

## **INTRODUCTION, BACKGROUND, AND OVERVIEW** **2 TIMOTHY 1:1-2**

### **BIBLE STUDY RESOURCES:**

- Holy Bible
- 2 Timothy Teaching Schedule
- Participant Questionnaire/Worksheet
- Paul’s Letters and Missionary Journeys
- Outline of the Second Letter to Timothy

### **TOPICS:**

Author, Addressee(s)/Audience, Date Written, Setting, Occasion/Purpose for Writing, Message, and Main Themes of Boldness, Faithfulness, Preaching and Teaching, and Error

### **OPEN IT QUESTIONS**

A. Have you ever felt equipped and empowered by someone in the faith? Briefly explain the experience.

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B. Have you ever equipped and empowered someone else in the faith? Briefly explain the experience.

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**BACKGROUND AND HISTORICAL CONTEXT**

***AUTHOR***

1. Who is the author of 2 Timothy? (1:1)

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***ADDRESSEE(S)/AUDIENCE***

2. To whom is this letter addressed? (1:2)

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3. How did Paul describe his relationship with the addressee of this letter? (1:2)

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4. How was Paul's greeting to this addressee different than to addressees in his other letters with the exception of the first letter to Timothy? (1:2)

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***DATE WRITTEN***

5. When was 2 Timothy written? (See Paul's Letters and Missionary Journeys Chart)

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PAUL'S LETTERS AND MISSIONARY JOURNEYS				
YEAR A.D.	MAJOR EVENTS	ACTS	PERIOD	LETTERS
34	Conversion, Damascus, Arabia	9	3 years - Arabia	
37	Jerusalem, Tarsus, Syria, Cilicia			
46-47	Antioch, Jerusalem	11	1 year - Antioch	
48-49	First Missionary Journey and Antioch	13-14		Galatians
50	Jerusalem Council and Antioch	15		
51-53	Second Missionary Journey	16-18	18 months - Corinth	1 Thessalonians 2 Thessalonians
53-54	Antioch			
54-57	Third Missionary Journey	19-21	3 years - Ephesus	1 Corinthians 2 Corinthians Romans
57	Jerusalem Arrest	22-23		
57-59	Caesarea Prisoner	24-26	2 years	
59-60	Journey to Rome	27-28		
60-67 circa <i>(approximately)</i>	Rome House Arrest	28	5-7 years circa	Ephesians Colossians Philemon Philippians 1 Timothy Titus 2 Timothy

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**SETTING (The City)**

6. From where was 2 Timothy written? (See Paul’s Letters and Missionary Journeys Chart)

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**OCCASION AND PURPOSE FOR WRITING**

7. For what reason did Paul write this letter to Timothy?

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***THE MESSAGE***

8. What is the overall message in 2 Timothy?

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Paul's second letter to Timothy is a moving letter of farewell to the young pastor in Ephesus. In it we find a message of tremendous significance for the global church: Christians and especially Christian leaders are called to share in suffering as they hold fast to Scripture and to truth while pursuing godliness and encouraging others to do the same.

***MAIN THEMES***

9. What are the main themes in the book of 2 Timothy?

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The main themes in the book of 2 Timothy include: *Boldness, Faithfulness, Preaching and Teaching, and Error.*

**Boldness (1:5-12; 4:1-5)**

Paul knew that Timothy soon would face opposition and persecution and might become disheartened by Paul's imprisonment and death (1:8-9). He also knew that Timothy had the tendency to be timid, so Paul reminded him that God gives a spirit of power, love, and self-discipline, not timidity (1:7). And Paul urged Timothy to carry out his ministry without fear or shame, to utilize boldly the gifts of preaching and teaching that the Holy Spirit had given him.

10. What is the importance of cultivating boldness to use one's god given spiritual gifts to serve in the church, even when faced with opposition?

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**Faithfulness (1:13-14; 2:1, 3-13; 3:14-15).** Because of his difficult situation, Timothy may have been tempted to waver in his faith or even to desert the cause of Christ as others had done (4:10, 16). To resist this temptation, Timothy was to remember Christ's faithfulness in suffering and dying for our sins. In addition, Paul's own example was important, for he had been faithful through countless trials and was still serving Christ, even in prison. Paul urged Timothy to maintain sound doctrine, to be loyal and diligent, and to endure.

