble) fight, I have finished the race, I have kept (firmly held) the faith.

⁸ [As to what remains] henceforth there is laid up for me the [victor's] crown of righteousness [for being right with God and doing right], which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me *and* recompense me on that [great] day—and not to me only, but also to all those who have loved *and* yearned for *and* welcomed His appearing (His return).

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The book of Acts closes with Paul in prison in Rome, around A.D. 63. The common belief is that he was acquitted and released, returned to Greece and Asia Minor, was later arrested again, taken back to Rome, and executed in about A.D. 67 or 68. This letter was written while he was awaiting martyrdom.

Background of the Epistle: In A. D. 64, a great fire destroyed much of the city of Rome. The people suspected that Emperor Nero himself had set fire to the city. Though an inhuman brute, he was a great builder, and the purpose behind setting the city on fire was urban renewal he wanted to build a new and grander Rome. While the city was ablaze, Nero, according to tradition, played the fiddle. Historians have commonly regarded it as a fact that Nero was the perpetrator of the Crime, and that in order to divert suspicion from himself he accused the Christians of burning Rome and began to persecute them. The Bible makes no mention of Nero's persecution of Christians, though it happened in New Testament times and is the direct background of at least two New Testament books. 1 Peter and 2 Timothy. It was this persecution that led to Paul's martyrdom and, according to some traditions, to Peter's also. Our source of information is the Roman historian Tacitus. He knew that the Christians did not burn Rome. But somebody had to be made the scapegoat for the emperor's crime. Here was a new and despised sect of people, mostly from the humbler walks of life, without prestige or influence, many of them slaves. Nero accused them of burning Rome and ordered their punishment.

In and around Rome, multitudes of Christians were arrested and put to death in the most cruel ways. They were crucified, or tied in skins of animals and thrown into the arena, to be badgered to death by dogs, for the entertainment of the people; or thrown to the wild beasts or tied to stakes in Nero's gardens, pitch poured over their bodies, and their burning bodies used as torches to light Nero's gardens at night. It was in the wake of this persecution that Paul was rearrested, in Greece or Asia Minor, possibly at Troas (2 Timothy 4:13), and brought back to Rome. This time by the government of Rome rather than by his own choice, by appealing to Caesar; this time as an alleged criminal (2:9), not on some technical violation of Jewish law, as had been the case the first time he was taken to Rome. For all we know, it may have been in connection with the burning of Rome. For was not Paul the world leader of the people who were being punished for that crime? And had not Paul been in Rome for two years just preceding the fire? It would have been very easy to lay this crime at Paul's door, although we do not know whether that was indeed the charge. Paul, at any rate, was indicted. His trial had proceeded far enough that he knew there was no hope of escape. While waiting in the Roman dungeon for the time of his departure, he wrote this last letter to Timothy, his bosom friend and trusted coworker, begging him to be faithful, in spite of everything, to his calling as a minister of Christ, and to hurry to Rome before winter (4:21).

Paul's Triumphant Faith: Out of that dark hour came one of the noblest passages of Scripture. He would soon be executed for a crime he did not commit, and his friends left him to suffer alone. The cause for which he had given his life was being wiped out in the West from the outside, by persecution, and in the East from the inside, through false teachings. Yet there is no hint of regret that he had given his life to the service of Christ and the church. No hint of doubt but that the church, though now apparently being defeated, would eventually be triumphant. And no hint of doubt but that the moment his head was cut from his body, he would go straight to the arms of Him whom he had loved and served so devotedly. This letter is the exultant cry of a dying conqueror. (Halley's Bible Handbook; 2000; Henry Halley; history and commentaries; pages 841-842)

Hold fast to the teachings of your Christian faith, being diligent to know, honor and obey God's Word.

Be a good "first class" soldier of Christ Jesus.

Finish your race on earth having kept the faith.

Second Timothy is filled with encouragement, perhaps because the young man Timothy really needed it! Many scholars believe Paul wrote this letter shortly before his death, while he was suffering a much more harsh imprisonment than he previously endured. For that reason, this is quite a personal letter from the older Apostle to his spiritual son—like Paul's final instructions before he finished his course on earth.

We find many practical instructions for living the Christian life in 2 Timothy, exhortations we really need to apply to our lives today. For example, we are encouraged to boldly testify of the Lord and not be ashamed of our faith; to hold fast to the teaching of the gospel; to be diligent and hardworking; to be strong in the grace that is found in Jesus; to avoid trivial disagreements that lead to strife and to endure hardship "as a good (first class) soldier of Christ Jesus" (2 Timothy 2:3); to know, honor and obey the truth of God's Word and to fulfill God's calling on our lives.

I pray that you apply the instructions and exhortations of 2 Timothy to your life so that when the time draws near for the end of your earthly life, you will be able to say, as Paul did: "I have fought the good (worthy, honorable, and noble) fight, I have finished the race, I have kept (firmly held) the faith" (2 Timothy 4:7).

It appears that Timothy was getting fearful, weary, and unsure of his call. His spirit was sinking, so Paul came in with a strong word to revive him. In 2 Timothy 1:5, Paul reminded him of his faith and how it came to him. He told him in essence, "I remember your grandmother's faith. I remember your mother's faith. I remember when I laid my hands on you and we prayed for you to receive the gifts that are in you." Then he said, "Now stir up the gift within you" (see 2 Timothy 1:6).

Nobody can stir up your gift, that fire within you, the way you can. Other people can stir you up, but as soon as you are alone, you can grow cold again. That is when you have to stir up yourself. Pray, worship, and praise God. Remember what He has spoken to you. Preach to yourself if you have to. Just do whatever it takes for you to stay stirred up in God!

Second Timothy 1:7 tells us that timidity, which is the same as fear, is not from God and that God gives us power, love, a calm and well-balanced mind, discipline, and self-control.

I am going to tell you a little secret: fear will never stop coming against us. We must learn to do what God tells us to do whether we feel fear or not. We must "do it afraid" if necessary, but that is what courage does; it feels the fear and does what it should anyway!

I always thought that as long as I felt fear, I was a coward, but I have learned differently. When God told Joshua repeatedly to fear not (see Joshua 1:9; 10:8), He let him know that fear was going to attack him, but that he must walk in obedience to what God spoke.

We are not cowards because we feel fear. We are cowards only if we let fear rule our decisions.

Fear is a spirit that produces physical and emotional symptoms. When fear attacks us, we may feel shaky and weak or find ourselves sweating. It may take everything we can muster just to speak or move. None of that means we are cowards. The Word of God does not say "sweat not, shake not, tremble not." The Word says, many times, "fear not." The way to conquer fear is to press on through it and get to the other side of it—the side of freedom, which is the side of power.

(Amplified Bible; The Everyday Life Bible; 2005; Joyce Meyers Ministry; Scripture, notes, commentaries; 2005; page 2006)

Psa 119:105
Thy word [is] a lamp unto
my feet, and a light unto my path.



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