

Redford Church
April 16, 2023
2 Timothy 2:8-13

II Timothy 2:8-13

[8] Remember Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, of the offspring of David, according to my Good News, [9] in which I suffer hardship to the point of chains as a criminal. But God's word isn't chained. [10] Therefore I endure all things for the chosen ones' sake, that they also may obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory. [11] This saying is trustworthy: "For if we died with him, we will also live with him.

[12] If we endure, we will also reign with him.

If we deny him, he also will deny us.

[13] If we are faithless, he remains faithful; for he can't deny himself."

READ VERSES

PRAYER

THEN OUTLINE

1. Verse 8 - Remember Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, of the offspring of David, according to my Good News,
 - a. Context: Perhaps from verse 3: Suffer hardship with me, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ.
 - b. **Remember Jesus Christ,**
 - i. Hebrews 12:1-3 [1] Therefore let's also, seeing we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, lay aside every weight and the sin which so easily entangles us, and let's run with perseverance the race that is set before us, [2] looking to Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising its shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. [3] For consider him who has endured such contradiction of sinners against himself, that you don't grow weary, fainting in your souls.
 - c. **risen from the dead,**
 - i. If there is no resurrection, then we are of all men most to be pitied (1 Cor 15:19)
 - ii. Jesus suffered under Pontius Pilate. He was crucified, dead and buried. But now he is risen from the dead, never to die again. He is seated at the right hand of God, the Father almighty.
 1. Now Christ is the first fruits, then those who are Christ's at his coming (1 Cor 15:23). Our faithful suffering in Christ has the hope of resurrection to eternal life.
 - d. **of the offspring of David,**
 - i. The king, the anointed one from the line of the great king

1. (Acts 13:22-23) [22] When he had removed him, he raised up David to be their king, to whom he also testified, 'I have found David the son of Jesse, a man after my heart, who will do all my will.' [23] From this man's offspring, God has brought salvation to Israel according to his promise,
 - ii. Also Jesus Christ is a man and able to sympathize with our weaknesses
 1. He suffered and endured as a man
- e. **according to my Good News,**
 - i. But you remain in the things which you have learned and have been assured of, knowing from whom you have learned them. (II Timothy 3:14)
 - ii. (II Timothy 2:2) The things which you have heard from me among many witnesses, commit the same things to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.
 - iii. At that time the scriptures were not so readily available and faithful men to pass on the word of God was important. It is still important today that there are faithful men to pass on the Good News and the life in Christ.
2. Verse 9 - in which I suffer hardship to the point of chains as a criminal. But God's word isn't chained.
 - a. **in which I suffer hardship to the point of chains**
 - i. (Acts 9:16) For I will show him how many things he must suffer for my name's sake."
 - ii. Paul expected to suffer
 - iii. Paul suffered for the sake of righteousness, for the name of Jesus Christ
 - b. **as a criminal.**
 - i. He was suffering hardship as a criminal.
 - ii. His reputation
 - iii. Not viewed with respect by others in his suffering, but viewed as a criminal
 - iv. Even some fellow Christians misunderstood Paul in his suffering and forsook him.
 - v. Great is your reward in heaven, not on earth. (Matthew 5:10-12)
 - c. **But God's word isn't chained.**
 - i. Even if Paul is in chains and not free to come and go, God's word is still living and active (Heb 4:12)
 - ii. (Isaiah 55:11) so is my word that goes out of my mouth: it will not return to me void, but it will accomplish that which I please, and it will prosper in the thing I sent it to do.
3. Verse 10 - Therefore I endure all things for the chosen ones' sake, that they also may obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory.
 - a. **Therefore**
 - i. What is the Therefore there for?
 - ii. Therefore, because Jesus Christ suffered, died, and then rose again...

