

— THE —  
**CHURCH**  
— IN AN AGE OF —  
**CRISIS**

2 Timothy 2:14-4:8

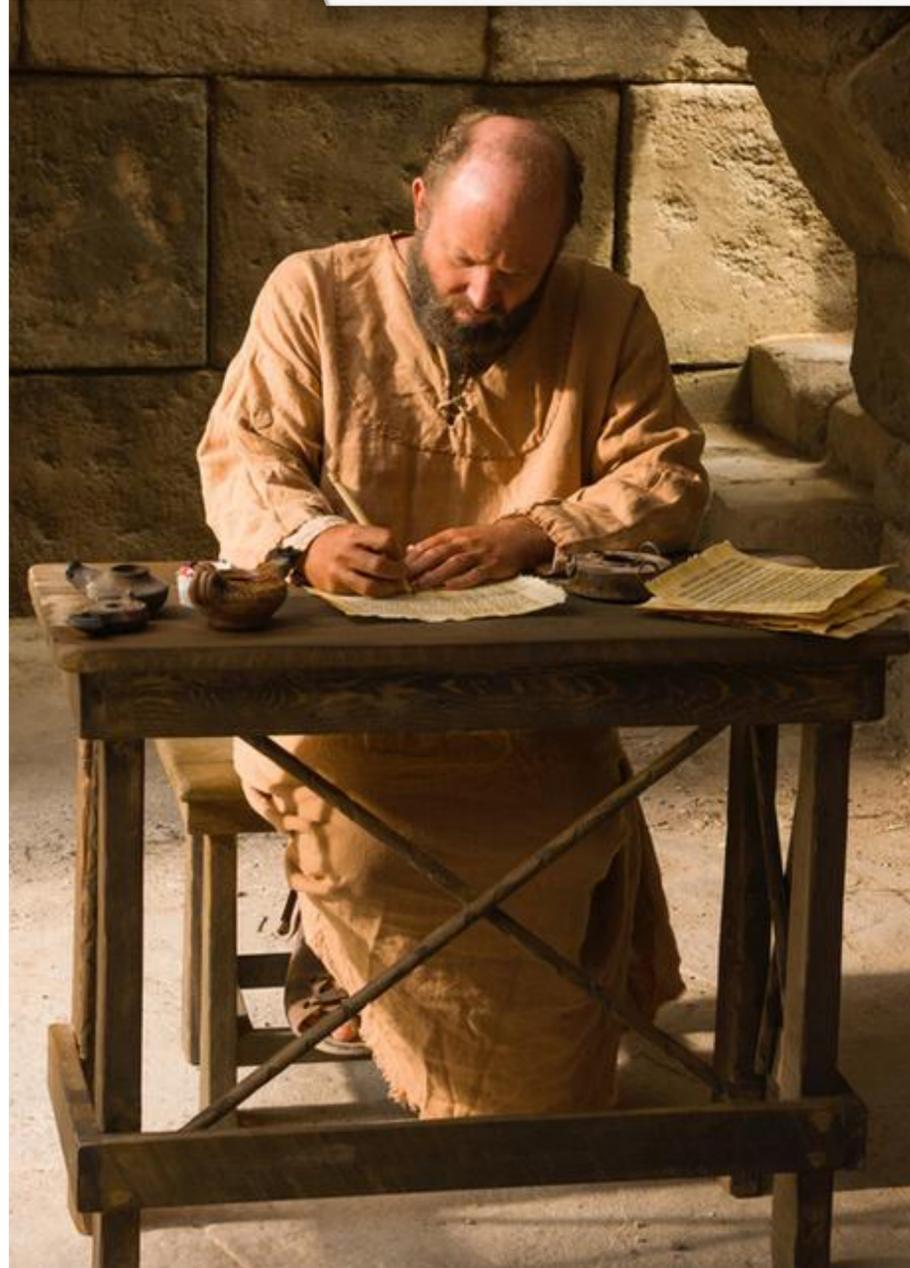
# THE CHURCH IN AN AGE OF CRISIS

- Worldliness
- Unbelief
- Pride
- Selfishness
- Postmodernism
- Pragmatism
- False Doctrine
- Division

2 Timothy 2:14-4:8

# THE CHURCH IN AN AGE OF CRISIS

## Paul's Letter To Timothy In Troublesome Times



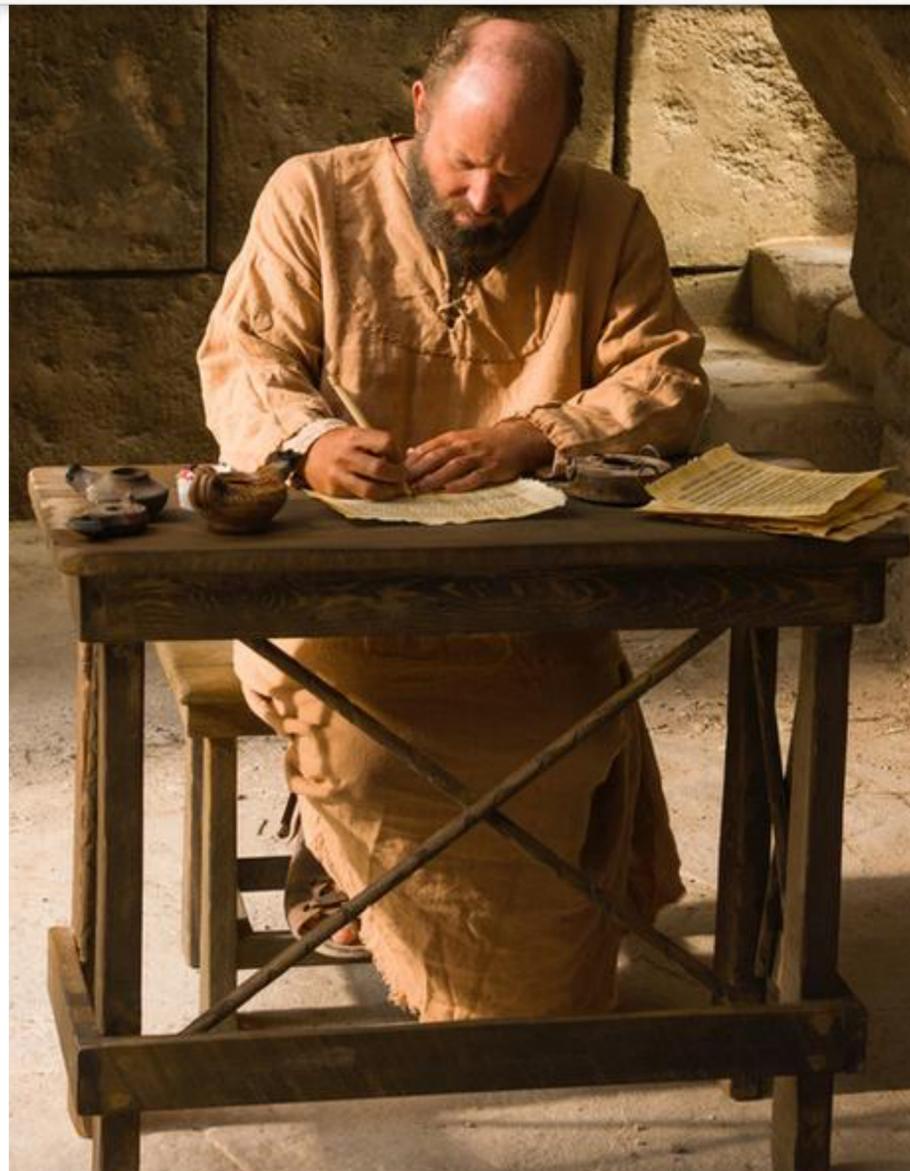
- Timothy's faith (1:3-7)
- Paul's suffering for the gospel & his faith (1:8-12)
- Hold to the pattern, for many have turned from it (1:13-18)
- Be strong & endure hardship for the gospel (2:1-13)

