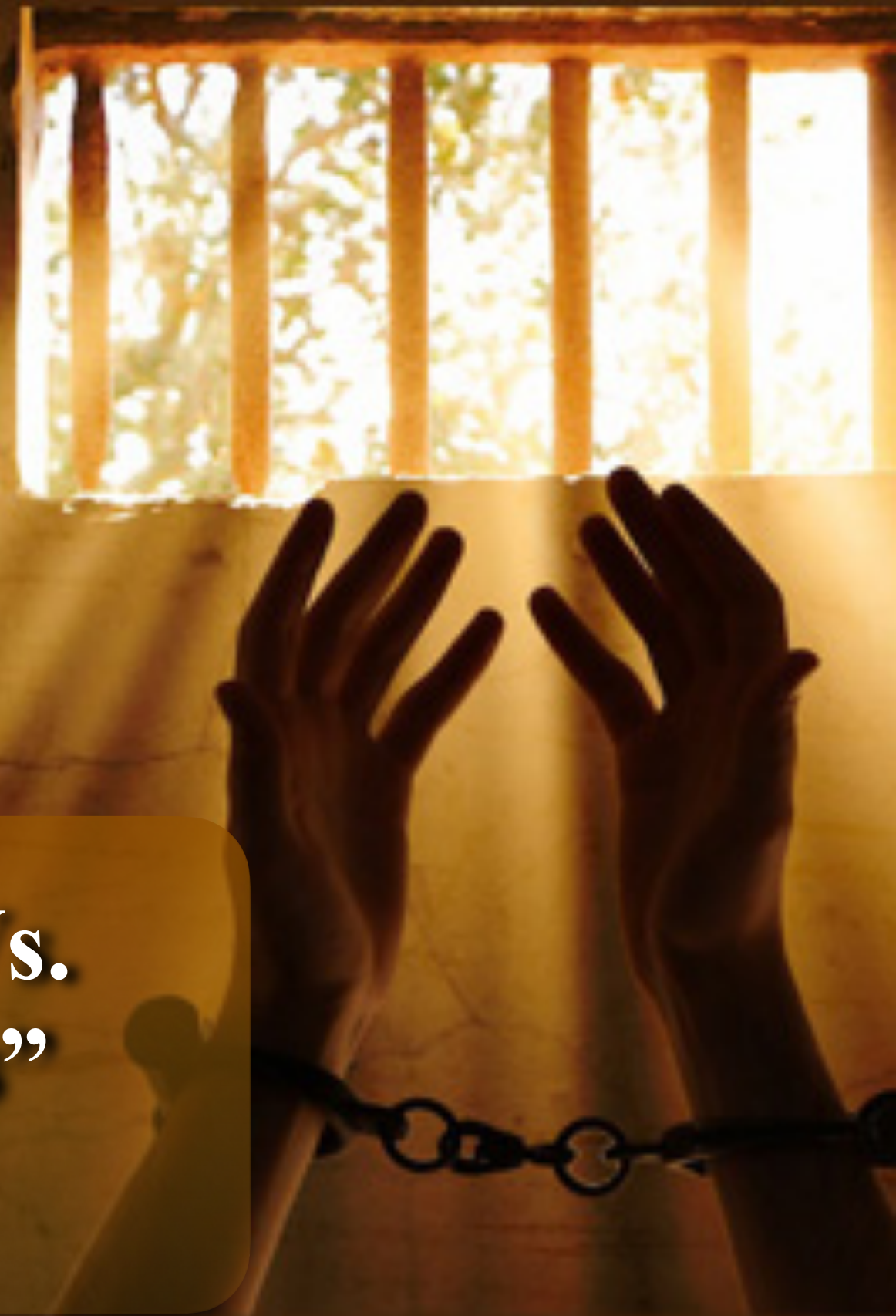


SECOND TIMOTHY

THE LAST WORDS
OF THE APOSTLE PAUL

**“Approved Workers Vs.
Disapproved Workers”
(2 Timothy 2:14-19)**



2 TIMOTHY



- Trusting in God's grace, mercy and peace in the midst of trials, staying true to the scriptures (1:2,3).
- Concern and support for those who contend for the faith (1:4)
- Genuine faith is gained from God's word (1:5; 2 Tim 3:15)
- Fulfilling our duties to God (1:6)
- Faith extinguishes fear (1:7)
- The Value of Being Committed To The Lord, No Matter The Cost" (1:8-12)
- Hold Fast The Pattern (1:13,14)
- Disloyalty vs. Friendship (1:15-18)
- Grace Includes Keeping Rules! (2:1-7)
- Need Endurance & Faithfulness (2:8-13)
- **Workers Approved & Honorable Vs. Rejected & Devil Enslaved (2:14-26).**

BE STRONG IN THE GRACE

that is in Christ Jesus.