11. What is the importance for today to remain strong in our faithfulness to Christ.

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**Preaching and Teaching (2:2, 22-26; 3:16-17; 4:1-5).** Paul had spent most of his life spreading the Good News, winning people to Christ, teaching new Christians, and establishing new churches. Paul had trained Timothy to follow in his footsteps, to preach and teach the gospel. So facing the reality of his own death, Paul passed the leadership torch to Timothy and encouraged him to train others who would be able to carry on after Timothy was gone. Timothy should train these men and women in sound doctrine, in being totally committed to Christ, and in how to teach. In large measure we have heard the gospel and have believed because Paul and Timothy were faithful to teach others how to teach others.

12. What is the importance for today to develop a strong preaching and teaching ministry in the church?

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**Error (2:14-21; 3:1-13; 4:9-18).** Wherever there is truth, lies will arise. Human beings are sinful and will use anything, even religious causes, to meet their self-centered needs. Remember, too, that Satan is constantly twisting the truth and attempting to deceive, so we shouldn't be surprised that false teachers abound. Paul warned Timothy about heretics and spiritual dropouts. Timothy was not to be surprised, discouraged, or defeated by these false teachers and deserters. Instead, he should stay strong in his faith, confront, and refute those who would lead the church astray, and continue to boldly preach and teach the truth. And Paul reminded Timothy that God's word, not theories and philosophies, contains God's truth (see 2:15; 3:16-17).

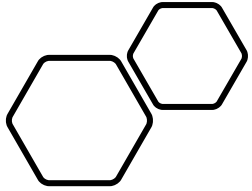
13. What should believers do to prepare to defend the faith and counter spiritual error and heretics?

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[Source: Life Application New Testament Commentary and LessonMaker]



**New Hope Missionary Baptist Church of  
Southfield, Michigan**

*Welcome to Bible Study*

**Guest Facilitators**

Robbin Cooper, Sunday School Supt.  
Jacqueline Bray, Instructor  
Jonathan Clark, Instructor  
Kendall Taylor, Instructor  
Vineta Mitchell, Instructor  
Chaplain Gloria Vinson, Instructor

**Facilitators**

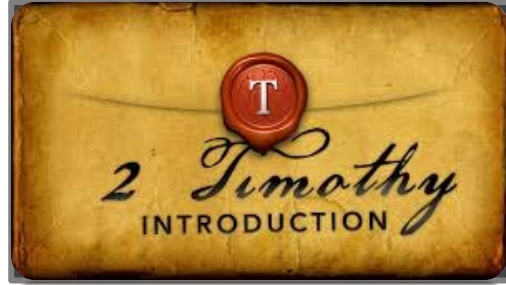
Rev. Rodney Kemp  
Rev. Valerie Crump  
Rev. Jacqueline Albert  
Dean Donna Wilson  
Alicia Martin, Minister-in-Training

# PRAYER



- Sick
- Bereaved
- Our Country
- The World



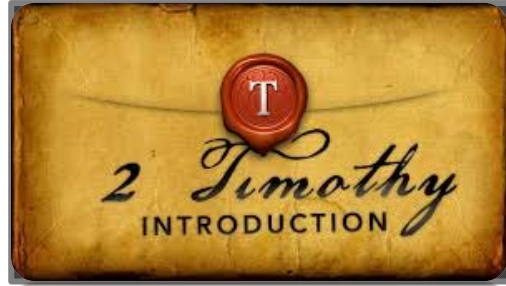


# 2 Timothy

## “Introduction and Background”

### BIBLE STUDY RESOURCES

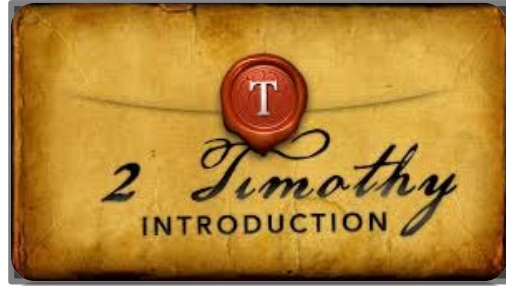
- Holy Bible
- 2 Timothy Teaching Schedule
- Participant Questionnaire/Worksheet
- Paul’s Letters and Missionary Journeys
- Macedonia & Ephesians Map
- Outline of the Second Letter to Timothy