# THE CHURCH IN AN AGE OF CRISIS

## IN TIMES OF CONFUSION

# BE DILIGENT

<sup>15</sup> Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. (2 Tim 2:15)



- Do not battle over “words of no profit” to “the ruin of the hearers” (2:14,23; cf. 1 Tim 6:4,5)
- Shun profane & vain babblings, for they increase to more ungodliness (2:16; cf. 2 Tim 2:23; Titus 3:9-11)
- Their words will spread like cancer overthrowing the faith of some (2:17,18)

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2 Timothy 2:19  
(NKJV)

<sup>19</sup> 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 (2:19)

- We have a certain foundation (cf. 1:12; Mat. 7:24,25; 1 Cor. 3:11)
- God recognizes our faithfulness (cf. 2:11-13; Jn. 10:14, 27-30; Gal. 4:9)
- We must resist iniquity & be pleasing to God by handling the truth correctly (cf. Mat. 7:21-23; Rom. 6; 2 Pt. 1:13-16)

# THE CHURCH IN AN AGE OF CRISIS

IN TIMES OF  
STRIFE

BE USEFUL

<sup>21</sup> “Therefore if anyone cleanses himself from the latter, he will be a vessel for honor, sanctified and useful for the Master, prepared for every good work.” (2 Tim. 2:21)

2 Timothy 2:20  
(NKJV)

<sup>20</sup> But in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and silver, but also of wood and clay, some for honor and some for dishonor.

- Difference in vessels (*honor / dishonor*)  
(2:20)

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## BE USEFUL

<sup>21</sup> “Therefore if anyone cleanses himself from the latter, he will be a vessel for honor, sanctified and useful for the Master, prepared for every good work.” (2 Tim. 2:21)

2 Timothy 2:22  
(NKJV)

<sup>22</sup> Flee also youthful lusts; but pursue righteousness, faith, love, peace with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart.

- Difference in vessels (*honor / dishonor*) (2:20)
- Flee youthful lust (2:22; 1 Tim 6:3-11) (*sexual sin, pride, rashness, vain glory, ambition*)

# THE CHURCH IN AN AGE OF CRISIS

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<sup>21</sup> “Therefore if anyone cleanses himself from the latter, he will be a vessel for honor, sanctified and useful for the Master, prepared for every good work.” (2 Tim. 2:21)

2 Timothy 2:23–24  
(NKJV)

<sup>23</sup> But avoid foolish and ignorant disputes, knowing that they generate strife. <sup>24</sup> And a servant of the Lord must not quarrel but be gentle to all, able to teach, patient,

- Difference in vessels (*honor / dishonor*) (2:20)
- Flee youthful lust (2:22; 1 Tim 6:3-11) (*sexual sin, pride, rashness, vain glory, ambition*)
- Avoid foolish and ignorant disputes which generate strife (2:23)

# THE CHURCH IN AN AGE OF CRISIS

## IN TIMES OF STRIFE

## BE USEFUL

<sup>21</sup> “Therefore if anyone cleanses himself from the latter, he will be a vessel for honor, sanctified and useful for the Master, prepared for every good work.” (2 Tim. 2:21)

2 Timothy 2:25–26  
(NKJV)

<sup>25</sup> in humility correcting those who are in opposition, if God perhaps will grant them repentance, so that they may know the truth, <sup>26</sup> and *that* they may come to their senses *and escape* the snare of the devil, ...

