

## New Testament Letters Biblical Commands

### Commands from 2 Timothy

1. **2 Timothy 1:8 commands Timothy and all believers to not be ashamed of the gospel, but to join in the hardships and afflictions of representing the gospel.**

*2 Timothy 1:8 Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, nor of me His prisoner, but share with me in the sufferings for the gospel according to the power of God, (NKJ)*

Timothy was being encouraged to rekindle the pastor-teacher gift given to him by the Holy Spirit. This was a time of major persecution and Timothy was on the verge of some wavering in his ministry.

2. **2 Timothy 1:13 Commands Timothy and all believers to hold to the sound doctrines and applications learned from God's Word and sound teachers.**

*2 Timothy 1:13 Hold fast the pattern of sound words which you have heard from me, in faith and love which are in Christ Jesus. (NKJ)*

Timothy is being encouraged not to back down nor change his message in light of the persecution, but to hold fast to what he had been taught at home as well as by the Apostle Paul.

3. **2 Timothy 1:14 commands Timothy and all believers to keep or guard the understandings of God's Word as they live and walk in the Spirit.**

*2 Timothy 1:14 That good thing which was committed to you, keep by the Holy Spirit who dwells in us. (NKJ)*

Timothy was also encouraged to guard the sound doctrine and wise applications he has come to learn. The power of the Holy Spirit would help.

4. **2 Timothy 2:1 commands Timothy and all believers to be strong in grace example that has been modeled by the Lord Jesus Christ Himself.**

*2 Timothy 2:1 You therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. (NKJ)*

Timothy had learn of God's grace through the Apostle Paul. The supreme example of Grace or unmerited favor is what the Lord Jesus Christ did in securing salvation.

5. **2 Timothy 2:2 commands Timothy as a pastor-teacher to teach and entrust God's Word to other faithful men who can multiply the faith in teaching others.**

*2 Timothy 2:2 And the things that you have heard from me among many witnesses, commit these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also. (NKJ)*

Timothy was also encouraged to pass on God's Word to other faithful men as the Apostle Paul had done with Him

6. **2 Timothy 2:3 presents Timothy and all believers as soldiers of Christ and commands us to endure the hardships as a representatives of the Lord.**

*2 Timothy 2:3 You therefore must endure hardship as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. (NKJ)*

The believer is viewed as a soldier on the battlefield against Satan, his demons, and world system. Part of ministry is to endure the hardships of the ministry. The rewards to be received will make it worth it all.

**7. 2 Timothy 2:7 commands Timothy and all believers to carefully consider - seek to understand - Biblical teaching by dependence on the Lord.**

*2 Timothy 2:7 Consider what I say, and may the Lord give you understanding in all things. (NKJ)*

The Apostle had given Timothy three illustrations to consider in walking the Christian Life. As a soldier endure hardship. As an athlete run the race according to the rules. As a farmer partake of the fruits.

**8. 2 Timothy 2:8 commands Timothy and all believers to remember the power of the resurrection of Christ as a part of the gospel.**

*2 Timothy 2:8 Remember that Jesus Christ, of the seed of David, was raised from the dead according to my gospel, (NKJ)*

The power given to the believer comes from the Lord. It is the power of the resurrection. Keep it in mind in the gospel.

**9. 2 Timothy 2:14 commands Timothy and all pastors to remind believers that our salvation means (1) we have died with him and we shall live with Him; (2) If we serve Him we will reign with Him; (3) If we do not serve He will deny us reigning; (4) Even if we are faithless, He will remain faithful to us.**

*2 Timothy 2:14 Remind them of these things, charging them before the Lord not to strive about words to no profit, to the ruin of the hearers. (NKJ)*

Believers always need to keep in mind that salvation is a gift once received it cannot be lost. Rewards are based in good decisions after salvation. Good choices brings good rewards. Bad choices brings denial of rewards.

**10. 2 Timothy 2:15 commands Timothy and all believers to study diligently God's Word to understand it to be accurate interpreters not being ashamed.**

*2 Timothy 2:15 Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. (NKJ)*

For a pastor diligence is study and teach. For the believer diligence is come regularly under the teaching of God's Word, believe and obey it.

**11. 2 Timothy 2:16 commands Timothy and all believers to steer clear of false interpretations and silly theological surmisings that are not sound and have little or no Biblical foundation.**

*2 Timothy 2:16 But shun profane and idle babblings, for they will increase to more ungodliness (NKJ)*

Many times there will be those who speak without knowledge or in opposition to clear Biblical teaching. Do not waste time and effort. Avoid these conversations.

**12. 1 Timothy 4:14 Spiritual gifts like the communication gift of Pastor-Teacher are not to be neglected.**

*1 Tim 4:14 Do not neglect the gift that is in you, which was given to you by prophecy with the laying on of the hands of the eldership. (NKJ)*

Spiritual gifts are part of the graces given us at salvation. They are not to be neglected, but discovered, developed, and put to use in the Plan of God.