# 2 Timothy

## “Introduction and Background”

**Topics**



# 2 Timothy

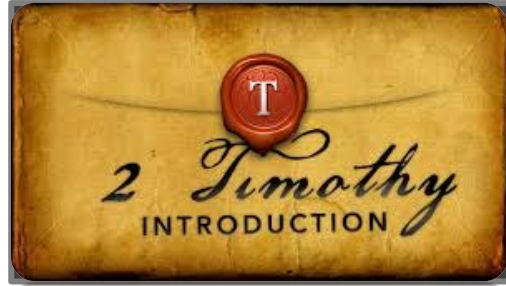
## “Introduction and Background”

### Topics

- Author
- Audience
- Date Written
- Setting
- Occasion/Purpose
- Message

### Main Themes

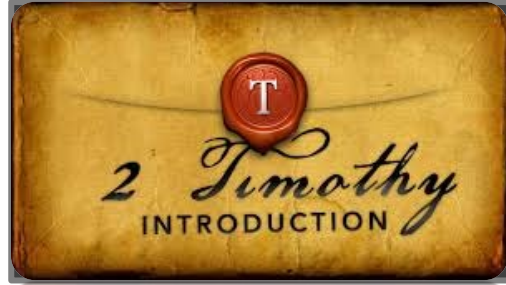
- Boldness
- Faithfulness
- Preaching
- Teaching
- Error



# 2 Timothy

## “Introduction and Background”

**Open It Questions**

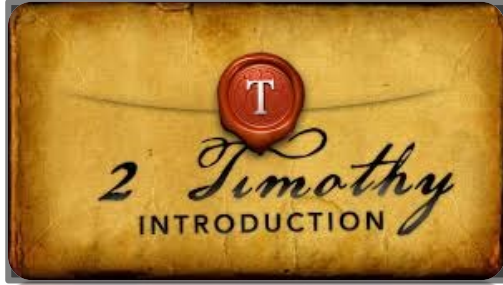


# 2 Timothy

## “Introduction and Background”

### Open It Questions

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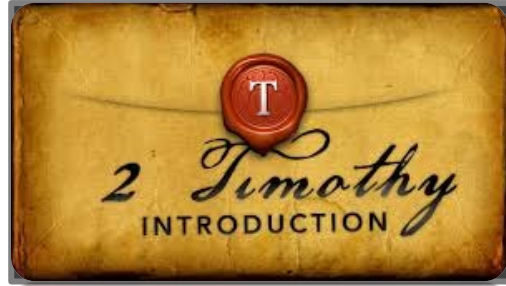


# 2 Timothy

## “Introduction and Background”

### Open It Questions

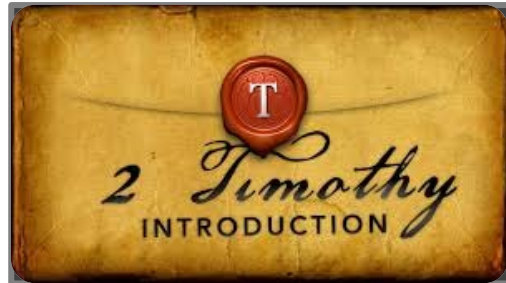
- B. Have you ever equipped and empowered someone else in the faith? Briefly explain the experience.



# 2 Timothy

## “Introduction and Background”

**INTRODUCTION**



# 2 Timothy

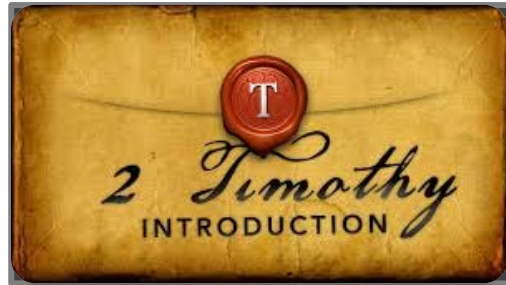
## “Introduction and Background”

### INTRODUCTION

As Paul wrote this second letter to Timothy, the Christian church throughout the empire was facing severe persecution and hardship.

Emperor Nero had begun a major persecution in A.D. 64 as part of his plan to pass the blame for the great fire of Rome from himself to the Christians. This persecution spread across the empire and included social ostracism, public torture, and murder.