CHAPTER 2

Strength in grace illustrated:

- ▶ As a good soldier (2:3,4)
- ▶ As an athlete (2:5)
- ▶ As a hardworking farmer (2:6)

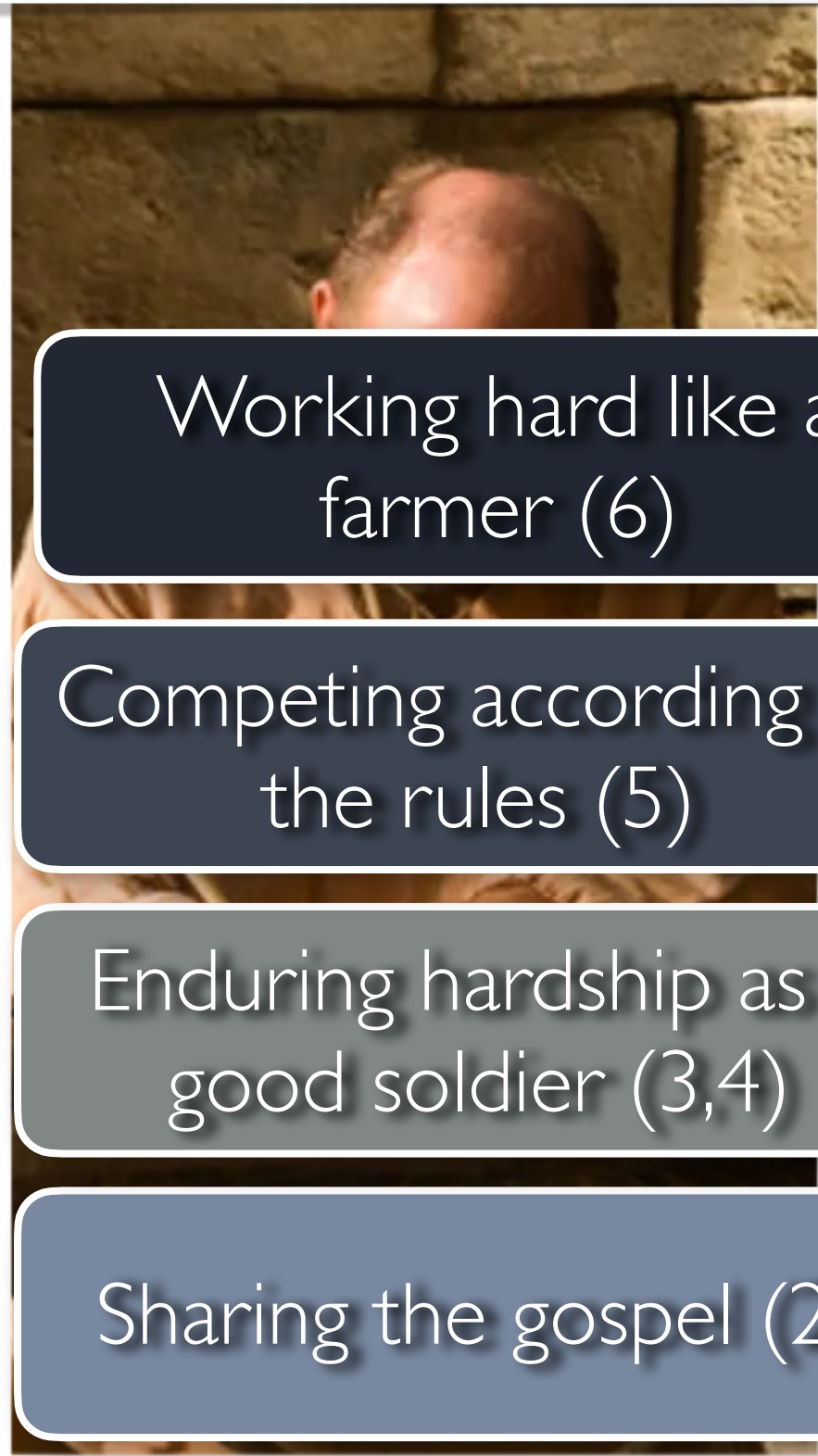
Cross Before Crown (2:7-13)

A Workman Approved of God (2:14-19)

A Vessel unto Honor (2:20-26)

BE STRONG IN THE GRACE

that is in Christ Jesus.



Working hard like a
farmer (6)

Competing according to
the rules (5)

Enduring hardship as a
good soldier (3,4)

Sharing the gospel (2)

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

2 Timothy 2:14–19 (NKJV)

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. ¹⁵ Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. ¹⁶ But shun profane *and* idle babblings, for they will increase to more ungodliness. ¹⁷ And their message will spread like cancer. Hymenaeus and Philetus are of this sort, ¹⁸ who have strayed concerning the truth, saying that the resurrection is already past; and they overthrow the faith of some. ¹⁹ Nevertheless the solid foundation of God stands, having this seal: “The Lord knows those who are His,” and, “Let everyone who names the name of Christ depart from iniquity.”

Approved and Disapproved Workers

HOW TO BE AN APPROVED WORKER



- Approved workers do not argue over insignificant things — Disapproved workers do, causing strife (14)
- Approved workers seek truth, handling the scriptures correctly — Disapproved workers twist truth, deal with partial truth, and destroy peoples faith (15-18)
- God knows who the faithful are / The faithful keep God's word (19)

Approved and Disapproved Workers

HOW TO BE AN APPROVED WORKER



**2 Timothy 2:14
(NKJV)**

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.

- “Remind them of these things,”
- “**These things**” - preceding exhortations. We need to be reminded of things we have learned in the past. It is so easy to forget (cf. 1 Tim. 4:6; 2 Pet. 1:12, 13; 3:1, 2).
- “charging them before the Lord not to strive about words to no profit”
- “‘strive about words’ is logomacheō, ‘to contend about words,’ and in this context ‘to wrangle about empty and trifling matters’” (cf. 1 Tim. 1:4; 6:4, 5). [WEUST]
- Historically, many divisions among professed Christians have resulted because of useless and silly arguments.