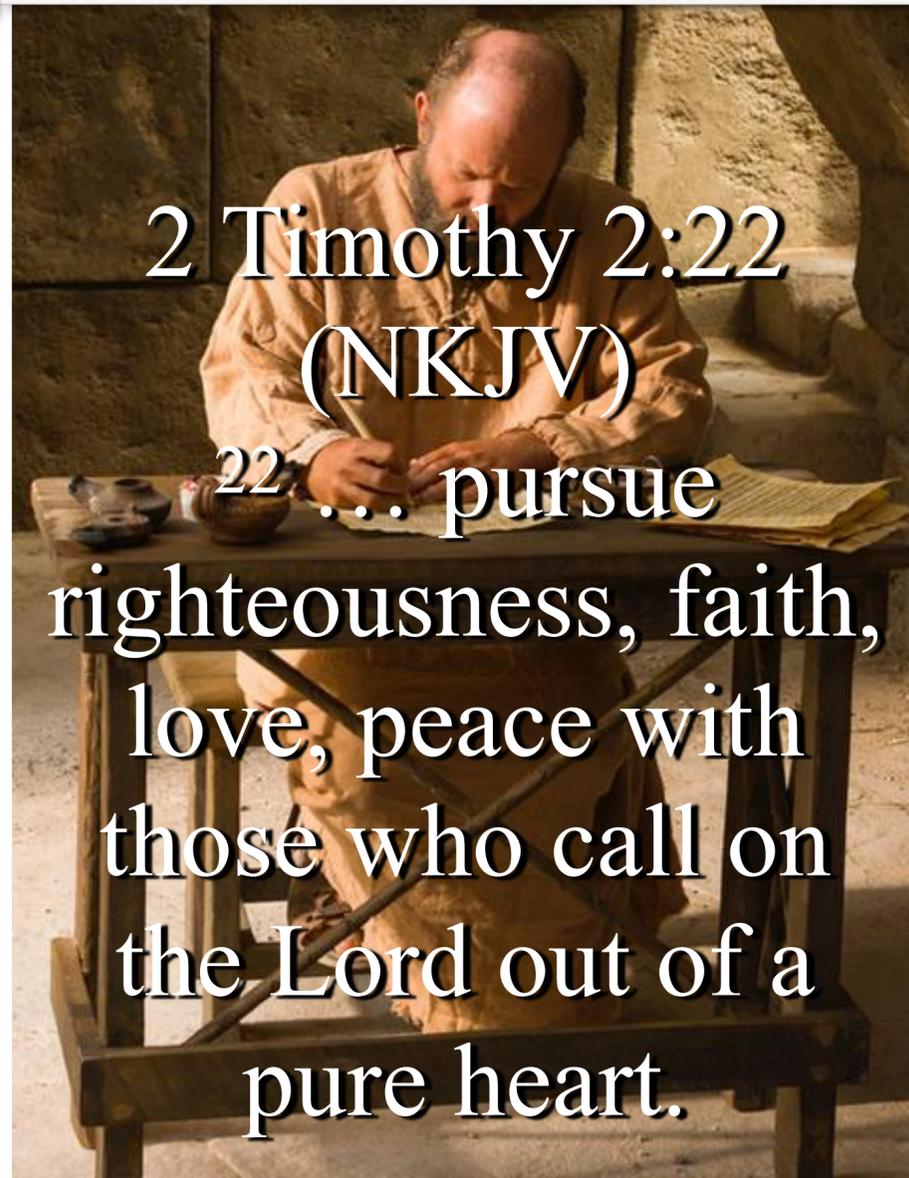
- Difference in vessels (*honor / dishonor*) (2:20)
- Flee youthful lust (2:22; 1 Tim 6:3-11) (*sexual sin, pride, rashness, vain glory, ambition*)
- Avoid foolish and ignorant disputes generate strife (2:23)
- Do not quarrel w/ those opposed to the truth, but correct them (2:24-26)

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<sup>21</sup> “Therefore if anyone cleanses himself from the latter, he will be a vessel for honor, sanctified and useful for the Master, prepared for every good work.” (2 Tim. 2:21)



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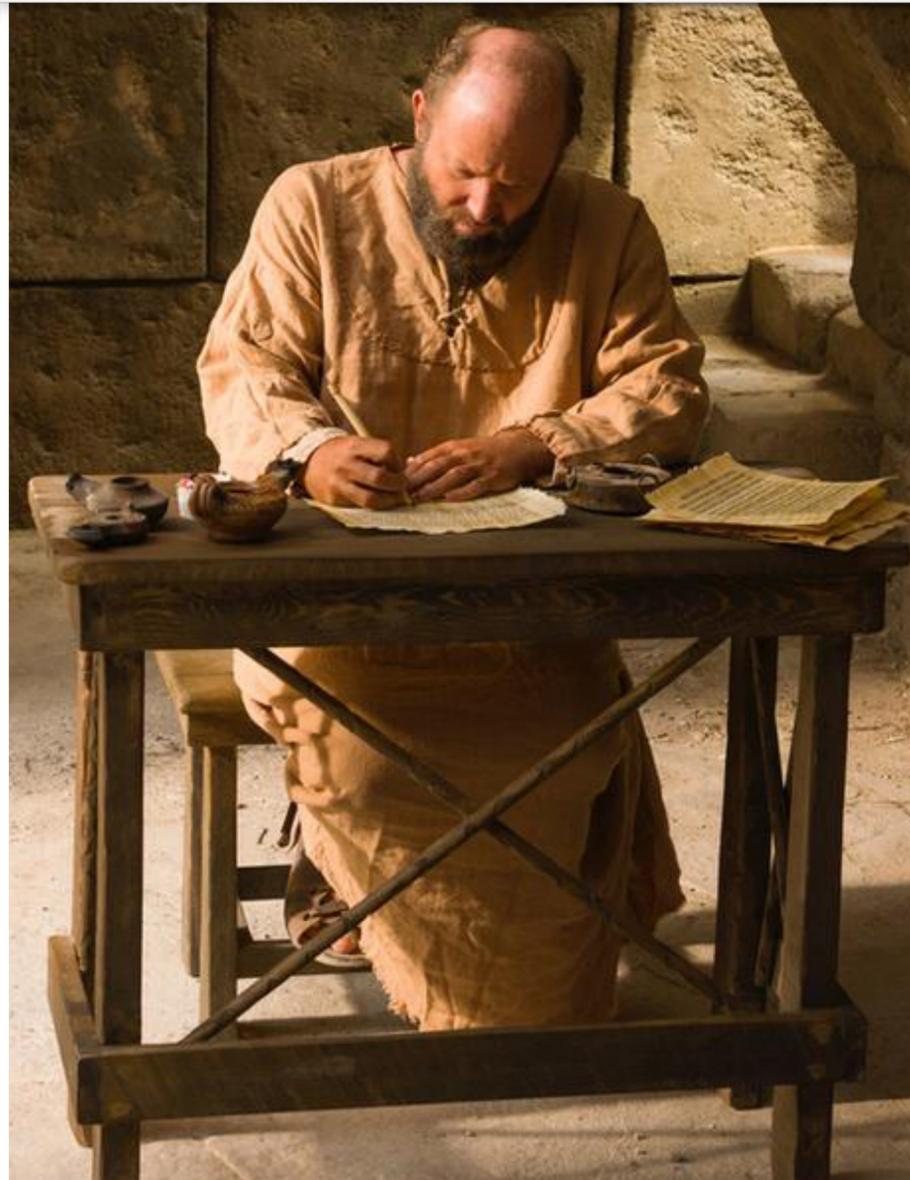
- Be a vessel of honor– (*of value & usefulness*) (2:20,21)
- Pursue righteousness, faith, love, & peace from a pure heart (2:22)
- Be gentle, a teacher, patient, humble – correcting those taken captive (2:24-26)