- iii. Therefore, because the Word of God is not chained, because hardship and chains cannot stop the saving work of God, I will not cease laboring, but will endure and labor...
 - b. **I endure all things for the chosen ones' sake,**
 - i. Paul does not give up or forsake the Lord and his way.
 - ii. He does not forsake the calling to which he has been called by God
 - iii. He endures suffering and hardship for the sake of the elect (the chosen ones)
 - c. **that they also may obtain the salvation**
 - i. QUESTION
 - 1. Are these elect or chosen ones currently believers or yet to become believers?
 - 2. This could lead to discussion and debate, but we'll pass on from this.
 - ii. Many of us have met folks who are no longer walking or never began to walk in the way of the Lord and offer as their reason the hypocrisy or falling away or sinfulness of other believers. Whether or not it is a reasonable excuse that will be accepted on the judgment day, I think we can all agree that such examples of Christians are not helpful (to put it mildly)
 - iii. On the other hand, I think we can all recognize that those who remain faithful and true to the Savior and God are an encouragement and help to others by their life and example.
 - d. **which is in Christ Jesus**
 - i. The salvation the Apostle Paul is preaching is the salvation which is in Christ Jesus.
 - ii. People look for salvation in many places and in many people and things. And while some of these other salvations may include some version of Jesus, they are all false, and they will end with this life.
 - e. **with eternal glory.**
 - i. The salvation which is in Christ Jesus is eternal and with eternal glory.
 - ii. There is no shame or guilt included with this way of salvation.
 - iii. The eternal glory of this salvation is real and true. It is not a passing glory, but an everlasting glory in heaven with God and Jesus Christ.
 - iv. QUESTION: Is it right to seek glory?
 - 1. Yes. Seeking for glory is not wrong in and of itself.
 - 2. The error comes in seeking the wrong type of glory, seeking glory from the wrong source (from men instead of God), seeking glory the wrong way.
 - 3. (Romans 2:6-7) [6] who "will pay back to everyone according to their works:" [7] to those who by perseverance in well-doing seek for glory, honor, and incorruptibility, eternal life;
- 4. Verse 11 - This saying is trustworthy: "For if we died with him, we will also live with him.
 - a. **This saying is trustworthy:**

- i. Paul intends to inspire with this trustworthy saying both a well-founded enduring hope in God, and a well-founded fear of the Lord.
 - b. **“For if we died with him, we will also live with him.**
 - i. If we die with him, that is if we suffer for righteousness’ sake, for his name’s sake, if we die to ourselves so that we may live for Him,
 - ii. Then we can be confident that God will raise us up to live with him.
5. Verse 12 - If we endure, we will also reign with him. If we deny him, he also will deny us.
- a. **If we endure, we will also reign with him.**
 - i. If we are faithful in trials, if we remain true to our Savior and Lord
 - ii. Then we can be confident that God will raise us up to reign with Him in eternity.
 - b. **If we deny him, he also will deny us.**
 - i. If we do not remain faithful in trials and suffering, but if we forsake the Lord, if we deny him before men,
 - ii. Then we can be confident that He will also deny us before men on the great and terrible judgment day.
 - iii. (Matthew 10:32-33) [32] Everyone therefore who confesses me before men, I will also confess him before my Father who is in heaven. [33] But whoever denies me before men, I will also deny him before my Father who is in heaven.
 - iv. The Apostle Paul would, along with the Apostle Peter, have us walk in the fear of the Lord all our days on this earth (1 Peter 1:17)
6. Verse 13 - If we are faithless, he remains faithful; for he can’t deny himself.”
- a. **If we are faithless, he remains faithful;**
 - i. It is possible for us to be faithless to our promises, intentions, commitments, etc.
 - ii. It is not possible for God to be faithless. He will remain faithful.
 - 1. Has God promised that if we die with him we will also live with him? He will remain faithful to his promise.
 - 2. Has God promised that if we endure we will also reign with him? He will remain faithful to his promise.
 - 3. Has God promised that if we deny him he will also deny us? He will remain faithful to his promise.
 - 4. This should give us both hope and fear in the Lord.
 - b. **for he can’t deny himself.”**
 - i. God is faithful. This is who God is.
 - ii. He keeps his word. He keeps his promises.
 - iii. It is this reason that we can say that Jesus’ resurrection has anything to do with you and me. If God wasn’t faithful, it wouldn’t matter. We would have no real rational hope for eternity.
 - iv. God cannot deny himself. Praise God that he is faithful. May we walk in the hope and fear of the Lord, faithful to him in the little and big trials in this life.

PRAYER TO CLOSE