2 Timothy. A translation.

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2 Timothy.

I am Paul (1:1-2).

¹I am Paul, a representative of the messiah, Jesus. God planned it by a living promise of the messiah, Jesus. ²To Timothy. You are my loved son. May God, our father, and our messiah, Jesus the lord, grant you favor, mercy, and peace.

I thank God (1:2-7).

³I give thanks to God. I serve him with a clear conscience, just like my ancestors. I constantly mention you in my prayers all the time.

⁴I really want to see you. I remember you with tears. Then I can have complete satisfaction.

⁵I remember your sincere faith. It started with your grandmother Lois and followed with your mother Eunice. I trust that it also continues with you.

⁶This is why I remind you: Relight God's gift. You received it when I laid my hands on you.

⁷God did not give us a wimpy character. Instead, he gave you power, love, and self-control.

Do not be ashamed (1:8-14).

⁸Do not be ashamed to testify about our lord nor that I am a prisoner for him. Instead, suffer for the good news by God's power.

⁹He saved us.

He invited us with a holy invitation.

It is not by our actions.

It is by his gracious purpose.

He gave it to us by the messiah, Jesus, before the beginning of time.

¹⁰He revealed him now. Our savior, the messiah, Jesus, appeared. He abolished death.

He shined on immortal life by the good news.

¹¹This is why he appointed me a messenger, a representative, and a teacher. ¹²This is also why I suffer these things.

I am not ashamed. I know who I believe in. I am confident that he can protect my appointed work until that time.

¹³Keep the standards of sound teaching. You learned them from me in loving faith from the messiah, Jesus. ¹⁴Protect the good things that the holy spirit entrusted to you. He lives in us.

Onesiphorus refreshed me (1:15-18).

¹⁵Know this: Everyone in Asia abandoned me, including Phygelus and Hermogenes.

¹⁶May the lord show mercy to Onesiphorus's family. He refreshed me many times. He was not ashamed of my shackles. ¹⁷He came to Rome right away. He looked for me, then he found me. ¹⁸May the lord allow him to find mercy on that Day. You know just how many ways he served me in Ephesus.

Suffer together (2:1-13).

²My son, stay strong by the favor of the messiah, Jesus. ²You learned these things from me from many witnesses. Transfer them to faithful men. Then they will be able to teach others.

³Suffer together like good soldiers for the messiah, Jesus. ⁴No soldier worries about civilian affairs. He only pleases his commanding officer. ⁵Suppose someone competes: He cannot win if he breaks the rules. ⁶The most important thing for a hard-working farmer is to produce a harvest. ⁷Understand what I am saying: The lord will help you understand all these things.

⁸Remember: Jesus the messiah rose from the dead. He is a descendent of David according to my good news.

⁹I suffer for him like a criminal in shackles. However, this does not shackle God's word. ¹⁰That is why I endure all these things for the chosen ones. They have salvation by the messiah, Jesus, with eternal glory.

¹¹The saying is faithful,

If we suffer with him, we will live with him.

¹²If we endure, we will rule with him.

If we deny him, he will deny us.

¹³If we are unfaithful, he will remain faithful.

He cannot deny himself.

Avoid pointless chatter (2:14-26).

¹⁴Remind everyone about these things. Warn them before the lord: Do not argue about words. This is good for nothing except to destroy the audience.

¹⁵Stay eager for God's approval. Work without shame. Handle the true word correctly. ¹⁶Avoid pointless chatter. This produces more wickedness.

¹⁷Their words are like spreading gangrene. ¹⁸For example, there is Hymeneus and Philetus. They wander from the truth. They say, The resurrection already happened. So they ruin some people's faith.

¹⁹But God's true solid foundation stands. We have this seal:

The lord knows those who belong to him.^a

Also,

Everyone who claims the name of the lord must depart from wickedness. $^{\scriptscriptstyle \mathrm{b}}$

²⁰In a large house, there are not just gold and silver dishes. It even contains wooden dishes and pottery. Some are for special occasions. Others are for ordinary occasions.

²¹If someone cleanses himself from these things, he becomes a special dish. He becomes holy. He becomes useful to his master. He becomes ready for every good work.

²²Run away from youthful passions. Instead, pursue righteousness, faith, love, and peace with people that call on the lord from a clean heart.

²³Avoid foolish and ignorant debates. You know they just produce arguments.