Approved and Disapproved Workers

HOW TO BE AN APPROVED WORKER



2 Timothy 2:14
(NKJV)

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.

■ “not to strive about words to no profit”

- We would be wrong to conclude that “wrangling about words” means that the precise words of Scripture do not matter, or that we need not worry about the meaning of words in order to understand truth.
- In Galatians 3:16 Paul builds an argument over the the word “seed” (singular) rather than “seeds” (plural).
- Jesus argued for the resurrection based on the present rather than past tense of the Hebrew verb in Exodus 3:6 (Matt. 22:32).

Approved and Disapproved Workers

HOW TO BE AN APPROVED WORKER



2 Timothy 2:14
(NKJV)

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.

- “not to strive about words to no profit”
- Paul is warning against the misuse of words to support a teaching that is contrary to the truth.
- Paul warns against arguing over matters that are not worth arguing over (*e.g., the gift of the Holy Spirit in Acts 2:38 - is the gift miraculous gifts or salvation?*)
- Paul is not warning against the need to properly define terms, or establishing the proper application of words in order to understand the truth!

Approved and Disapproved Workers

HOW TO BE AN APPROVED WORKER



**2 Timothy 2:14
(NKJV)**

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.

■ “to the ruin of the hearers”

◆ RUIN — (katastrephō) Our word ‘catastrophe’ is the transliteration of the noun form. - Such arguments are actively destructive and subversive to true faith.

◆ All too often prospects are driven away from the faith altogether because of such action on the part of brethren.

◆ No wonder Paul warned Timothy and urged him to warn others against such catastrophic behavior.

Approved and Disapproved Workers

HOW TO BE AN APPROVED WORKER



**2 Timothy 2:15
(NKJV)**

¹⁵ Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

- “Be diligent to present yourself approved to God”
- STUDY is from the Greek *spoudazō* which, according to Thayer, means “*to make haste, to exert one’s self, endeavor, give diligence.*”
- Timothy was to manifest great care, earnestness, and persistent zeal in the whole of his conduct with a view to God’s approval, not man’s (cf. 1:17; 4:9, 21).

Approved and Disapproved Workers

HOW TO BE AN APPROVED WORKER



2 Timothy 2:15
(NKJV)

¹⁵ Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

- “a worker who does not need to be ashamed”
- “a workman who has no cause for shame when his work is being inspected.”
- While teaching God’s word is a primary duty, remember it is the whole conduct of one’s life that is under inspection.
- A faithful worker who is following his masters instructions has nothing to be ashamed of!

Approved and Disapproved Workers

HOW TO BE AN APPROVED WORKER



**2 Timothy 2:15
(NKJV)**

¹⁵ Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.



“rightly dividing the word of truth”



Wuest says, “‘Rightly dividing’ is orthotomeō, from temnō, ‘to cut,’ and orthos, ‘straight,’ the compound verb meaning ‘to cut straight.’”



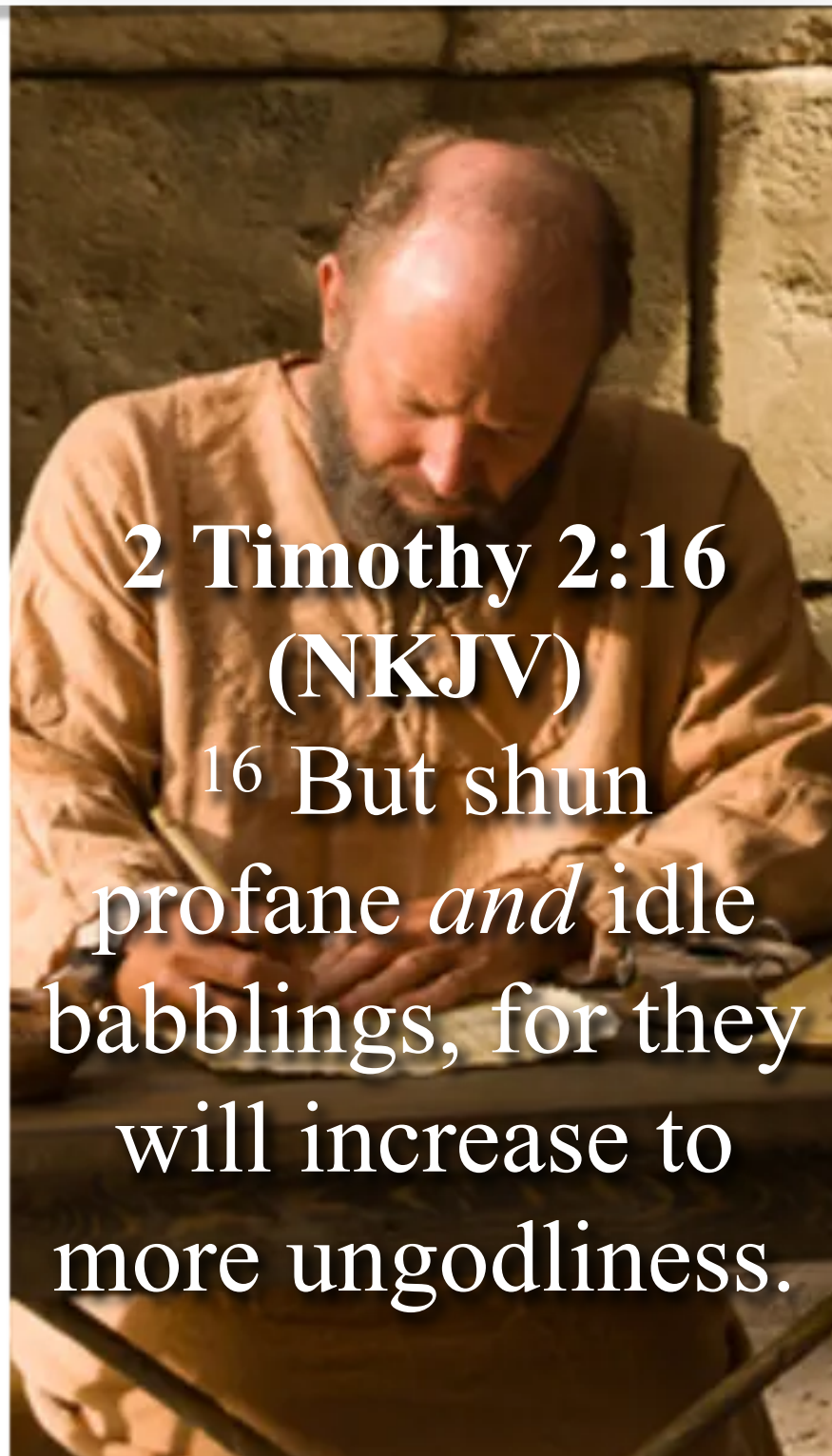
Alford says, “‘to manage rightly, to treat truthfully without falsification,’ seem to approach the nearest to the requirements of the context.”