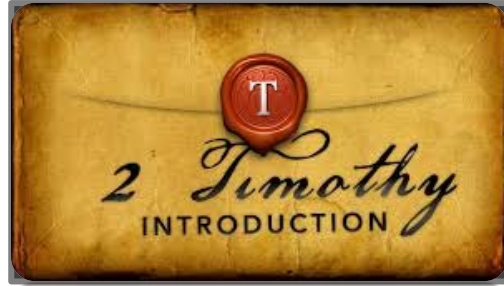


## 2 Timothy

# “Introduction and Background”

### INTRODUCTION

Thus, the tone of this letter is somber. Paul, imprisoned for the last time, knew he would soon die. Unlike Paul’s first imprisonment in Rome in a house where he continued to teach (Acts 28:16, 23, 30), this time he was probably confined to a cold dungeon, awaiting his death (4:6-8). As Paul awaited execution, he wrote this letter to his dear friend Timothy, a younger man who was like a son to him (1:2). How Timothy must have cherished this last letter from his beloved mentor and friend.



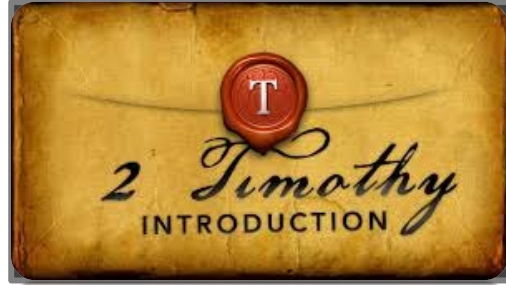
# 2 Timothy

## “Introduction and Background”

**SCRIPTURE**

**2 Timothy 1:1-2**

**(NIV)**

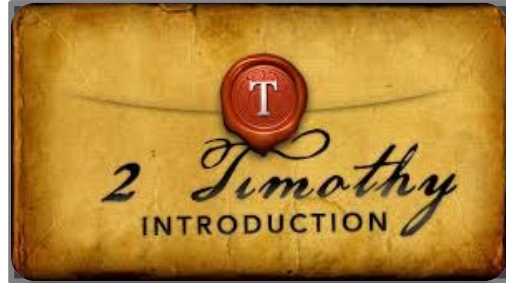


## 2 Timothy

# “Introduction and Background”

**SCRIPTURE**  
**1 Timothy 1:1-2**  
**(NIV)**

*<sup>1</sup>Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, in keeping with the promise of life that is in Christ Jesus,  
<sup>2</sup>To Timothy, my dear son: Grace, mercy and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.*

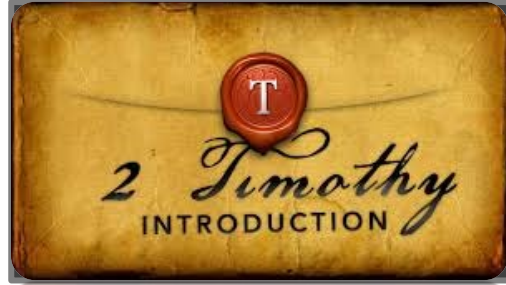


# 2 Timothy

## “Introduction and Background”

**BACKGROUND  
AND CONTEXT**

*Author*



# 2 Timothy

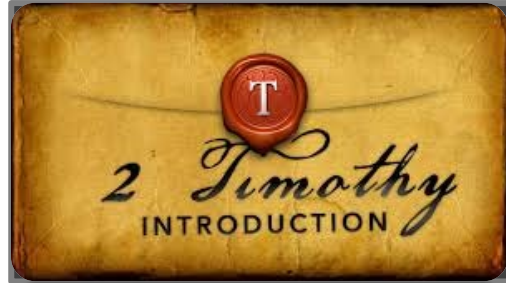
## “Introduction and Background”

### 1. Who is the author of 2 Timothy? (1:1)

**BACKGROUND  
AND CONTEXT**

***Author***

*<sup>1</sup>Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, in keeping with the promise of life that is in Christ Jesus, ...*

