



CAPITOL COMMISSION™

“I KNOW WHOM I HAVE BELIEVED!” – 2 TIMOTHY 1:11-12

COLORADO

APRIL 1, 2014

Dan File, P.O. Box 1088, Lake City, CO 82135-1088/303-345-8830 / filefamily@centurytel.net

The Apostle Paul was clear not only about his commission from Jesus Christ but also his relationship to Jesus Christ. He was willing to suffer all for the sake of sharing the good news, the greatest news that could ever be told about salvation found in Christ alone. All believers have been divinely commissioned by God and called to His purpose. As Christians, we must recognize our divine duty and responsibility and we will find there is no greater privilege and joy found in this life than serving Jesus Christ. And remember, every divine resource is yours given by God to carry out His calling of you.

I. “I KNOW WHOM I HAVE BELIEVED!” – 2 TIMOTHY 1:11-12

2 Timothy 1:10-12, “(10) but now has been revealed by the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. (11) for which I was appointed a preacher, and an apostle and a teacher. (12) For this reason I also suffer these things, but I am not ashamed for I know Whom I have believed and I am convinced that He is able to guard what I have entrusted to Him until that day.”

A. “I AM NOT ASHAMED” – 2 TIMOTHY 1:12

Paul was entombed in a dark, cold dungeon below the ground waiting imminent execution for sharing the greatest news that man could ever know. Paul suffered because he faithfully proclaimed the gospel. He suffered because he faithfully proclaimed this divine truth with authority. He suffered because he faithfully taught these truths clearly without compromise. And as we have seen, suffering is the inevitable cost of godly living, but Paul’s suffering caused him no shame. Why? Because he was secure in the One he had place his life, his trust and his confidence in; *Jesus Christ*.

B. “I KNOW WHOM I HAVE BELIEVED” – 2 TIMOTHY 1:12B

We can have no doubt that Paul knew what he believed. Out of the 27 books in the New Testament, Paul wrote at least 13 of those letters which give us the foundation for our belief. But Paul wasn’t stressing “*what*” he believed here but rather “*Whom*” he believed in.

“**know**” Greek **ᾔδα** means to know with certainty, it is a profound confidence and certainty.

As Paul sat in that cold dungeon, he was profoundly confident and trusting, not in himself, but in Jesus Christ, the object of his faith and certainty. Paul’s confidence lay in the fact that he knew God and trusted in Him alone. His confidence was found in God Himself. The certainty of his faith was based in Jesus Christ alone. As Paul faced impending death, the reality of his faith in Christ was not shaken but resolved. Even though Paul suffered greatly, he was not

ashamed, shaken or fearful because he “*knew in Whom he believed.*” Paul’s security rested in a close and unbroken relationship with God in Whom he unreservedly gave his life.

What about you? Do you know in “Whom you have believed”? Do you really know God? Are you convinced beyond a shadow of doubt in what God’s Word says? Do you know Jesus Christ personally? You may know all about God, but do you know Him personally? You see, knowing God isn’t just having a bunch of facts about Him. True knowing in Scripture is that which begins with knowledge, but it leads to an understanding which leads to a changed life. It is a knowing and believing that leads to a changed life in Jesus Christ. You can know Christ as Paul did. You can face the world with profound certainty no matter what comes, just as Paul did, if your faith rests securely in a relationship with Jesus Christ. Paul didn’t stop there but goes on to reveal why he could live life with such confidence and certainty.

C. “AND AM CONVINCED THAT HE IS ABLE” – 2 TIMOTHY 1:12C

Paul had placed his life securely in God Who would not disappoint him. Keep in mind we are looking at the end of Paul’s life, not the beginning of his relationship with the Lord. Paul has not only written over and over about God’s divine promises and continual faithfulness, but he has witnessed them first-hand. The result was that Paul was absolutely persuaded, he lived with certainty, that “*God is able*”.

“**is able**” Greek **δυνατός** means powerful

Paul knew with certainty that God was powerful enough to do what He promised and strong enough to remain constantly faithful through life. Paul’s confidence didn’t rest in a mere creed, but in a relationship with God Himself Who would not disappoint him.

D. “TO GUARD WHAT I HAVE ENTRUSTED” – 2 TIMOTHY 1:12D

Paul was supremely confident and persuaded that God was able, was powerful enough to guard what he had entrusted to Him.

“**guard**” Greek **φυλάσσο** a military term used of a soldier on watch, accountable with his life to protect that which was entrusted to his care.