In handling the word of God one must hold a straight course without deviating either to the right or left. He must “tell it like it is,” and “let the chips fall where they may.” (cf. 4:2,3)

Approved and Disapproved Workers

HOW TO BE AN APPROVED WORKER



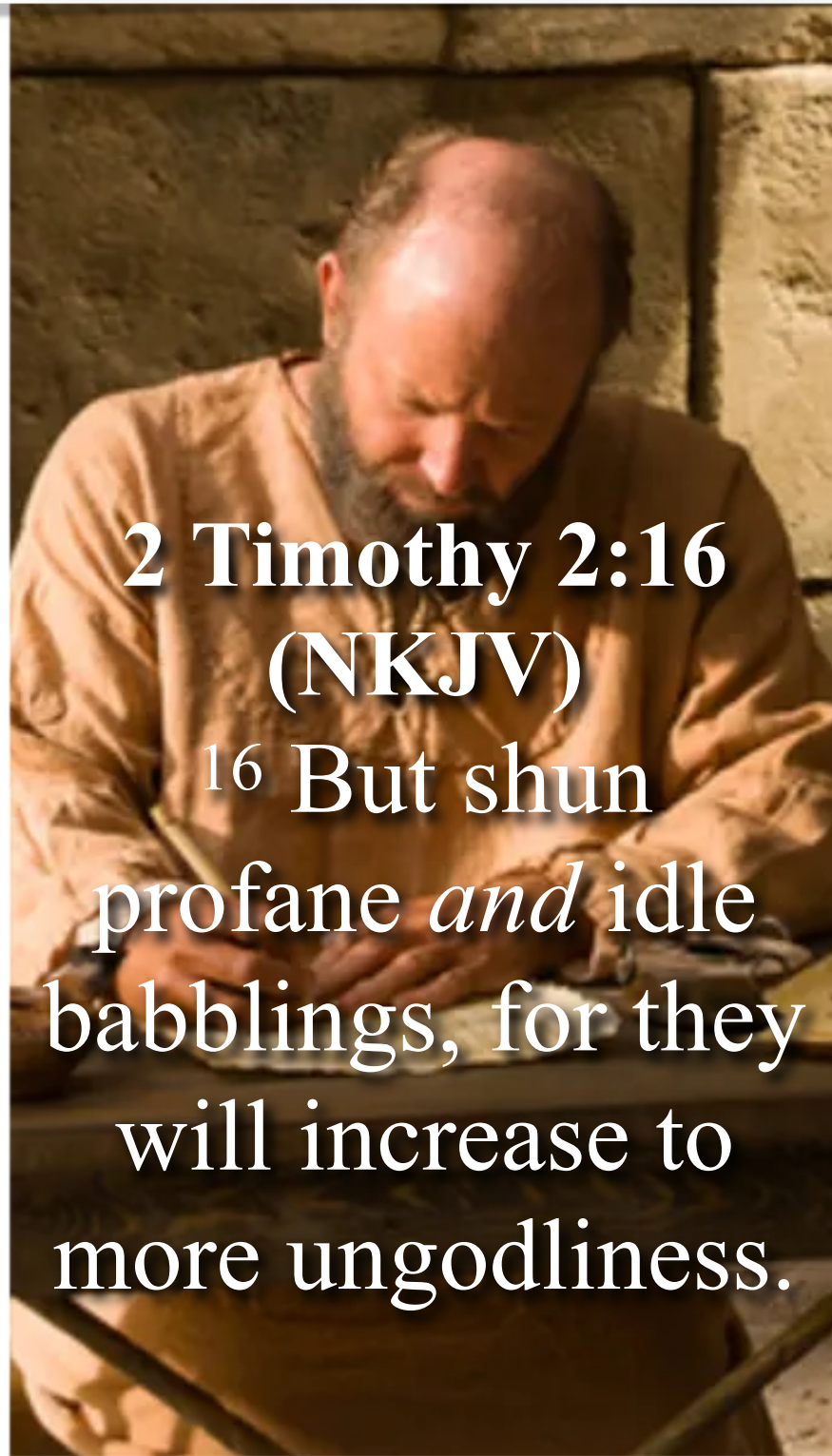
2 Timothy 2:16
(NKJV)

¹⁶ But shun
profane *and* idle
babblings, for they
will increase to
more ungodliness.