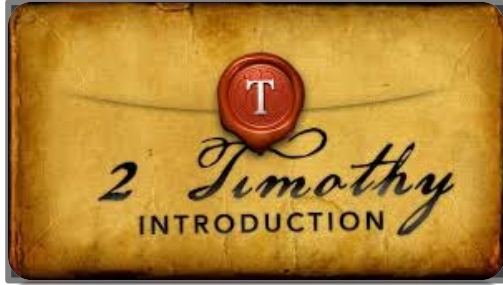


# 2 Timothy

## “Introduction and Background”

**BACKGROUND AND  
CONTEXT**

*Addressee/Audience*



# 2 Timothy

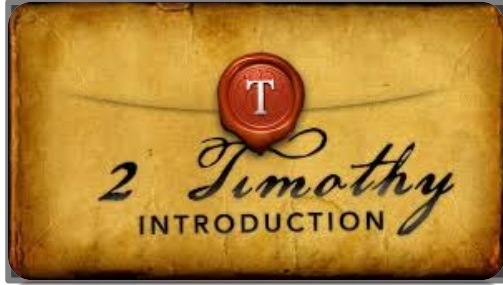
## “Introduction and Background”

### 2. To whom was this letter addressed? (1:2)

**BACKGROUND  
AND CONTEXT**

*Addressee/  
Audience*

*<sup>2</sup> To Timothy, my dear son:  
Grace, mercy and peace from  
God the Father and Christ  
Jesus our Lord.*



# 2 Timothy

## “Introduction and Background”

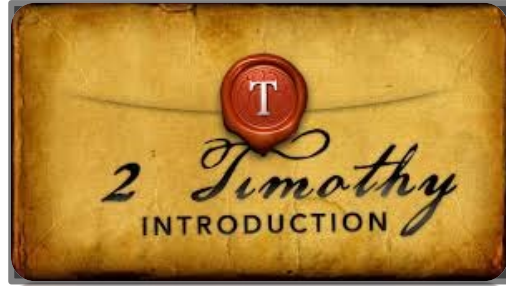
3. How did Paul describe his relationship with the addressee of this letter? (1:2)

**BACKGROUND  
AND CONTEXT**

*Addressee/  
Audience*

*<sup>2</sup> To Timothy, my dear son: Grace, mercy and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.*





# 2 Timothy

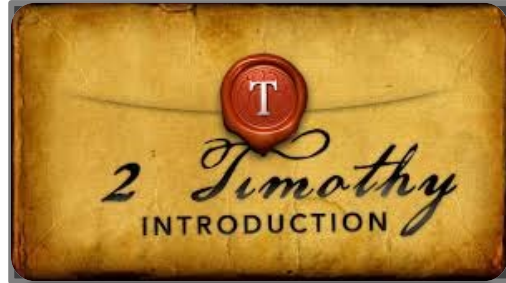
## “Introduction and Background”

### BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

*Addressee/  
Audience*

4. How was Paul’s greeting to this addressee different than to addressees in his other letters with the exception of the first letter to 1 Timothy? (1:2)

*<sup>2</sup> To Timothy, my dear son: Grace, mercy and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.*

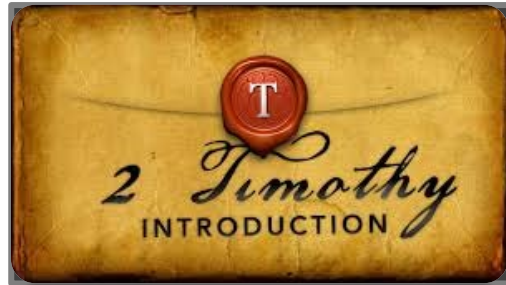


# 2 Timothy

## “Introduction and Background”

**BACKGROUND  
AND CONTEXT**

*Date Written*



# 2 Timothy

## “Introduction and Background”

### 5. When was 2 Timothy written?

Written about A.D. 66 or 67, from Rome.

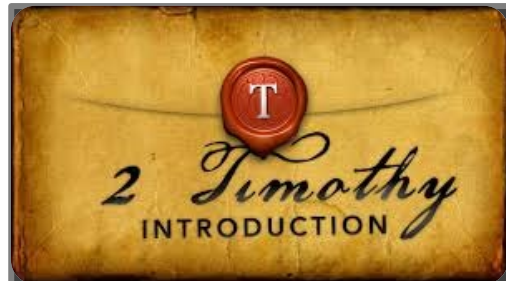
(See Paul's Letters and Missionary Journeys Chart)

**BACKGROUND  
AND CONTEXT**

*Date Written*

## PAUL'S LETTERS AND MISSIONARY JOURNEYS

YEAR A.D.	MAJOR EVENTS	ACTS	PERIOD	LETTERS
34	Conversion, Damascus, Arabia	9	3 years - Arabia	
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46-47	Antioch, Jerusalem	11	1 year - Antioch	
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60-67 circa (approximately)	Rome House Arrest	28	5-7 years circa	Ephesians Colossians Philemon Philippians 1 Timothy Titus 2 Timothy



