

THE GOSPEL LIGHT REVEALS (2 TIMOTHY 1 NKJV)

2 Timothy 1:1-10¹ *We've Been Called.*

Father God's purpose designated me, Paul, to be a messenger regarding the life which is in (εν) Christ Jesus. May the gift (χαρις) of mercy (ελεος, pity, compassion, [1656](#)) and peace² from Father God and Jesus the Christ our Sovereign be extended to Timothy my beloved child.

I thank God, to whom I serve with no guilt, as my forefathers did, and I do so without ceasing. I remember you in my prayers, whether during the day or the night. I really am looking forward to seeing you, mindful of your tears, that I may be filled with joy when I remember the genuine trust (πίστεως, pe'-ste-ohs; belief, confidence, fidelity; [4102](#)) in you, which was instilled there by Lois, your grandmother, and Eunice your mother. Ergo, given that the beliefs they instilled are still within you, I remind you to kindle anew the gift (χάρισμα, charisma, [5486](#)) of God which is in (εν) you by the laying on of my hands. Remember, God has not given us a spirit (*pneuma*) of cowardice (δειλία, di-lee'-ah, timidity; [1167](#)), but a charisma of dynamic agape, and self-control (σωφρονισμός, self-discipline, prudence; [4995](#)).

So then, don't be ashamed of the μαρτύριον of the Lord or of me, His prisoner, but remember we suffer together for the gospel according to the power of God who saved us Who has called us with a holy calling. This calling comes not from our works (εργας), but because of His purpose and gift, given to us in Jesus the Christ before time began. Now this gift is revealed by the appearance of the Savior, Jesus the Christ, who has abolished death indeed, and brought to light life through the gospel.

2 TIMOTHY 1:1-10 (NKJV)

Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God, according to the promise of life which is in Christ Jesus,

[Note: Scripture actually reads "Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus..." see https://biblehub.com/interlinear/2_timothy/1.htm]

²To Timothy, a [there is no "a" in the Scripture] beloved son [actually "child;" τέκνον, tek-non, neuter, 5043]: Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

³I thank God, whom I serve with a pure conscience, as my forefathers did, as without ceasing I remember you in my prayers night and day, ⁴greatly desiring to see you, being mindful of your tears, that I may be filled with joy, ⁵when I call to remembrance the [literally "unhypocritical"] genuine faith that is in you, which dwelt first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice, and I am persuaded is in you also. ⁶Therefore I remind you to stir up the gift of God which is in you through the laying on of my hands. ⁷For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.

⁸Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony of our ["our" is not there, του is; i.e., "the"] Lord, nor of me His prisoner, but share with me in the sufferings for the gospel according to the power of God, ⁹who 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, ¹⁰but has now been revealed by the appearing of our Savior Jesus [the] Christ, who has abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel, ...

¹Note the publication of 2 Timothy 1 in the NKJV assumes verse 11 is a continuation of verse 10. KJV makes no such assumption, but ends verse ten with a colon, suggesting verses following are explanations/expansions of verse 10. The NIV, however, assumes verse 10 is the end of a sentence. Remember, the punctuation, enumeration, and printing of Scripture is not inspired, but added by people presumably to improve our understanding.

²Paul uses reconciliation "peace" as opposed to simply no fighting, or submission to sovereignty, or a holistic sense of peace, a la shalom. See examples of all four types of peace found in Scripture: https://dthomasporter.com/BibleStudies/Peace_in_The_Bible.pdf

New King James Questions...