Paul was profoundly confident that God was powerful enough to guard and protect what he had “*entrusted*” to Him. Now keep in mind young Timothy as a pastor in Ephesus living under the constant

BIBLE STUDIES

LEGISLATORS, GOVERNOR & SPOUSES: TUESDAY AT 7:15AM, CAPITOL BASEMENT, ROOM 0109

STAFF, LOBBYISTS, JOURNALISTS & SERGEANTS: TUESDAYS AT NOON, CAPITOL BASEMENT, ROOM 0109

Colorado

“I KNOW WHOM I HAVE BELIEVED!” – 2 TIMOTHY 1:11-12

threat of persecution and suffering for contending faithfully for the gospel to whom Paul addresses this letter to. Paul reminds Timothy of the certainty of God’s faithfulness in life. He “*is able*” Timothy, God is powerful enough and will do what He says. In fact, God will guard what has been entrusted to His care and He is strong enough to do that. There is nothing to fear. God will watch over with His “life”, your life. Could there be anything more certain than that?

What did Paul entrust to God?

“**entrusted**” Greek means deposit. It referred to a man who was going on a trip and would deposit his most valuable and precious possessions for safekeeping. To return such a deposit unharmed was among the highest and most sacred obligations of the time. It was considered a sacred duty to return what had been entrusted.

You see, it was that sacred duty Paul had placed with God. What had Paul deposited with God for His safekeeping? Paul entrusted his life, his soul in salvation, his work, his mission, his ministry, his safety... his all! Paul had placed everything with God for His guarding. And Paul knew with certainty that nothing would be lost. God would guard his life and work until the end. Jude 24-25 reminds us of God’s faithfulness towards those who believe, “*Now to Him Who is able to keep you from stumbling and to make you stand in the presence of His glory blameless with great joy, to the only God our Savior through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion and authority before all time and now and forever, Amen.*”

E. “UNTIL THAT DAY” – 2 TIMOTHY 1:12E

2 Timothy 1:10-12, “(10) but now has been revealed by the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. (11) for which I was appointed a preacher, and an apostle and a teacher. (12) For this reason I also suffer these things, but I am not ashamed for I know Whom I have believed and I am convinced that He is able to guard what I have entrusted to Him until that day.”

Paul had entrusted all to God Almighty for guarding and safekeeping until when? “*Until that day.*” And what is “*that day*” Paul refers to?

“**that day**” refers to Greek **ἡμέρα** judgment seat of God.

God will guard all of us until the return of Jesus Christ when we will all stand before Him as Romans 14:10-12 says, “*...For we shall all stand before the judgment seat of God. For it is written, “As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to Me, and every tongue shall give praise to God. So then each one of us shall give account of himself to God.”* Paul exhorts Timothy to remain faithful even though life is difficult and uncertain. God is

faithful and powerful enough to protect what you have entrusted to Him until that final day. Remain faithful to Christ and His work fulfilling His purpose in you. Don’t shrink back with fear but remember that God is constantly faithful and rely on His divine promises for you. One day, you will stand before Him and your life’s work will be revealed. 1 Corinthians 3:11-14 reminds us of the kind of work we must be investing our life in, “*For no man can lay a foundation other than the one which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. Now if any man builds upon the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw, each man’s work will become evident; for the day will show it, because it is to be revealed with fire; and the fire itself will test the quality of each man’s work. If any man’s work which he has built upon it remains, he shall receive a reward.*” And 2 Corinthians 5:10 says, “*For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may be recompensed for his deeds in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.*”

Paul was profoundly certain that his life was protected by the power of God; he had complete confidence not in what he knew, but in Whom he knew! In spite of hardships and suffering, Paul entrusted his life, his soul in salvation, his work, his mission, his ministry, his safety... his all, with God for His guarding. And Paul knew with certainty that nothing would be lost. God was able, could, and would guard, keep, and protect his soul and life’s investment until the end. As a believer, all that we are, the ministry we have done, the eternal investments we have made in the lives of others, God will guard until that day for His safekeeping and nothing will be lost. Our life, our work for the Lord that has His eternal purpose and significance will remain until that day when we stand before Him and lay down our life’s work before Him. Until then, we must remain faithful knowing no matter what this life brings. It is these truths that can strengthen and enable us to stand through the fiercest of hardship and suffering. And Paul’s message of exhortation, hope and encouragement to Timothy still reaches out to all true believers. To you Paul would say, stand unashamed for Jesus Christ for His glorious gospel demands nothing less. Be encouraged by these words from Romans 8:35-39,

“Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril or sword? Just as it is written, “For Thy sake we are being put to death all day long; we were considered as sheep to be slaughtered.” But in all these things we overwhelmingly conquer through Him who loved us. For I am convince that neither death, not life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come nor powers, not height, nor depth, nor any other created thing shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

God is able! To Him be the glory!