**13. 2 Timothy 2:22 commands believers to flee from certain types of temptations known as lustful temptations. These are temptations that harmonize with strengths of the flesh or sin nature.**

*2 Tim 2:22 Flee also youthful lusts; but pursue righteousness, faith, love, peace with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart. (NKJ)*

It is almost impossible to stand by and seek to resist certain types of temptations. The sin nature is strong in area of lust. The solution is to remove self from the temptation or the temptation from oneself.

**14. 2 Timothy 2:22 also commands believers to pursue the positives of righteousness (Bible Truth), love (basic obedience), and peace.**

*2 Tim 2:22 Flee also youthful lusts; but pursue righteousness, faith, love, peace with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart. (NKJ)*

God's plan calls for capture and replacement of areas and categories of sin. The solutions to these sins and sin patterns is recognition as sin and replacement with Biblical Truth.

**15. 2 Timothy 2:23 commands believers to refuse and avoid discussions that are clearly unbiblical as they waste time and lead to divisions.**

*2 Tim 2:23 But avoid foolish and ignorant disputes, knowing that they generate strife. (NKJ)*

Many times the temptations arise to surmise and go far beyond what Scripture teaches into areas that the Lord has not revealed. Opinions develop that are only guesses and tend to obscure truth and cause divisions. These are to be avoided.

**16. 2 Timothy 3:1 commands believers to know and be aware that the trends of this sinful world are downward and will see perilous times in the future.**

*2 Tim 3:1 But know this, that in the last days perilous times will come: (NKJ)*

The world is not evolving, but devolving. This means that sound churches tend to become unsound over time. One generation of strength will see a second and third generation move into apostasy. The battle is constant and only abiding in the Lord and His word can prolong soundness.

**17. 2 Timothy 3:5 command believers finding themselves among those wandering from the faith to turn away and flee from these tendencies.**

*2 Tim 3:5 having a form of godliness but denying its power. And from such people turn away! (NKJ)*

Gradual movement away from the Lord is a peril of a sinful world. The solution given by the Lord is a turning away or fleeing. It is hard when friendships are involved, but the pull of a "form of godliness" is many times too strong to resist when friends and family are involved.

**18. 2 Timothy 3:14 commands believers to continue or remain strong in the Biblical truths learned from sound Godly teachers.**

*2 Tim 3:14 But you must continue in the things which you have learned and been assured of, knowing from whom you have learned them, (NKJ)*

Sound and Godly teachers who major in proclaiming God's Word are to be cherished and their accurate teaching clung to as apostasy and indifference to sound teaching increases. The faith taught in truth is only to be updated for solid Biblical reasons of spiritual growth.

**19. 2 Timothy 4:2 includes 5 important commands that Pastors like Timothy need to obey. First, the Word of God is the subject. It is to be preached or heralded.**

*2 Tim 4:2 Preach the word! Be ready in season and out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching. (NKJ)*

The subject for pastor-teachers and Bible teachers must be centered in the Scriptures and in the expounding of the Scriptures to those seeking to grow spiritually. No other source is relevant.

**20. 2 Timothy 4:2 includes 5 important commands that Pastors like Timothy need to obey. Second, the Pastor-Teacher or Teacher is to be ready by having time to study in detail the Word of God and come to an understanding of what is to be taught.**

*2 Tim 4:2 Preach the word! Be ready in season and out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching. (NKJ)*

Accurate teaching of scripture is based in solid study. A major portion of preparation for teaching is time to study the Word of God. Study is primary to the time division of the pastor. Much like the shepherd searching out the "green pastures and still waters" for the sheep (Ps 23).

**21. 2 Timothy 4:2 includes 5 important commands that Pastors like Timothy need to obey. Third, the heralding of God's Word involves convincing by showing God's Ways in contrast to common thought or ignorance.**

*2 Tim 4:2 Preach the word! Be ready in season and out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching. (NKJ)*

Convincing is not persuasive speech in the original, but a clear laying out of God's Truth so that believers can match it against their own thinking, attitudes, and actions and hopefully make desired corrections.

**22. 2 Timothy 4:2 includes 5 important commands that Pastors like Timothy need to obey. Fourth, the pastor is commanded to teach the whole counsel of God including rebuke when congregational thought, opinions, and actions are contrary.**

*2 Tim 4:2 Preach the word! Be ready in season and out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching. (NKJ)*

Rebuke is not easy, but correcting wrong thinking, opinion, and actions by the Word of God's counsel is an important part of heralding the Word.

- 23. 2 Timothy 4:2 includes 5 important commands that Pastors like Timothy need to obey. Fifth, the Pastor-Teacher or Teacher is commanded to be a cheerleader by exhorting and encouraging right thinking, attitudes and actions.**

*2 Tim 4:2 Preach the word! Be ready in season and out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching. (NKJ)*

Exhortation is a positive force to encourage and motivate believers in the right Biblical directions. It is an important part of heralding the Word of God.