# THE CHURCH IN AN AGE OF CRISIS

IN TIMES OF  
PERIL

**BE FAITHFUL**

<sup>14</sup> But you must continue in the things which you have learned and been assured of, knowing from whom you have learned *them*, - *2 Timothy 3:14*



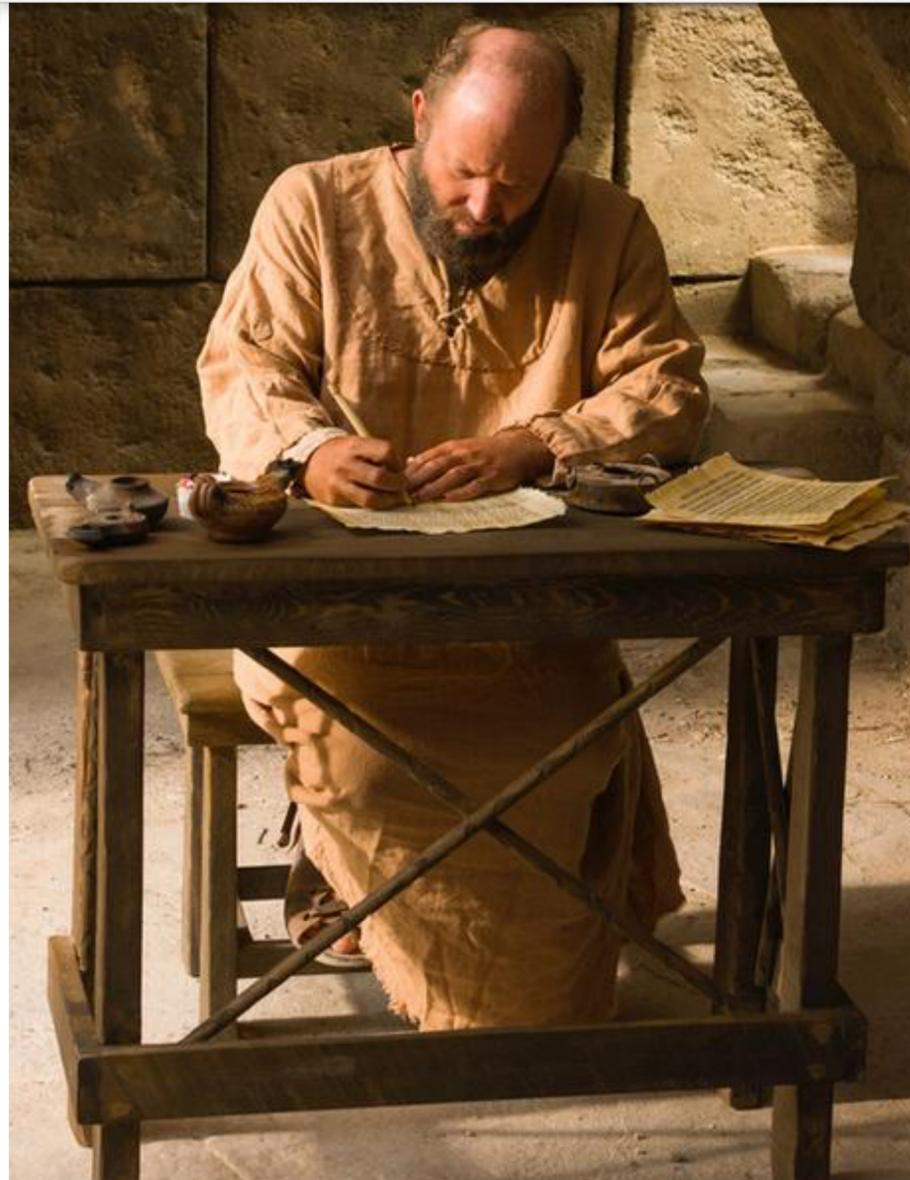
- Perilous times will come - for men will be (rebellious) ... lovers of pleasure, rather than lovers of God (3:1-6)
- Men will be lifted up with pride, reject authority & resist the truth (3:7-9)
- Evil men & imposters will grow worse & worse – deceiving & being deceived (3:13; cf. 1 Tim 4:1-3)