- “But shun profane and idle babblings”
- The contrasting conjunction but (de) puts this exhortation in contrast to both showing thyself approved of God and handling aright the word of truth.
- SHUN - ‘to turn one’s self about,’ as for the purpose of avoiding something, hence, ‘to avoid, shun’” (Wuest).
- Thayer says of babblings (kenophōnia), “empty discussion, discussion of vain and useless matters.” (cf. 1 Tim. 1:4; 4:7; 6:4, 20; 2 Tim. 1:13).

Approved and Disapproved Workers

HOW TO BE AN APPROVED WORKER



**2 Timothy 2:16
(NKJV)**

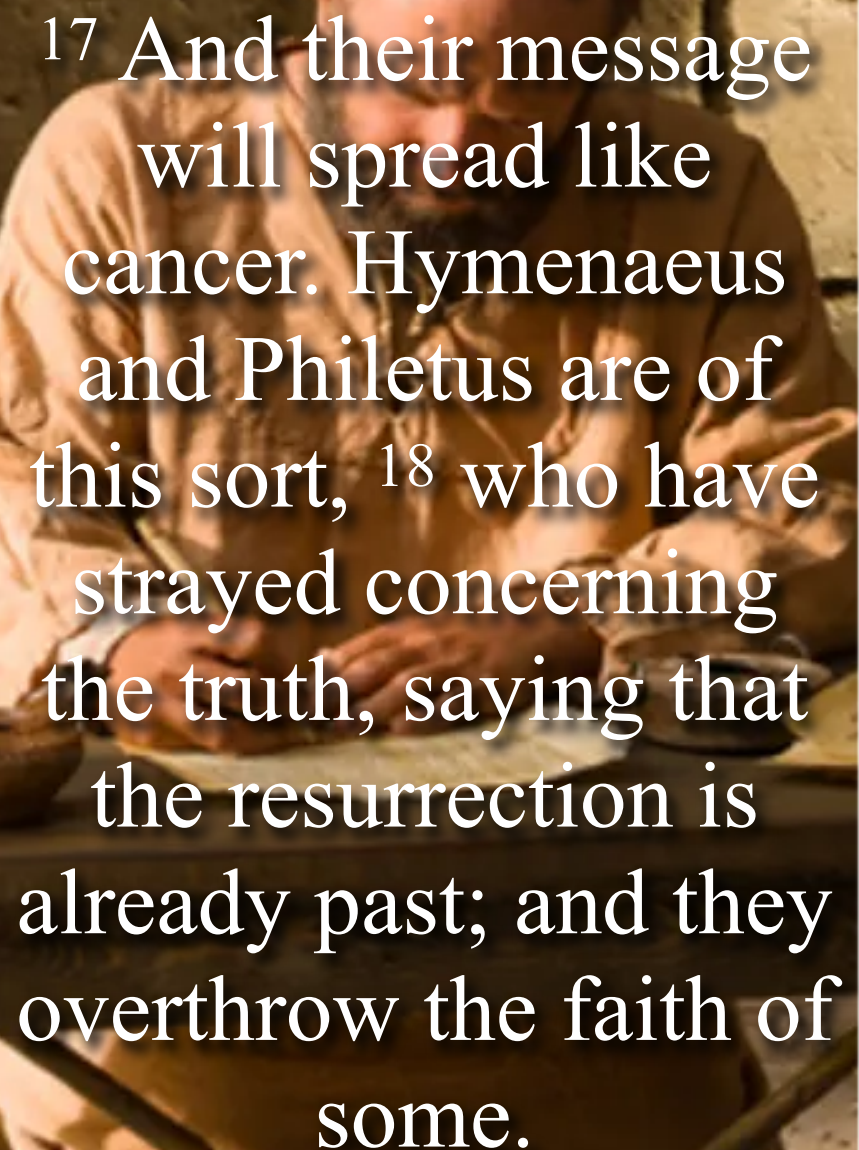
**16 But shun
profane *and* idle
babblings, for they
will increase to
more ungodliness.**

- “for they will increase to more ungodliness”
- Profane and vain babblings does not increase one’s reverence toward God.
- “The longer one engages in such in the name of religion the less he comes to respect things sacred and holy, hence, such increases unto more ungodliness.” [Mike Willis; Truth Com. pg. 199]
- There are many religious discussions which fall squarely into this category, and the end result of such disputations is not righteousness, but ungodliness.

Approved and Disapproved Workers

HOW TO BE A DISAPPROVED WORKER

2 Timothy 2:17–18 (NKJV)

A man with a beard, wearing a brown robe, is seated and writing on a scroll with a quill. He is looking down at his work. The background is a textured, stone-like wall.

