

### CHAPTER 1

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

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

3 I thank God, whom I serve from *my* forefathers with pure conscience, that without ceasing I have remembrance of thee in my prayers night and day;

4 Greatly desiring to see thee, being mindful of thy tears, that I may be filled with joy;

5 When I call to remembrance the unfeigned faith that is in thee, which dwelt first in thy grandmother Lois, and thy mother Eunice; and I am persuaded that in thee also.

6. Wherefore I put thee in remembrance that thou stir up the gift of God, which is in thee by the putting on of my hands.

7 For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of

love, and of a sound mind.

8 Be not thou therefore ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, nor of me his prisoner: but be thou partaker of the afflictions of the gospel according to the power of God;

9 Who hath saved us, and called *us* with an holy calling, not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began,

10 But is now made manifest by the appearing of our Saviour Jesus Christ, who hath abolished death, and hath brought life and immortality to light through the gospel:

11 Whereunto I am appointed a preacher, and an apostle, and a teacher of the Gentiles.

12 For the which cause I also suffer these things: nevertheless I am not ashamed: for I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day.

13 Hold fast the form of sound words, which thou hast heard of

me, in faith and love which is in Christ Jesus.

14 That good thing which was committed unto thee keep by the Holy Ghost which dwelleth in us.

15. This thou knowest, that all they which are in Asia be turned away from me; of whom are Phygelus and Hermogenes.

16 The Lord give mercy unto the house of Onesiphorus; for he oft refreshed me, and was not ashamed of my chain:

17 But, when he was in Rome, he sought me out very diligently, and found *me*.

18 The Lord grant unto him that he may find mercy of the Lord in that day: and in how many things he ministered unto me at Ephesus, thou knowest very well.

## CHAPTER 2

**T**HOU therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus.

2 And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also.

3 Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ.

4 No man that warreth entan-

gleth himself with the affairs of *this* life; that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier.

5 And if a man also strive for masteries, *yet* is he not crowned, except he strive lawfully.

6 The husbandman that laboureth must be first partaker of the fruits.

7 Consider what I say; and the Lord give thee understanding in all things.

8. Remember that Jesus Christ of the seed of David was raised from the dead according to my gospel:

9 Wherein I suffer trouble, as an evil doer, *even* unto bonds; but the word of God is not bound.

10 Therefore I endure all things for the elect's sakes, that they may also obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory.

11 *It is* a faithful saying: For if we be dead with *him*, we shall also live with *him*:

12 If we suffer, we shall also reign with *him*: if we deny *him*, he also will deny us:

13 If we believe not, *yet* he abideth faithful: he cannot deny himself.

14. Of these things put *them* in

remembrance, charging *them* before the Lord that they strive not about words to no profit, *but* to the subverting of the hearers.

15 Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

16 But shun profane *and* vain babblings: for they will increase unto more ungodliness.

17 And their word will eat as doth a canker: of whom is Hymenaeus and Philetus;

18 Who concerning the truth have erred, saying that the resurrection is past already; and overthrow the faith of some.

19. Nevertheless the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, The Lord knoweth them that are his. And, Let every one that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity.

20 But in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and of silver, but also of wood and of earth; and some to honour, and some to dishonour.

21 If a man therefore purge himself from these, he shall be a vessel unto honour, sanctified, and meet for the master's use, *and* prepared unto every good work.

22. Flee also youthful lusts: but follow righteousness, faith, charity, peace, with them that call on the Lord out of a pure heart.

23 But foolish and unlearned questions avoid, knowing that they do gender strifes.

24 And the servant of the Lord must not strive; but be gentle unto all *men*, apt to teach, patient,

25 In meekness instructing those that oppose themselves; if God peradventure will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth;

26 And *that* they may recover themselves out of the snare of the devil, who are taken captive by him at his will.

### CHAPTER 3

**T**HIS know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come.

2 For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy,

3 Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good,

4 Traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God;

5 Having a form of godliness,

but denying the power thereof: from such turn away.

6 For of this sort are they which creep into houses, and lead captive silly women laden with sins, led away with divers lusts,

7 Ever learning, and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth.

8 Now as Jannes and Jambres withstood Moses, so do these also resist the truth: men of corrupt minds, reprobate concerning the faith.

9 But they shall proceed no further: for their folly shall be manifest unto all *men*, as theirs also was.

10. But thou hast fully known my doctrine, manner of life, purpose, faith, longsuffering, charity, patience,

11 Persecutions, afflictions, which came unto me at Antioch, at Iconium, at Lystra; what persecutions I endured: but out of *them* all the Lord delivered me.

12 Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution.

