

“BUT THE LORD STOOD WITH ME AND STRENGTHENED ME”

(2 Timothy 4:14-17)

I. MARKS OF THE FAITHFUL PREACHER (4:1-5)

II. THE APOSTLE’S PERSONAL EPITAPH (4:6-8)

III. PAUL’S FRIENDS AND FOES (4:9-15)

A. Those Paul DISPATCHED and the one who DESERTED him (4:9-13)

B. The WARNING against Alexander the coppersmith (4:14-15)

1. Alexander could have caused Paul “*harm*” in hindering the spreading of the gospel, but more than likely it was at his _____ that this damage was inflicted. (4:14a)
 - a. Perhaps Alexander became one of Paul’s _____ before the imperial court.

 - b. It very well could have been Alexander’s _____ that seriously mired the apostle’s defense, and any hope for release.

* Did Paul seek personal revenge in the matter?

2. The apostle of grace chose to leave the entire situation in the _____ hands, “*May the Lord _____ him according to his works.*” (4:14b)

3. Timothy received a stern warning to stay _____ of Alexander, because he could not be _____. (4:15)

C. Paul's first DEFENSE and the Lord's comforting PRESENCE (4:16-17)

1. It is best to understand the apostle's final predicament as _____ trial with _____ separate hearings. (4:16a)
 - a. His "*first defense*" would have been the *prima actio* to secure the _____ against him, while the second hearing yet to come would be the *secunda actio*, which would determine his _____ or _____.
 - b. It is clear that Paul's intended witnesses had decided it was much too _____ to appear before the imperial court on his _____. (4:16b)
 - c. Despite their desertion in a desperate hour, he immediately _____ them; "*May it _____ be charged against them.*" (4:16c)
2. Paul was _____ forsaken by the Lord; God not only stood by his side, but He _____ him to be a bold witness so that he might fulfill his commission. (2 Tim. 4:17a; Acts 9:15; 23:11; 27:22-25)
3. The Lord strengthened the apostle so that he would proclaim the gospel without compromise to the _____ tribunal _____ in the world, and to all those Gentiles who were present.
4. It is best to understand his last sentence in v. 17 in the metaphorical sense, "*And I was delivered out of the _____ of the _____.*" (4:17b)

* What can you personally apply from this passage?