¹⁷ And their message will spread like cancer. Hymenaeus and Philetus are of this sort, ¹⁸ who have strayed concerning the truth, saying that the resurrection is already past; and they overthrow the faith of some.

■ “And their message will spread like cancer”

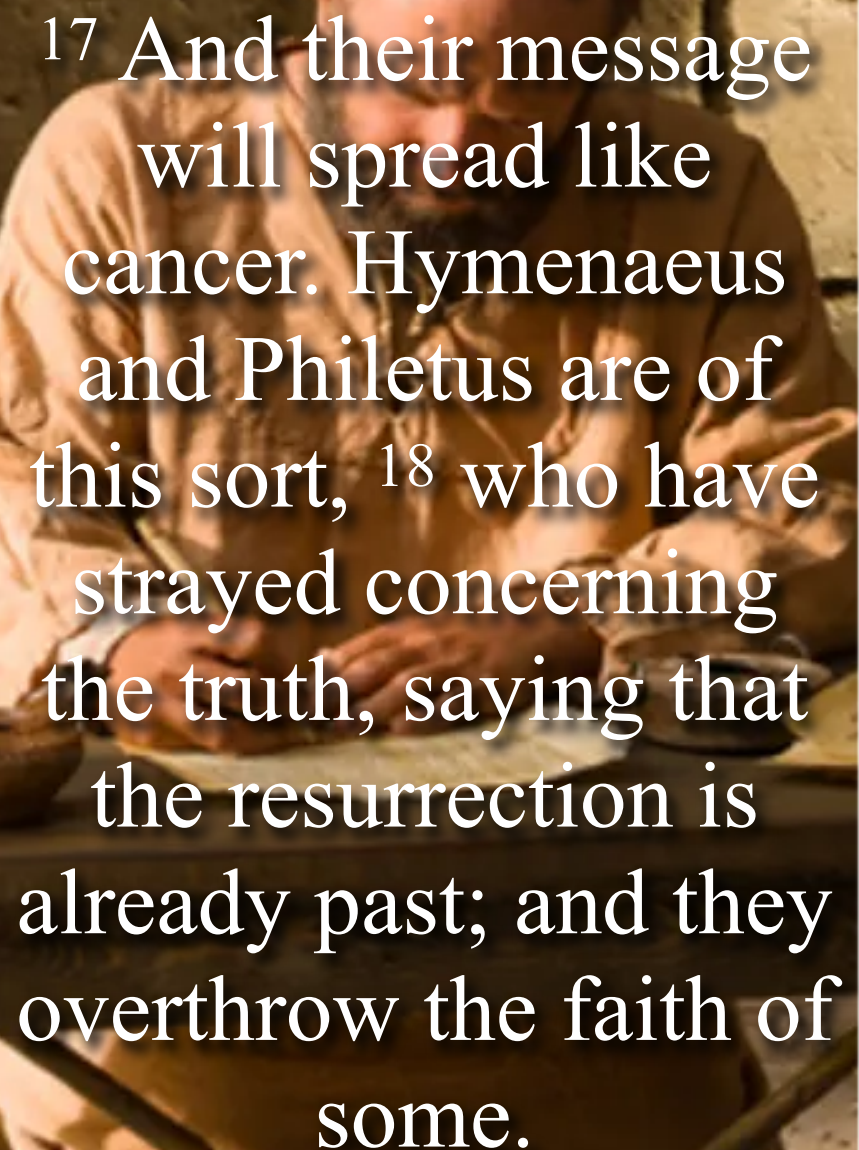
■ “According to several commentators (Lenski, Coffman, Guthrie, et al.), medical men used it to denote cancer, gangrene, and any spreading ulceration. Thus, Paul employs two medical terms (eat and canker) to illustrate the destructiveness and rapidity with which unsound doctrine spreads..” [Mike Willis; Truth Com. pg. 199]

■ The Old Saying, “*error can travel around the world twice before truth can get its boots on*” too often rings true!

Approved and Disapproved Workers

HOW TO BE A DISAPPROVED WORKER

2 Timothy 2:17–18 (NKJV)

A man with a beard, wearing a brown robe, is seated and writing on a scroll with a quill. He is looking down at his work. The background is a textured, light-colored wall.