13 But evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving, and being deceived.

14 But continue thou in the things which thou hast learned and

hast been assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned *them*;

15 And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.

16 All scripture *is* given by inspiration of God, and *is* profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:

17 That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.

#### CHAPTER 4

**I**CHARGE *thee* therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom;

2 Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine.

3 For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears;

4 And they shall turn away *their* ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables.

5 But watch thou in all things,

endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, make full proof of thy ministry.

6 For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand.

7 I have fought a good fight, I have finished *my* course, I have kept the faith:

8 Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing.

9. Do thy diligence to come shortly unto me:

10 For Demas hath forsaken me, having loved this present world, and is departed unto Thessalonica; Crescens to Galatia, Titus unto Dalmatia.

11 Only Luke is with me. Take Mark, and bring him with thee: for he is profitable to me for the ministry.

12 And Tychicus have I sent to Ephesus.

13 The cloke that I left at Troas with Carpus, when thou comest, bring *with thee*, and the books, *but* especially the parchments.

14 Alexander the coppersmith did me much evil: the Lord reward him according to his works:

15 Of whom be thou ware also; for he hath greatly withstood our words.

16. At my first answer no man stood with me, but all *men* forsook me: *I pray God* that it may not be laid to their charge.

17 Notwithstanding the Lord stood with me, and strengthened me; that by me the preaching might be fully known, and *that* all the Gentiles might hear: and I was delivered out of the mouth of the lion.

18 And the Lord shall deliver me from every evil work, and will preserve *me* unto his heavenly kingdom: to whom *be* glory for ever and ever. Amen.

19 Salute Prisca and Aquila, and the household of Onesiphorus.

20 Erastus abode at Corinth: but Trophimus have I left at Miletum sick.

21 Do thy diligence to come before winter. Eubulus greeteth thee, and Pudens, and Linus, and Claudia, and all the brethren.

22 The Lord Jesus Christ *be* with thy spirit. Grace *be* with you. Amen.

¶ The second *epistle* unto Timotheus, ordained the first bishop of the church of the Ephesians, was written from Rome, when Paul was brought before Nero the second time.

## DEVOTIONAL COMMENTS

As we read Paul's two letters to Timothy we begin to understand the problems of this young pastor. For one thing, he hesitated to face matters squarely and settle them according to God's Word. There was "fear" in his life; perhaps the fear of man that "bringeth a snare" (Proverbs 29:25). He faced the usual temptations of a young man, and he certainly did not feel adequate to the task that was before him. Paul wrote to encourage him in this first chapter that he might continue to be faithful in his service. This letter is very personal. Paul was alone at Rome, awaiting trial and certain death. He longed to see Timothy and to encourage him to take his rightful place in the ministry of the Gospel. He could see the apostasy and defeat all around him and urged Timothy to be true to his calling and fulfill his ministry.

In chapter 1 Paul encourages the young pastor. In chapter 2 he reminds Timothy of his pastoral calling and deals in a very practical way with the local church and the pastor's special responsibilities. In chapter 3 he looks down through the years with the eyes of a prophet and tells us what to expect. Finally, in chapter 4, he appeals to Timothy to be careful and busy in the Master's work, because satanic seducers continue to do their work. The Christian's only weapon against them is to continue in the Word of God. The only answer to Satan's lies is God's truths! If every local church would get back to the Word of God, and if every preacher and Monday school teacher would get back to teaching in simplicity and truth, our churches would grow, and Satan's disciples would be defeated.

This chapter is the final message from the inspired pen of Paul. Shortly after penning these words he was martyred for the cause of Christ. It is no surprise that we find in it an intense personal appeal for Timothy's faithfulness to the Lord and to his beloved Paul. Paul's admonitions in this chapter apply to pastors and Christian workers today: (1) We should preach the Word and rightly divide it—make it understandable and applicable to the lives of people today. (2) We should fulfill the ministry God has given us to do. Too many quit because of discouragement brought on by the devil. Paul's instruction in I Corinthians 16:13,14 says, "Watch ye, stand fast in the faith, quit you like men, be strong. Let all things be done with charity." That is my prayer for each one reading these comments today.

## PROVERB FOR TODAY

"Poverty and shame shall be to him that refuseth

instruction: but he that regardeth reproof shall be honoured" (Proverbs 13:18).

## HYMN FOR THE DAY

### THE FIRST NOEL

*English carol, before 1823*

Although no Christmas season would be complete without the melodious singing of this tuneful carol, very little is known about its origin. It is believed to have had its rise in France during the 15th century. Noel is a French word originating from Latin meaning "birthday." The song is thought to have been

brought across the channel to England by the wandering troubadours. The carol under the English form, "Nowell," became a great favorite for Christmas Eve, especially in the west of England. This was when the entire village gathered for singing and celebrating the bringing in of the Yule log. At this time carols were thought of as popular religious songs meant to be sung outside the church rather than within.