# 2 Timothy

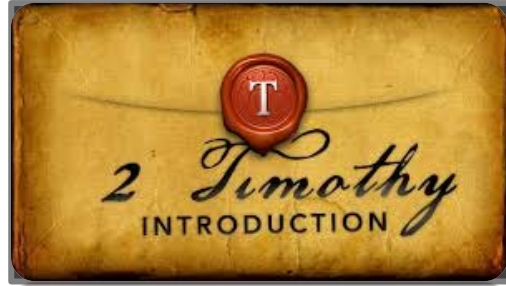
## “Introduction and Background”

6. From where was 2 Timothy written?

### **BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT**

### ***Setting – The City***

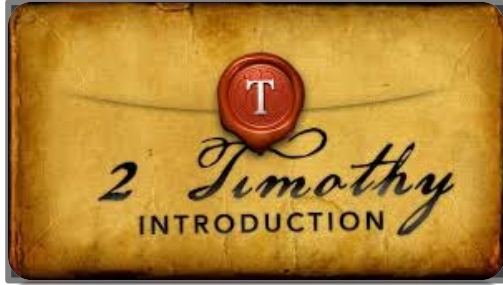
Paul had written letters to Timothy (1 Timothy) and Titus in approximately A.D. 64-65, during his time of freedom between Roman imprisonments. Just about two years later (A.D. 67), he wrote to Timothy again, but this time from prison.



# 2 Timothy

## “Introduction and Background”

**BACKGROUND  
AND CONTEXT**  
*Occasion and Purpose  
for Writing*



# 2 Timothy

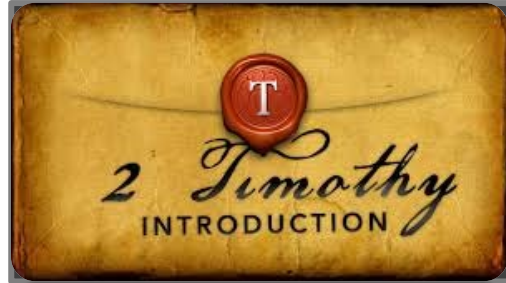
## “Introduction and Background”

7. For what reason did Paul write this letter to Timothy?

### **BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT**

*Occasion and Purpose  
for Writing*

To inspire, challenge, and motivate Timothy to carry on the gospel ministry.



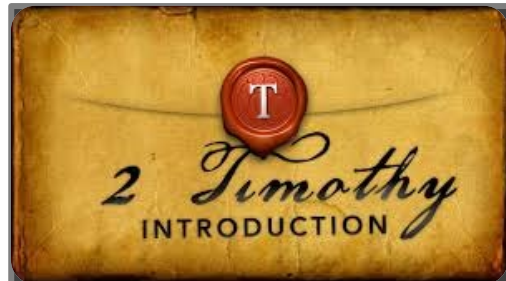
# 2 Timothy

## “Introduction and Background”

**BACKGROUND  
AND CONTEXT**

*Message*





# 2 Timothy

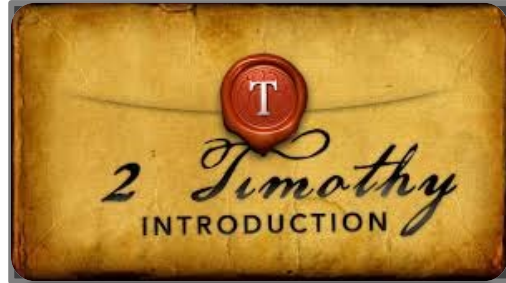
## “Introduction and Background”

### BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

#### *Message*

### 8. What is the overall message in 2 Timothy?

Paul’s second letter to Timothy is a moving letter of farewell to the young pastor in Ephesus. In it we find a message of tremendous significance for the global church: Christians and especially Christian leaders are called to share in suffering as they hold fast to Scripture and to truth while pursuing godliness and encouraging others to do the same.