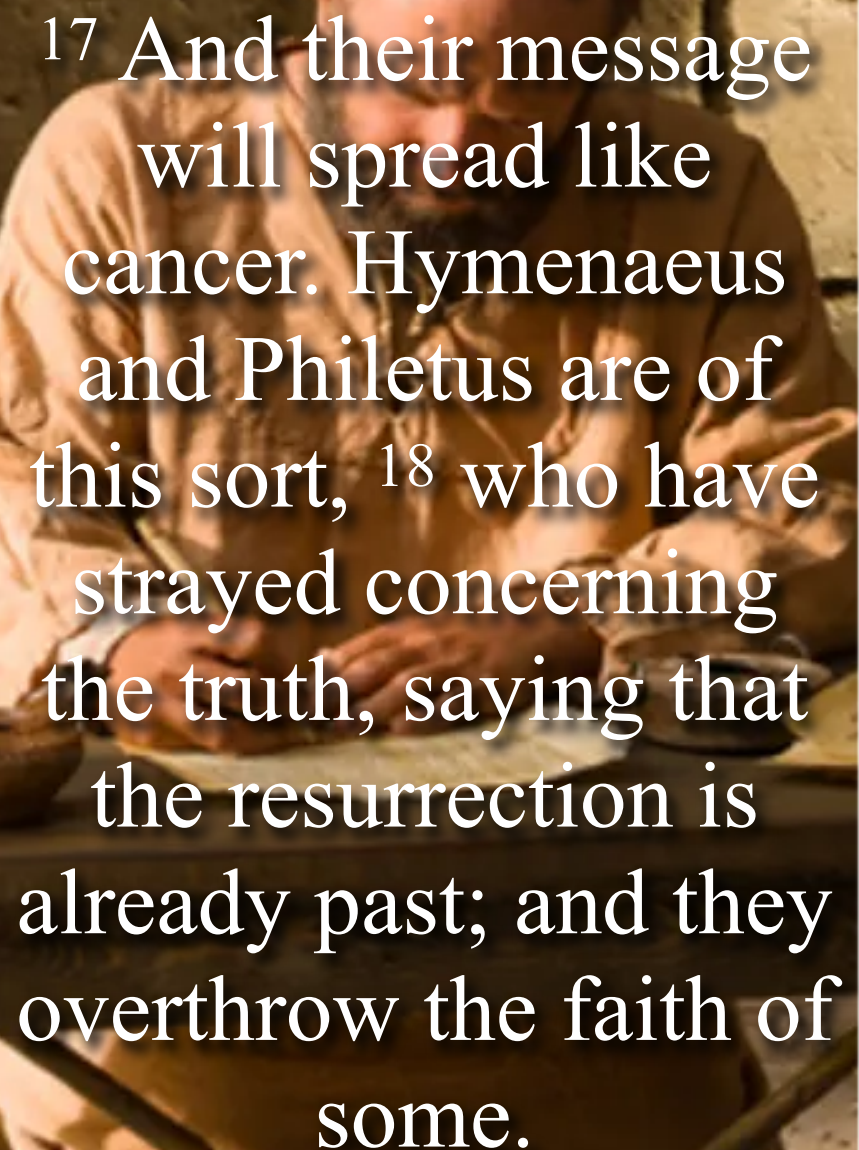
¹⁷ And their message will spread like cancer. Hymenaeus and Philetus are of this sort, ¹⁸ who have strayed concerning the truth, saying that the resurrection is already past; and they overthrow the faith of some.

- “Hymenaeus and Philetus are of this sort,”
- ◆ Paul calls the names of two false teachers who were spreading a specific error at that time (cf. 1 Timothy 1:20).
- ◆ They “strayed concerning the truth” indicates they had LEFT the truth, and had erred (astocheō), which means “to deviate from, miss the mark” (Wuest).
- ◆ They were guilty of twisting the truth to support their error.

Approved and Disapproved Workers

HOW TO BE A DISAPPROVED WORKER

2 Timothy 2:17–18 (NKJV)



¹⁷ And their message will spread like cancer. Hymenaeus and Philetus are of this sort, ¹⁸ who have strayed concerning the truth, saying that the resurrection is already past; and they overthrow the faith of some.

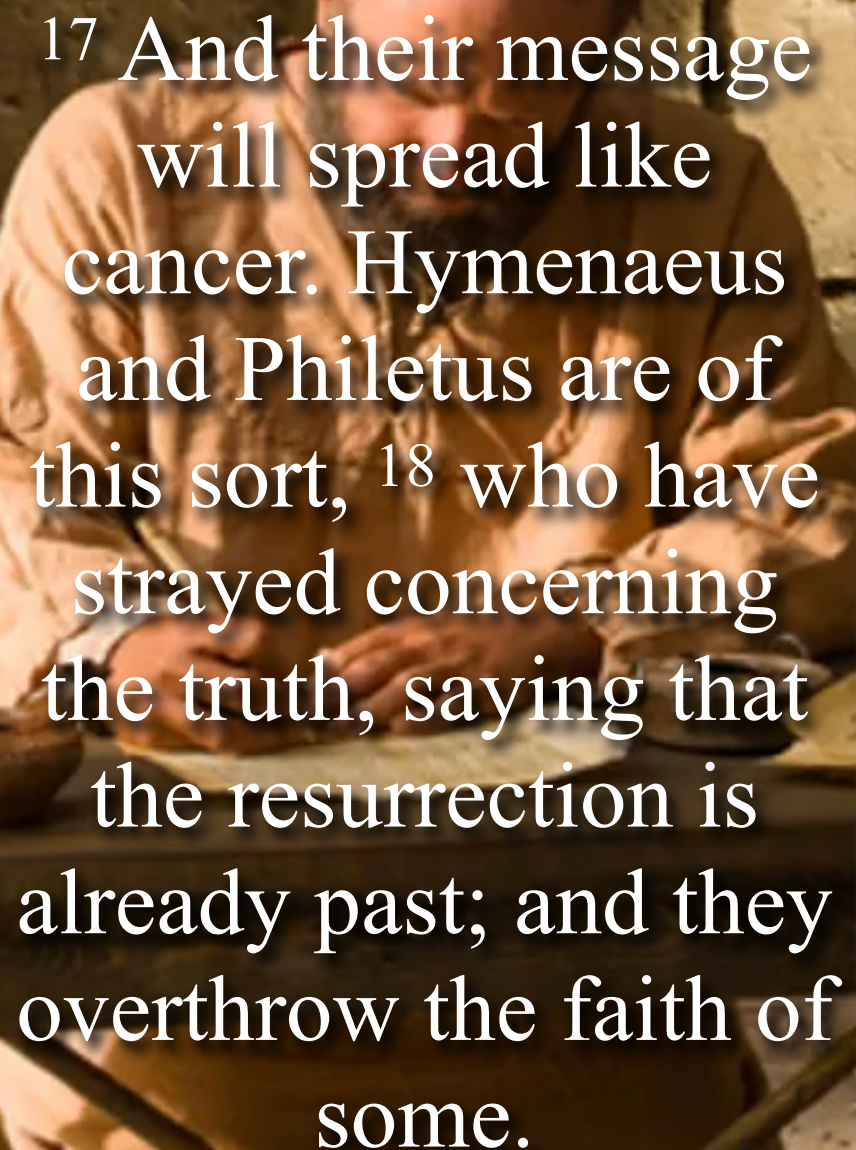
■ “saying that the resurrection is already past,”