- 24. 2 Timothy 4:5 includes 4 important commands that Pastors like Timothy need to obey in the face of apostasy. First, it is necessary to be watchful of the trends to slide away from Biblical Teaching.**

*2 Tim 4:5 But you be watchful in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry. (NKJ)*

Since Satan is hard at work to tempt and draw believers away from the Lord and His truth, all believers must be diligent to watch for signs of becoming lukewarm or cold in spiritual things.

- 25. 2 Timothy 4:5 includes 4 important commands that Pastors like Timothy need to obey in the face of apostasy. Second, the believer must be aware that standing for truth in times of lukewarm faith and apostasy will bring afflictions that must be endured.**

*2 Tim 4:5 But you be watchful in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry. (NKJ)*

Standing against lukewarm believers and those moving away from sound truth and sound methods will bring predicted afflictions that need to be endured by the power and grace of the Lord.

- 26. 2 Timothy 4:5 includes 4 important commands that Pastors like Timothy need to obey in the face of apostasy. Third, doing the work of evangelism is important for growth as well as replacing wandering believers during times of lukewarmness and apostasy.**

*2 Tim 4:5 But you be watchful in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry. (NKJ)*

Evangelism is ALWAYS important. It is the basis of growth and multiplication as well as the source for replacing wandering sheep in times of apostasy. A shepherd's flock grows as new lambs are born and lost sheep are replaced.

- 27. 2 Timothy 4:5 includes 4 important commands that Pastors like Timothy need to obey in the face of apostasy. Fourth, the pastor is to fulfill the ministry to which the Lord has called him as the Lord leads with His goals for a congregation and when His goals are believed to be fulfilled.**

*2 Tim 4:5 But you be watchful in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry. (NKJ)*

There is a time when a ministry is fulfilled. Apostle Paul (as missionaries) in church planting was led to move on when leadership and stability was found in a new church. Elijah was led to extract himself to the wilderness when apostasy was maximum in Israel. Levites were to retire to a consulting position at a specific age in scripture (Num 8:24-26). The Apostle Paul left new churches to younger leadership like Timothy in Ephesus.

**28. 2 Timothy 4:9 commands Timothy personally to come to visit with the Apostle Paul as quickly as possible.**

*2 Tim 4:9 Be diligent to come to me quickly; (NKJ)*

When a person in a higher position as boss or supervisor commands for quick action, the best course is to obey.

**29. 2 Timothy 4:11 commands Timothy personally to get hold of Mark and bring him with to Rome to help the Apostle Paul.**

*2 Tim 4:11 Only Luke is with me. Get Mark and bring him with you, for he is useful to me for ministry. (NKJ)*

When a person in a higher position like the Apostle Paul as boss or supervisor commands to bring someone, the best course is to obey.

**30. 2 Timothy 4:13 commands Timothy personally to bring some personal items to the Apostle Paul for his immediate needs.**

*2 Tim 4:13 Bring the cloak that I left with Carpus at Troas when you come-- and the books, especially the parchments. (NKJ)*

When a person in a higher position like the Apostle Paul as boss or supervisor commands to bring some things to them, the best course is to obey.

**31. 2 Timothy 4:15 commands Timothy and all believers to beware of wrongful things as well as apostate believers for their protection.**

*2 Tim 4:15 You also must beware of him, for he has greatly resisted our words. (NKJ)*

Sometimes believers must warn other believers of certain persons and teaching that could be harmful and lead astray. Paul's example shows that it is Biblical to warn others to beware.

**32. 2 Timothy 4:19 command's Timothy and all believer to convey requested regards and greetings to others that the one requesting is not currently in direct contact.**

*2 Tim 4:19 Greet Prisca and Aquila, and the household of Onesiphorus. (NKJ)*

It is a privilege to pass on personal notes and greetings to others as a third person functioning as the go-between.

**33. 2 Timothy 4:21 commands Timothy personally to come to visit with the Apostle Paul as quickly as possible before the stormy season sets in.**

*2 Tim 4:21 Do your utmost to come before winter. Eubulus greets you, as well as Pudens, Linus, Claudia, and all the brethren. (NKJ)*

When a person in a higher position as boss or supervisor commands for quick action, the best course is to obey.

### **Summary of Commands in 2 Timothy**

1. Share in the sufferings connected with serving the Lord #1, 6, 25
2. Hold fast to the truths of the Word of God soundly taught #2, 3
3. Be strong in Grace treating others with unmerited favor #4
5. Consider and remember the sound teaching of God's Word #7, 8, 16, 24
6. Review often the principles taught to a congregation #9
7. Be diligent in learning God's Word and preparing to teach it #10, 12, 14, 18, 20
8. Reject useless opinions and teachings # 11, 15, 17, 31
9. Deal with temptations Biblically #13
10. Herald God's Truth with both exhortation and rebuke as needed #19, 21, 22, 23
11. Evangelize with the Good News of Salvation in Christ #26
12. Seek to fulfill all callings and opportunities for ministry #27
13. Heed the advice and the requests of mentors and those in authority #28, 29, 30, 32, 33