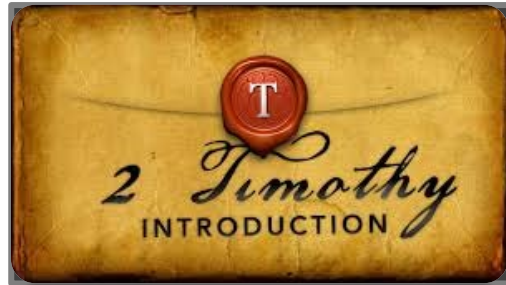


# 2 Timothy

## “Introduction and Background”

**BACKGROUND  
AND CONTEXT**

*Themes*



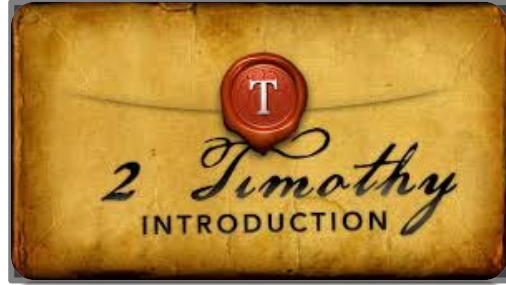
# 2 Timothy

## “Introduction and Background”

9. **What are the main themes in the book of 2 Timothy?**

**BACKGROUND  
AND CONTEXT**  
*Themes*

*Boldness, Faithfulness,  
Preaching and Teaching, and  
Error*



# 2 Timothy

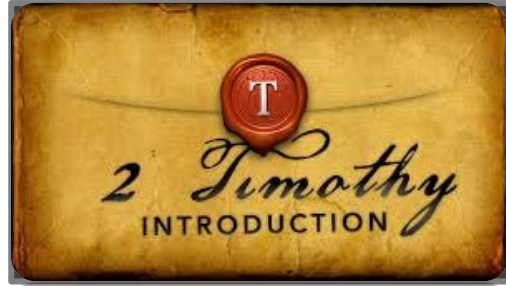
## “Introduction and Background”

### BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

#### *Themes*

10. What is the importance of cultivating boldness to use one’s god given spiritual gifts to serve in the church, even when faced with opposition?

To get over our fear of what people might say or do to us, we must take our eyes off people and look only to God, remembering that he has promised to be with us through everything (see Romans 8:38-39).



# 2 Timothy

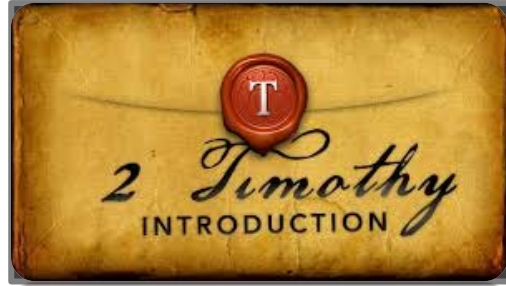
## “Introduction and Background”

11. **What is the importance for today to remain strong in our faithfulness to Christ.**

### **BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT**

#### ***Themes***

Even in our churches we may face rejection when we stand for the truth. But regardless of the cost, we are to be faithful to Christ and to faithfully proclaim his Word.



# 2 Timothy

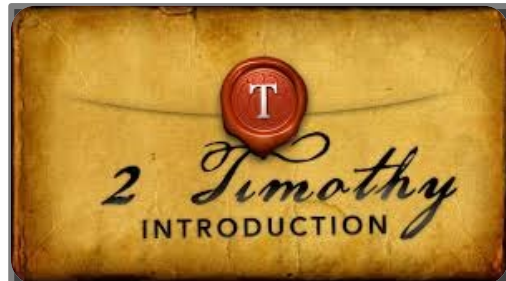
## “Introduction and Background”

12. **What is the importance for today to develop a strong preaching and teaching ministry in the church?**

### **BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT**

#### ***Themes***

The two most important tasks of a Christian leader are evangelism (sharing the gospel with others and leading them to Christ) and discipleship (establishing new believers in the faith). A vital part of the discipleship process is preparing people to transmit God’s word to others so that they in turn might pass it on.



# 2 Timothy

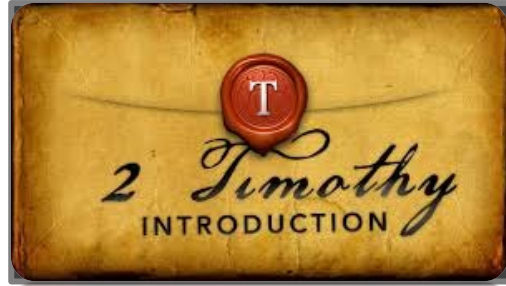
## “Introduction and Background”

13. **What should believers do to prepare to defend the faith and counter spiritual error and heretics?**

### **BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT**

#### *Themes*

The antidote for false teaching is keeping our eyes on Christ and studying God’s word. We must be disciplined and ready to reject heresy. We must know the word of God as our sure defense against error and confusion.