# THE CHURCH IN AN AGE OF CRISIS

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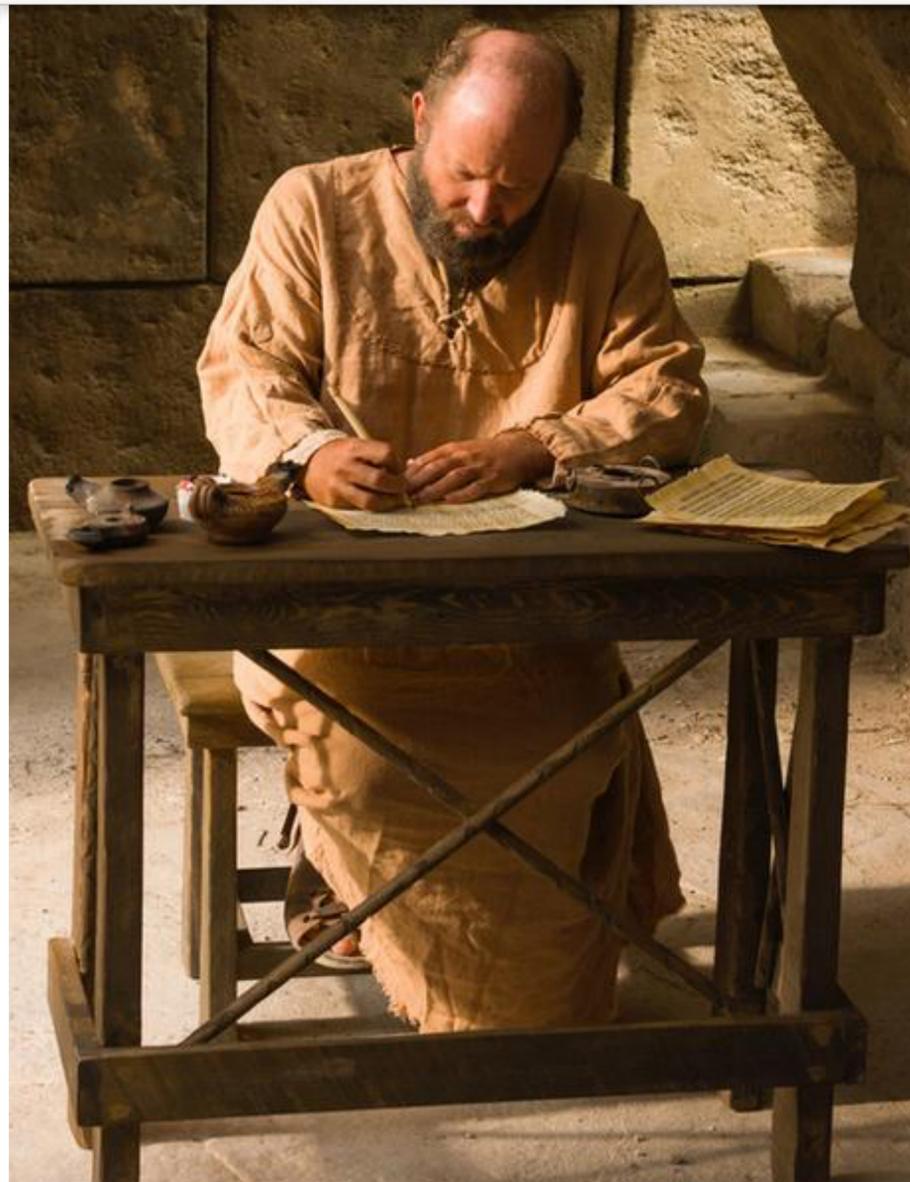
- “you have carefully followed my doctrine, manner of life, purpose, faith, longsuffering, love, perseverance, persecutions & afflictions” (3:10,11)
- Live godly – suffer persecution (3:12)
- Trust & follow the scriptures, which you have learned & been assured of (3:14-17; 1 Pet. 1:22-2:2; 3:15; 4:11)

# THE CHURCH IN AN AGE OF CRISIS

## IN TIMES OF RESISTANCE

# BE PERSISTENT

<sup>2</sup> Preach the word! Be ready in season *and* out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching. — 2 Timothy 4:2



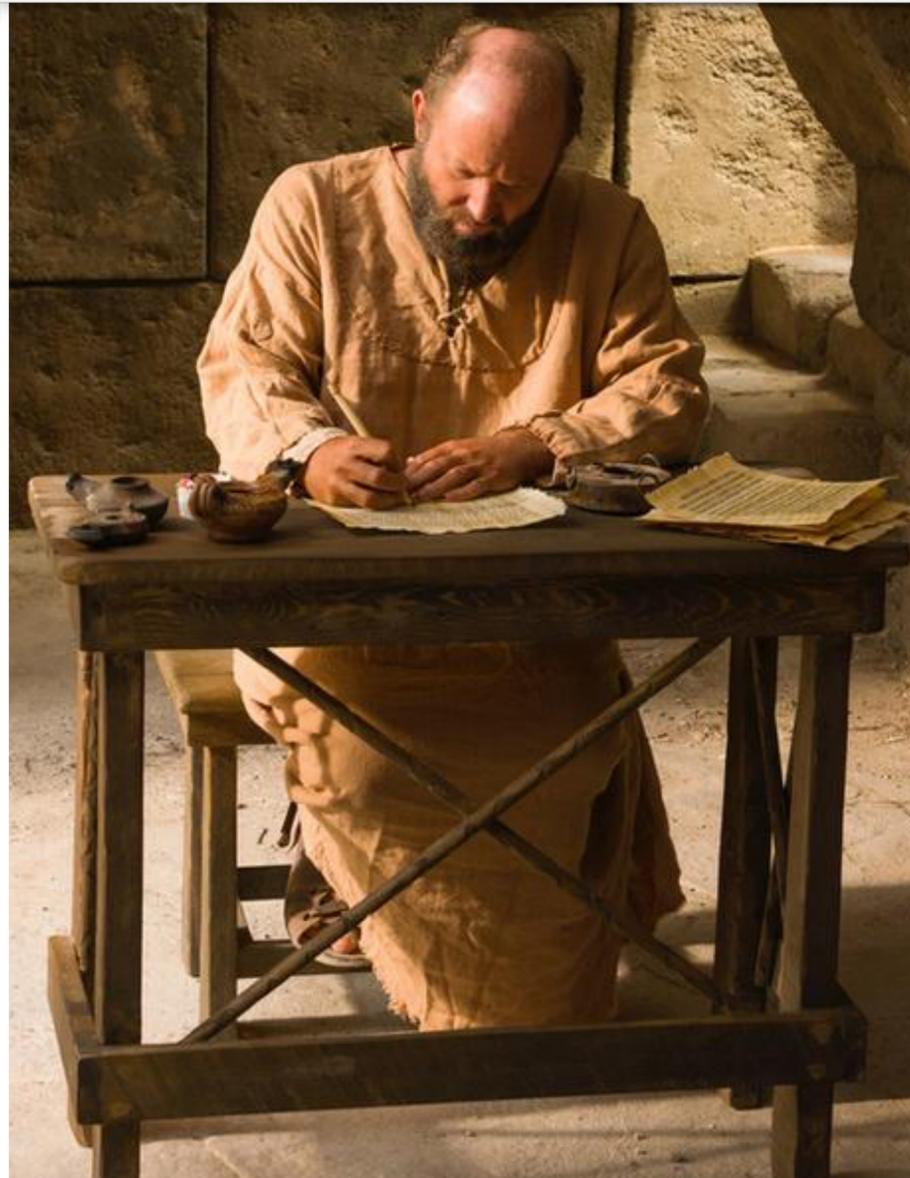
- People will NOT endure sound teaching (doctrine) (4:3)
- People will demand doctrine which conforms to what they want (4:3)
- People will seek out teachers that tell them what they want to hear (4:3)
- Many will turn from the truth to fables (4:4; cf. Rom. 1:18-32)