- Evidently, they took a position similar to those promoting the AD 70 doctrine by spiritualizing the teaching of Paul on the bodily resurrection.
- That there is a spiritual resurrection cannot be denied (cf. Rom. 6:3-5; Eph. 2:1, 6; Col. 2:12; 3:1; cf. Lk 15:24), but to deny a future bodily resurrection is to deny the truth plainly taught in many other scriptures (cf. Jn 5:28,29; Ac. 24:15; 1 Co. 15:22, 42–54. Phi. 3:21)

Approved and Disapproved Workers

HOW TO BE A DISAPPROVED WORKER

2 Timothy 2:17–18 (NKJV)




¹⁷ And their message will spread like cancer. Hymenaeus and Philetus are of this sort, ¹⁸ who have strayed concerning the truth, saying that the resurrection is already past; and they overthrow the faith of some.

- “and they overthrow the faith of some,”
- The word some indicates that this erroneous doctrine was at that point limited among saints, but was, nevertheless, well on its way.
- Overthrowing the faith of some means the doctrine had destroyed faith in the hearts of individuals. — (*Faith CAN be lost and destroyed!*)
- The doctrine of the resurrection is just that significant (cf. Rom. 1:4; 1 Cor. 15:12f).

Approved and Disapproved Workers

GOD KNOWS THOSE WHO ARE FAITHFUL

A man with a beard, wearing a brown robe, is seated and writing on a scroll with a quill. The background is a textured, stone-like wall.


2 Timothy 2:19 (NKJV)

¹⁹ Nevertheless the solid foundation of God stands, having this seal: “The Lord knows those who are His,” and, “Let everyone who names the name of Christ depart from iniquity.”

- “Nevertheless the solid foundation of God stands,”
- ◆ The “household of God” is built upon the truth God has revealed. Nothing can be more sure than the inspired words of the “holy apostles and prophets” (Eph. 2:19,20; 3:5).
- “having this seal: “The Lord knows those who are His,”
- ◆ SEAL: denotes ownership, credibility, certification, etc. In this instance, it guarantees acceptance with God for the faithful.

Approved and Disapproved Workers

GOD KNOWS THOSE WHO ARE FAITHFUL

A man with a beard, wearing a brown robe, is shown from the chest up, leaning over a scroll and writing with a quill. The background is a textured, stone-like wall.

**2 Timothy 2:19
(NKJV)**

¹⁹ Nevertheless the solid foundation of God stands, having this seal: “The Lord knows those who are His,” and, “Let everyone who names the name of Christ depart from iniquity.”

**DO YOU WANT THIS
ASSURANCE?**

**“Let everyone
who names the
name of Christ
depart from
iniquity.”**

SECOND TIMOTHY

THE LAST WORDS
OF THE APOSTLE PAUL

**ARE WE DILIGENTLY
SEEKING THE TRUTH?
ARE WE COMBATTING
ERROR WITH THE THE
TRUTH?**

**“Approved
Workers Vs.
Disapproved
Workers”
(2 Timothy 2:14-19)**



SECOND TIMOTHY

THE LAST WORDS
OF THE APOSTLE PAUL

**DO YOU HAVE
ASSURANCE THAT
GOD APPROVES OF
YOUR WORK?**

**“The Need For
Endurance &
Faithfulness”
(2 Timothy 2:8-13)**



SECOND TIMOTHY

THE LAST WORDS
OF THE APOSTLE PAUL

**“The Need For
Endurance &
Faithfulness”
(2 Timothy 2:8-13)**

Charts by Don McClain

Preached October 24, 2021 PM

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2 Peter 1:5–11 (NKJV)

⁵ But also for this very reason, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue, to virtue knowledge, ⁶ to knowledge self-control, to self-control perseverance, to perseverance godliness, ⁷ to godliness brotherly kindness, and to brotherly kindness love. ⁸ For if these things are yours and abound, *you* will be neither barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹ For he who lacks these things is shortsighted, even to blindness, and has forgotten that he was cleansed from his old sins. ¹⁰ Therefore, brethren, be even more diligent to make your call and election sure, for if you do these things you will never stumble; ¹¹ for so an entrance will be supplied to you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.