"The First Noel" portrays in vivid narrative style the story of the birth of

Christ. All six verses are needed to complete the entire event when the hymn is sung. The sixth stanza urges us to join together to sing praises to God for the marvels of His creation and for the salvation provided through Christ's shed blood. The repetition of the joyous "noel" in the refrain is equivalent to our

singing out "happy birthday" to someone.

It is interesting to observe that the "King of Israel" was first announced to "certain poor shepherds" only, but in the final stanza the phrases "let us all" and "mankind hath brought" remind us that Christ came to redeem the whole world.

*The first noel the angel did say  
was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay—  
in fields where they lay keeping their sheep  
on a cold winter's night that was so deep.*

*They looked up and saw a star  
shining in the east, beyond them far;  
and to the earth it gave great light,  
and so it continued both day and night.*

*And by the light of that same star,  
three wise men came from country far;  
to seek for a king was their intent,  
and to follow the star wherever it went.*

*This star drew nigh to the northwest;  
o'er Bethlehem it took its rest;*

*and there it did both stop and stay,  
right over the place where Jesus lay.*

*Then entered in those wise men three,  
full rev'rently upon their knee,  
and offered there, in His presence,  
their gold and myrrh and frankincense.*

*Then let us all with one accord  
sing praises to our heav'nly Lord,  
that hath made heav'n and earth of naught,  
and with His blood mankind hath bought.*

*Refrain:  
Noel, noel! Noel, noel!  
Born is the King of Israel!*

### **TREASURE PATH TO SOUL WINNING**

Spend this month reviewing the previous 13 lessons. For today, review Memory Verse Assignment 30 (found on page 8).

### **BIRTHDAY TODAY**

**COLUMBUS MACKEY  
CANDACE KEY**

### **ON THIS DATE IN HISTORY**

**1770**

**THE BIRTHDAY OF LUDWIG VON  
BEETHOVEN.**

Of course, this is one of the masters in the music field. Let us thank God today for good music and for those who have given us this treasure. Why not play some of the classics today; also, play some good spiritual songs and spend a while in private meditation thanking God for good music.

**1773**

**THE BOSTON TEA PARTY.**

**1836**

**THE NEW YORK CITY FIRE DESTROYED 674  
BUILDINGS.**

How long has it been since you thanked God for the Fire Department? We take so much for granted, don't we? Let us pause today to thank God for this security we have.

### **CHRISTMAS IS APPROACHING.**

Christmas is approaching. There are gifts to buy. There are loved ones to think about. It would be wise, I think, to ask God to help us to have His leadership in our selection of gifts. Let us pray that we will not be extravagant but wise and loving in our gifts for each other.

### **ON THIS DATE IN AFRICAN-AMERICAN HISTORY**

**1859**

John Copeland and Shields Green, two black members of John Brown's band, hanged at Charleston.

The last slave ship, the *Clothilde*, landed shipment of slaves at Mobile Bay, Alabama.

**1870**

Colored Methodist Episcopal Church organized in Jackson, Tennessee.

**1875**

William J. Whippers elected judge of the circuit court of Charleston by South Carolina General Assembly. Governor Daniel H. Chamberlain, acting in concert with white Democrats and conservatives, refused to sign his commission.

**1890**

Negro Methodist Episcopal Church founded in Jackson, Tennessee.

**1976**

Rep. Andrew Young of Georgia named ambassador and chief delegate to the United Nations.

## **MEMORY VERSE ASSIGNMENT 30 (for review):**

Please spend time reviewing these memory verses. If you have been completing the assignments in the TREASURE PATH TO SOUL WINNING, then you already have spent a week memorizing the Scriptures below. Now it's time to review!

### **EVIDENCE OF DIVINE INSPIRATION: SCIENTIFIC ACCURACY OF SCRIPTURES**

#### **The earth a round ball. (740 B.C.)**

(       ) Isaiah 40:22

It is he that sitteth upon the circle of the earth, and the inhabitants therefore are as grasshoppers; that stretcheth out the heavens as a curtain, and spreadeth them out as a tent to dwell in.

#### **The earth hangs out in space on nothing. (1600 B.C.)**

(       ) Job 26:7

He stretcheth out the north over the empty place, and hangeth the earth upon nothing.

#### **Night time on one part of the globe when Christ returns.**

(       ) Luke 17:34

I tell you, in that night there shall be two men in one bed; the one shall be taken, and the other shall be left.

#### **Day time on the other part of globe when Christ returns.**

(       ) Luke 17:36

Two men shall be in the field; the one shall be taken, and the other left.

#### **Christ holds the earth in its orbit.**

(       ) Colossians 1:17

And he is before all things, and by him all things consist. (hold together)