

“ARE YOU A GOOD SOLDIER FOR CHRIST?”

(2 Timothy 2:1-7)

I. THE INTRODUCTION (1:1-5)

II. PAUL’S APPEAL FOR A BOLDNESS THAT WILL ENDURE SUFFERING (1:6-14)

III. FURTHER CHARGES TO ENDURE HARDSHIP (2:1-10)

A. The DUTIES of those who are to be faithful in spiritual leadership (2:1-3)

1. While Timothy was exhorted to “*be strong*” it was not an appeal for him to summon up the strength by his own will power; the verb is in the _____ voice, he was to _____ himself to be strengthened by the Lord. (2:1)

2. The truth that Timothy heard _____ only in private, but also in front of “*many witnesses*” was to be first _____ and assimilated in his own life. (2:2a)

3. He was to then pass along or _____ this apostolic truth not only with believers, but believers who were “_____” who had the ability to then teach everyone else. (2:2b)

4. In order to be a “*good soldier of Jesus Christ*” it is not optional, one _____ be able to stomach _____. (2:3)

B. Three illustrations of a FAITHFUL SERVANT in the Christian life (2:4-7)

1. The picture of the soldier (2:4)
 - a. The soldier on active duty, engaged in war cannot be _____ with secular details that could potentially _____ him from his obligation.

b. Likewise the pastor-teacher who has been enlisted by the Lord, and who does _____ need a side occupation is freed to _____ all of his time and labor to his ministry.

2. The picture of the athlete (2:5)

a. Those athletes who competed in the popular Grecian games knew all too well that they would not receive a _____ unless they abided by the _____.

b. Likewise for every believer who wants to receive a reward one day, he/she must not rely on the _____ of one's own heart, but the revealed _____ of God found in the Bible.

3. The picture of the farmer (2:6)

a. The hard working farmer must first make a _____ for his family or his farming and crops will soon come to an _____.

b. Likewise the pastor must be the first to _____ of the crop he is harvesting, so that he can then _____ it with his family and the congregation.

4. Like Timothy, all of us are commanded to _____, to _____ what the apostle said here, and if we do the Lord will give us understanding. (2:7)

* How can you personally apply this truth?