- Q Why was Paul an apostle?
- Q What is this “promise of life?”
- Q Why did the translators say “Jesus Christ” instead of what the Scripture said “Christ Jesus?”
- Q What is the significance of the translators adding “a” in front of “beloved son?” Is Timothy being only one of Paul’s beloved what Paul intended to say?
- Q What do you make of the translators calling Timothy a son when Paul used the word for child instead of son?
- Q What was the guilt that Paul did not have, in comparison to his forefathers?
- Q How did Paul know Timothy’s trust/belief/confidence was “genuine?” What was the source of this confidence? Did Lois and Eunice “disobey” Paul’s declaration that women should not be teaching men?
- Q Why was Timothy to “stir up” (re-ignite in Greek) his charisma? How did “it” get there?
- Q What is the difference, that makes a difference, between saying Timothy was not given a spirit of cowardice/timidity³ (Scripture) versus a spirit of fear (NKJV translation)?
- Q Why are we not to be ashamed of the Lord’s μαρτύριον (note 1st word of verse 8)? Which is stronger, more persuasive words or μαρτύριον? Difference?
- Q What makes our “calling” holy? Grace versus works versus purpose... When was this calling planned?
- Q What is the primary evidence that we have been saved and called? Secondary evidence?
- Q How did the Christ “abolish death” (verse 10), yet bring “life” and “immortality” to light?

New International Version Questions...

- Q Why was Paul an apostle of the Lord our God? According to what warrant?
- Q About what did Paul remember Timothy very fondly? To whom does he give credit for Timothy’s “sincere faith” (free from hypocrisy according to the Greek)?
- Q What can cause a faith to become hypocritical?
- Q About what is there to be ashamed about being a publically open witness about the Lord?
- Q What has the gospel light revealed? How old is this gift?
- Q Why are we called to be set aside, to live a “holy life?” [Purpose and gift, gift and purpose]

³NIV uses “timidity” rather than “fear.” NRSV uses “cowardice.” HCSB uses “fearfulness.”

THE GOSPEL LIGHT REVEALS (2 TIMOTHY NIV)

2 Timothy 1:1-10. *We've Been Called*. I am Paul, an ambassador of Christ Jesus as a function of God's purpose, and act as an apostle according to the promise of life found in Christ Jesus. I am writing to my dear son, Timothy, with the gift of mercy and reconciliation from God the Father and Jesus the Christ, our Lord.

I serve God as did my forefathers with a clear conscience; I thank God 24-7 and remember you in my prayers. I recall your tears of our goodbyes; I long to see you so I can be filled with joy. I think of your faith, so sincere, a faith first shown in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice. I am persuaded that that sincerity of trust still lives in you. It is for this reason I remind you to fan the flames from the gift of God given to you through the laying on my hands. Remember—God did not give us a spirit of timidity, but a spirit of audacious power, deep love, and consistent self-discipline.

So? Don't be ashamed to speak openly, publicly about our Lord, or my prisoner status. Join me in suffering for the gospel according to the power of God. It is God who has saved us, called us to a holy [ἁγία;

set aside by and for God's purpose; i.e., at its core "different"], not because of what we've done, but because of His purpose and gift. This gift was extended to us ἐν Christ Jesus before time began. Now, this gift has been revealed through the appearance of Christ as Jesus of Nazareth. The very One who destroyed death, and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.

- Q Why was Paul an apostle of the Lord our God? According to what warrant?
- Q About what did Paul remember Timothy very fondly? To whom does he give credit for Timothy's "sincere faith" (free from hypocrisy according to the Greek)?
- Q What can cause a faith to become hypocritical?
- Q About what is there to be ashamed about being a publically open witness about the Lord?
- Q What has the gospel light revealed? How old is this gift?
- Q Why are we called to be set aside, to live a "holy life?" [Purpose and gift, gift and purpose]

2 TIMOTHY 1:1-10

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, according to the promise of life that is in Christ Jesus,

²To Timothy, my dear son: Grace, mercy and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

³I thank God, whom I serve, as my forefathers did, with a clear conscience, as night and day I constantly remember you in my prayers. ⁴Recalling your tears, I long to see you, so that I may be filled with joy. ⁵I have been reminded of your sincere faith, which first lived in your grandmother Lois and in your mother Eunice and, I am persuaded, now lives in you also. ⁶For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands. ⁷For God did not give us a spirit of timidity, but a spirit of power, of love and of self-discipline.

⁸So do not be ashamed to testify about our Lord, or ashamed of me his prisoner. But join with me in suffering for the gospel, by the power of God, ⁹who has saved us and called us to a holy life—not because of anything we have done but because of his own purpose and grace. This grace was given us in Christ Jesus before the beginning of time, ¹⁰but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Savior, Christ Jesus, who has destroyed death and has brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.