# THE CHURCH IN AN AGE OF CRISIS

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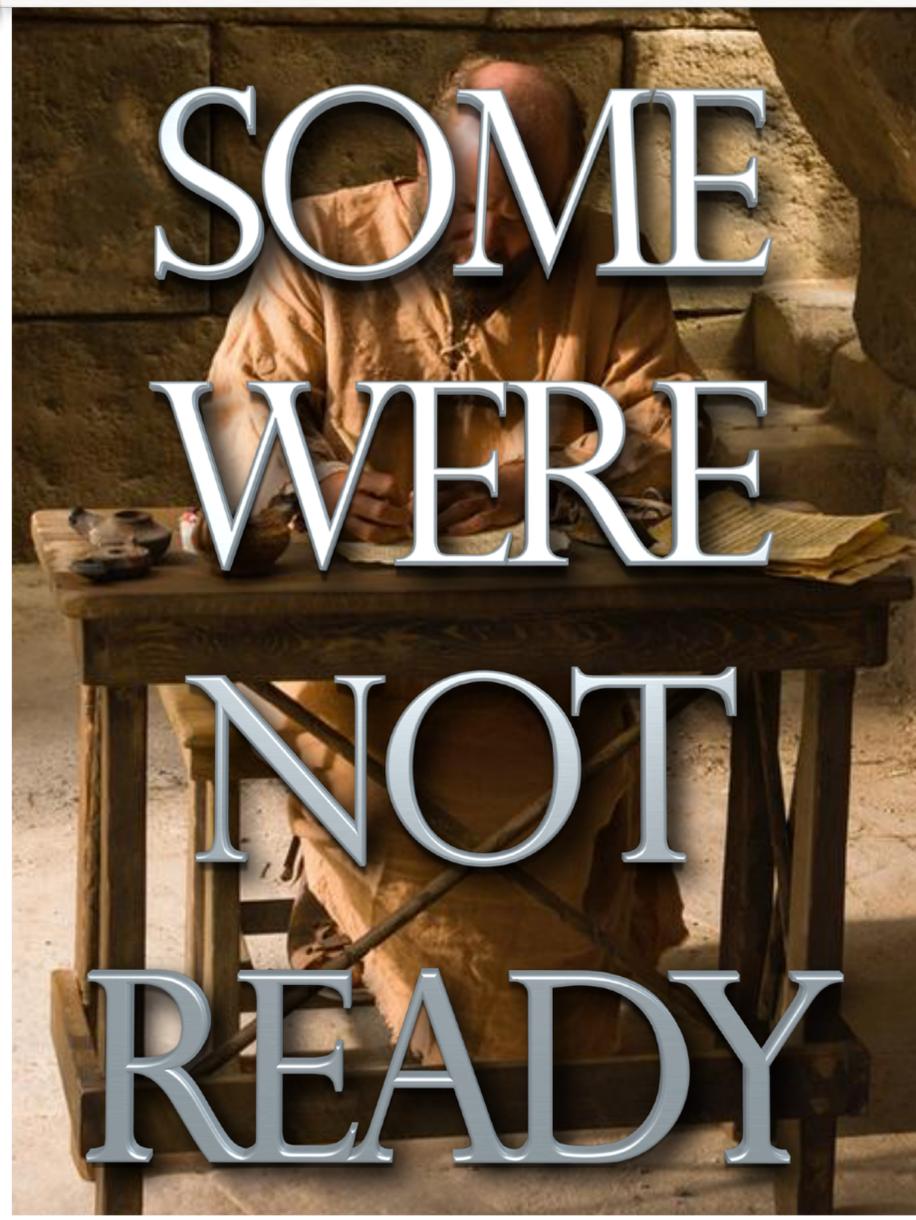
- Continue to preach the word of God, whether people want it or not (4:2)
- Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching (4:2)
- “Be watchful in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry” (4:5)

# THE CHURCH IN AN AGE OF CRISIS

## IN TIMES OF JUDGMENT

# BE READY

<sup>8</sup> Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing. - 2 Timothy 4:8



