

Series Title:

“Passing the Torch of Truth”
(An Exposition of the Book of II Timothy)

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12.6.09

Sermon Title:

“Enduring Hardship For Future Rewards”
(Part 1)

Sermon Text:

II Timothy 2:3-7

Introduction:

In these verses, Paul gives three analogies, each of which serves to underscore the difficulty of the aforementioned task: 1) the example of a _____ (vv. 3-4); 2) the example of an _____ (v. 5); 3) the example of a _____ (vv. 6-7).

- *If we are going to be successful in carrying out the assignment that God has given to us, that of multiplying ourselves in others, then it will require at least three things:*

I. The _____ Of A _____ (2:3-4)

- Using the imagery of a soldier, we find that there are three characteristics of a dedicated soldier of Jesus Christ:

A. They must possess _____ (2:3)

- The phrase “*suffer hardship with me*” – comes from a compound Greek verb that means “to suffer _____, to endure _____, to suffer _____.”
- *II Timothy 1:8*
- When Paul said, “*suffer hardship with me,*” he wasn’t making a _____; he was giving a _____!
- We must realize that the Christian life is not a _____ but a _____! Christ hasn’t invited us to a _____ but to a _____!
- The Greek word translated “*good*” refers to that which is _____, _____, or _____.

B. They must possess _____ (2:4a)

- What does the word translated “*no*” mean?
- The Greek word for “*active service*” is in the present tense, indicating that this service is to be a _____, not an _____!
- *Ecclesiastes 8:8*
- Generally speaking, the word for “*entangles*” means “to _____, _____, or _____ so as to be _____ in.” Figuratively, the word means “to _____”

become involved in an activity to the point of _____ with other activities or objectives.”

- **There is a difference between _____ and _____ - someone is entangled when they are _____ to _____!**

The world's pleasures can easily entwine us, especially in our hedonistic America!

- There is nothing intrinsically wrong with “civilian affairs” unless they _____. Then they must be decisively cast aside!
- ***I John 2:17; Acts 20:24***

C. They must possess _____ (2:4b)

- What is the meaning of the word translated “*please*”?
- In short, to please the Lord is to _____ the Lord!

“Our goal as soldiers of Jesus Christ is to satisfy and please the One who enlisted us!”

- ***II Corinthians 5:9***
- What is meant by the phrase “*the one who enlisted him as a soldier*”?

This is Jesus' appeal to any who will follow Him: “Let him who loves his God with his Heart and not with his Lips Only, follow me!”

Conclusion:

Will we hear Him say, “***Well done, thou good and faithful SOLDIER!***”

Remember, it is your responsibility to make the divine principles and truths contained in this message real by consistent application of them in your own life.