²⁴The lord's servant must not quarrel. Be gentle with everyone. Teach skillfully. Be patient. ²⁵Gently instruct opponents.

a) Numbers 16:5.

b) Isaiah 26:13.

Perhaps God might help them repent into true knowledge. ²⁶They might come to their senses to escape the devil's trap. He captured them to do his bidding.

They wear a mask of godliness (3:1-7).

³Know this: There will difficult times near the final days. ²Men will be self-lovers, greedy, boastful, proud, slanderers, disobedient to parents, ungrateful, not religious, ³lack affection, heartless, gossips, violent, vicious, enemies of good, ⁴disloyal, rash, and prideful. Instead of loving God, they will love pleasure. ⁵They wear a mask of godliness, but have denied its power.

Avoid them.

⁶They include some who just stay in their houses. They trick idle women burdened with sin. They lead them into various lusts.

⁷They are always learning. But they never know the truth.

Jannes and Jambres resisted Moses (3:8-9).

⁸Just like them, Jannes and Jambres resisted Moses.^a

So, they also resist the truth. These men have corrupted their minds. They are disqualified from the faith. ⁹They cannot get any worse.

Their folly will be obvious to everyone, just like it was back then.

Stick to your instructions (3:10-17).

¹⁰Follow my teaching, conduct, purpose, faith, endurance, love, patience, ¹¹persecutions, and sufferings. For example, consider what happened to me in Antioch, Iconium, and Lystra. I survived terrible persecutions. The lord saved me from every one.

¹²Everyone who wants to live a godly life because of the messiah, Jesus, will experience persecution.

¹³Evil men and imposters have progressed from bad to worse. They both deceive and they are deceived.

¹⁴Stick to your instructions and convictions. You know how you learned them. ¹⁵Since you were an infant, you have known the holy texts. They can make you wise enough for salvation through faith in the messiah, Jesus.

a) Exodus 7:12, 7:22.

¹⁶All scripture comes from God's mouth. It is useful for instruction, correction, rebuke, and training in righteousness.

¹⁷Then God's man will be capable. He will be ready to perform any good deed.

Proclaim the word (4:1-5).

⁴I testify before God and the messiah, Jesus: He will judge both the living and the dead when he appears in his kingdom.

²Proclaim the word. Be prepared at the right time and the wrong time. Expose. Rebuke. Challenge with complete persistence and instruction.

³A time will come when they will not put up with sound teaching. They will find teachers of their own choice who will tickle their ears. ⁴They will turn their ears away from the truth. They will wander after myths.

⁵However, *you* must be completely self-controlled. Tolerate hardship. Do the job of an evangelist. Fulfill your duty.

I kept the faith (4:6-8).

 ${}^{6}\!I$ am already going to be a sacrifice. The time of my departure is almost here.

⁷I have competed in the contest. I finished the race. I kept the faith. ⁸The crown of righteousness is all that is left for me. The lord will reward me at that time.

He is the just judge, not just for me, but also for everyone who looks forward to his appearance.

Do your best to visit (4:9-22).

⁹Do your best to visit me soon. ¹⁰Demas abandoned me. He prefers this world. He left for Thessalonica. Crescens went to Galatia. Titus went to Dalmatia. ¹¹Luke is the only one here with me. Get Mark. Bring him with you. This is the best way he could serve me. ¹²I sent Tychicus to Ephesus.

¹³When you come, bring the cloak I left with Carpus at Troas. Bring my books, especially the parchments.

¹⁴Alexander the smith did a lot of harm to me. The lord will repay him for what he did. ¹⁵Look out for him. He strongly resisted our message.

¹⁶In my first defense, no one came to protect me. Instead, everyone abandoned me. I hope that it is not counted against them.

¹⁷The lord stood by me. He kept me strong. So, my preaching continues to be highly persuasive. All the gentiles listen.

I was rescued from the lion's mouth. ¹⁸The lord rescued me from all their evil deeds. He will preserve me for his heavenly kingdom.

He receives honor forever and ever. This is the truth.

¹⁹Greet Priska, Akula, and the family of Onesiphorus. ²⁰Tell Erastus to stay in Corinth. I left Trophimus behind in Miletus because he was so sick.

²¹Hurry so you can arrive before winter.

Eubulus, Pudens, Linus, Claudia, and all the brothers send you greetings.

²²May the lord protect your spirit.

I wish favor on you all.