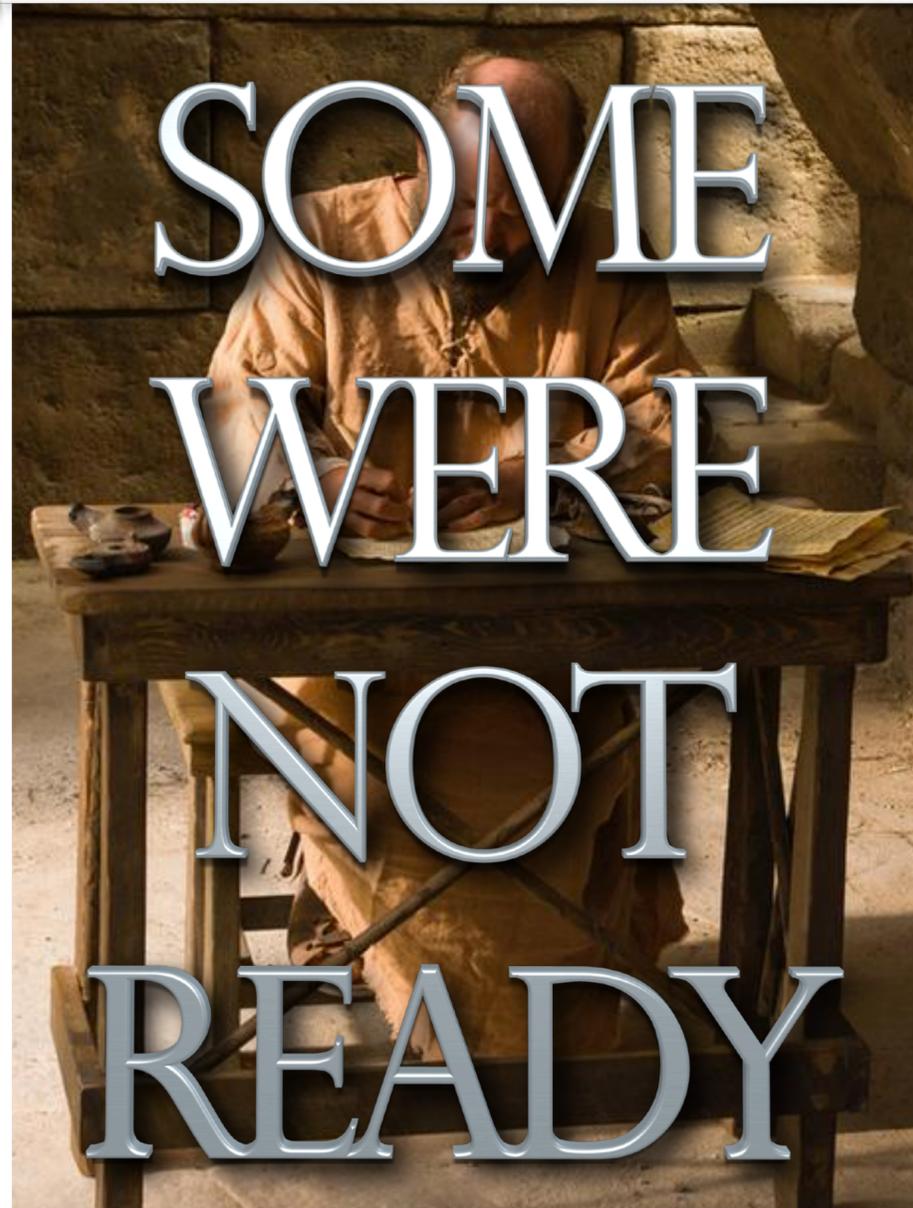
- **Phygellus & Hermogenes** (1:15)
- **Hymenaeus, Philetus** (*had overthrown the faith of many by teaching the resurrection had already passed*) (2:14,16-18)
- **The ungodly & those led astray by them** (3:1-9; Jer. 23:16; Matt. 15:13-14; 2 Pet. 2)
- **Those who turn from the truth** (4:3,4)
- **Demas & Alexander** (4:10,14)

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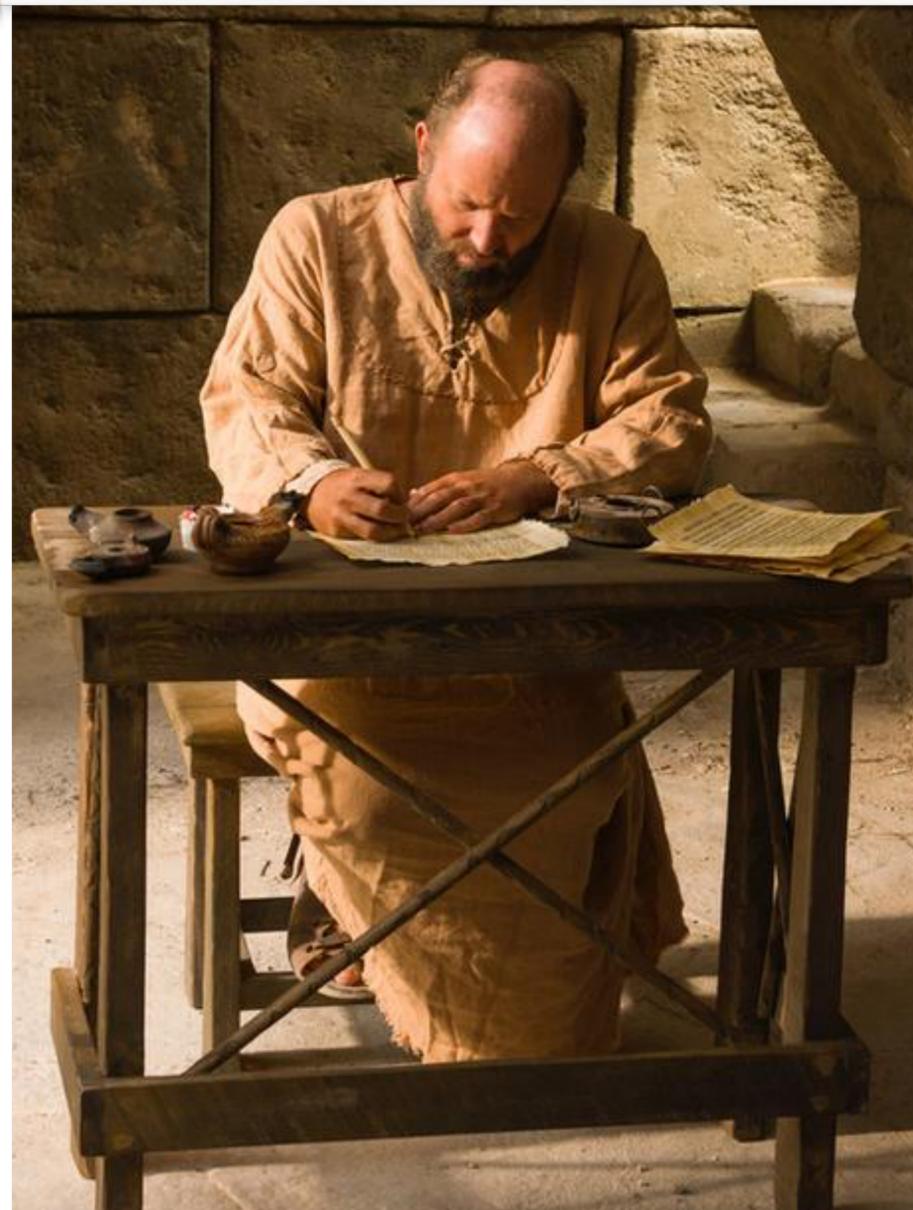
- May God grant them repentance (2:25,26)
- The Lord will repay according to their works (4:14)
- Everlasting destruction (Rom 2:5-8; 2 Cor. 10:5; 2 Thes 1:7-9; Rev. 21:8)

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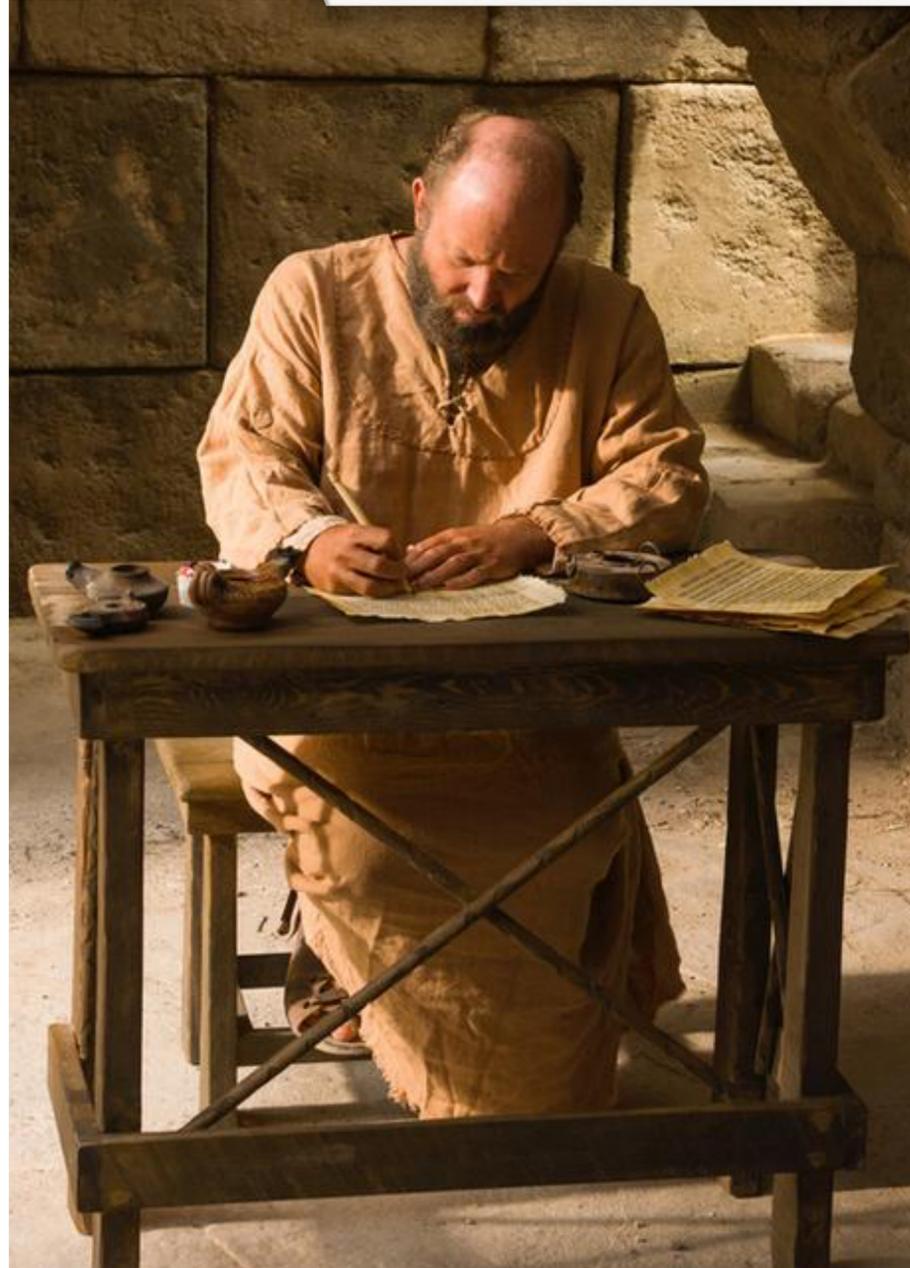
<sup>8</sup> Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing. - 2 Timothy 4:8



- Fight the good fight, (4:7; 2:1-7; Eph. 6:10-18)
- Finish the race (4:7; 1 Cor. 9:26,27; Heb. 12:1-3)
- Keep the faith (4:7; Prov. 23:23; Luke 8:15; Col. 1:23)

# THE CHURCH IN AN AGE OF CRISIS

Paul's Letter To Timothy In Troublesome Times



## FIVE EXHORTATIONS

- *In Times of Confusion* – **Be Diligent**
- *In Times of Strife* – **Be Useful**
- *In Times of Peril* – **Be Faithful**
- *In Times of Resistance* – **Be Persistent**
- *In The Time of Judgment* – **Be Ready**

# THE CHURCH IN AN AGE OF CRISIS

- We CAN LEARN & RECEIVE The Truth!  
- Jn 17:17; James 1:18; Acts 2:38-42
- We CAN be OBEDIENT to the TRUTH & Serve GOD's Purpose in This Wicked WORLD — Mat. 5:13-16; Phli. 2:14-16
- We CAN be READY When The LORD Returns — 1 Cor. 15:58

2 Timothy 2:14-4:8



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2 Timothy 2:14-4:8

THE  
CHURCH  
IN AN AGE OF  
CRISIS



*Sunday evening lesson live stream  
4:00 PM CDT May 12, 2024*



<https://www.youtube.com/user/donmcclain11/live> / <https://www.bryantchurchofchrist.com>

## **Acts 11:19–26 (NKJV)**

<sup>19</sup> Now those who were scattered after the persecution that arose over Stephen traveled as far as Phoenicia, Cyprus, and Antioch, preaching the word to no one but the Jews only. <sup>20</sup> But some of them were men from Cyprus and Cyrene, who, when they had come to Antioch, spoke to the Hellenists, preaching the Lord Jesus. <sup>21</sup> And the hand of the Lord was with them, and a great number believed and turned to the Lord. <sup>22</sup> Then news of these things came to the ears of the church in Jerusalem, and they sent out Barnabas to go as far as Antioch.

## **Acts 11:19–26 (NKJV)**

<sup>23</sup> When he came and had seen the grace of God, he was glad, and encouraged them all that with purpose of heart they should continue with the Lord. <sup>24</sup> For he was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and of faith. And a great many people were added to the Lord. <sup>25</sup> Then Barnabas departed for Tarsus to seek Saul. <sup>26</sup> And when he had found him, he brought him to Antioch. So it was that for a whole year they assembled with the church and taught a great many people. And the disciples were first called Christians in Antioch.