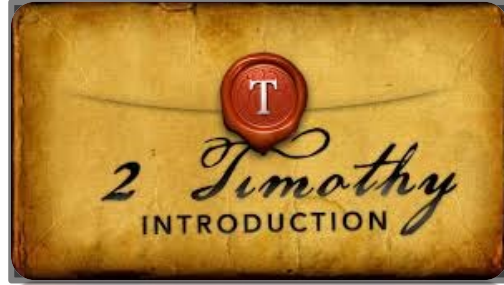
# 2 Timothy

## “Introduction and Background”

**BACKGROUND  
AND CONTEXT**

*Outline*





# 2 Timothy

## “Introduction and Background”

### 2 TIMOTHY

#### Outline

- I. Introduction, Background, Context
- II. Thanksgiving
- III. Encouragement to be faithful
- IV. Instructions to Timothy
- V. Paul’s testimony
- VI. Conclusion

### 2 TIMOTHY *OUTLINE*

New Hope Missionary Baptist Church  
Southfield, Michigan  
[www.newhope-mbc.org](http://www.newhope-mbc.org)

## **Next Week's Lesson**

~UNASHAMED~  
Fanning the flame of faith  
2 Timothy 1: 3-18

# PRAYER



PSALM 41-44  
41 Ad that hate me whelpen together against me, against me do they devise my hurt.  
42 An evil disease, say they, cleaveth fast unto him, and now that he hath he shall rise up no more.  
43 Yes, mine eyes shall see my friend, in whom I trusted, which did cut off my breath, hath lifted up his head against me.  
44 And thou, O Lord, be merciful unto me, and raise me up, that I may requite them.  
45 By this I know that thou favorest me, because mine enemy would not triumph over me.  
46 And as for me, thou upholdest me in mine integrity, and settest me before the face for ever.  
47 Blessed be the Lord God of Israel from everlasting, and to everlasting, Amen, and Amen.  
PSALM 42  
To the chief Musician, Maschil, for the sons of Korah  
As the hart panteth after the water brooks, so panteth my soul after thee, O God.  
2 My soul thirsteth for God, for the living God, when shall I come and appear before God?  
3 My tears have been my meat day and night, while they continually say unto me, Where is thy God?  
4 When I remember these things, I pour out my soul to me, for I had gone with the multitude, I went with them to the house of God, with the voice of joy and praise, with a multitude that kept holydays.  
5 Why art thou cast down, O my soul? and why art thou disquieted in me? hope thou in God: for I shall yet praise him for the help of his countenance.  
6 O my God, my soul is cast down within me: therefore will I remember thee from the land of Jordan, and of the Hermon-lites, from the hill Mizor.  
7 Deep calleth unto deep at the noise of thy waterspouts: all the

PSALM 41-44  
41 For the Lord will not forsake his holy ones.  
42 For the Lord will not forsake his holy ones.  
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PSALM 41-44  
41 Our heart is not turned back, neither have our steps departed from thy way.  
42 Though thine host were broken as in the place of dragons, and covered us with the shadow of death.  
43 If we have forgotten the name of our God, or stretched out our hands to a strange god:  
44 Shall not God search this out? for he knoweth the secrets of the heart.  
45 Yes, for thy sake are we killed all the day long; we are counted as sheep for the slaughter.  
46 Awake, why sleepest thou, O Lord? arise, and be not off for ever.  
47 Wherefore thineist thou lay face, and forgettest our affliction and our oppression?  
48 For our soul is bowed down to the dust; our belly cleaveth unto the earth.  
49 Arise for our help, and redeem us for thy mercies' sake.  
PSALM 45  
To the chief Musician upon Shoshannim, for the sons of Korah, Maschil, A Song of love  
MY heart is inditing a good matter: I speak of the things which I have made touching the king: my tongue is the pen of a ready writer.  
2 Thou art fairer than the children of men: grace is poured into thy lips, therefore God hath blessed thee for ever.  
3 Gird thy sword upon thy thigh, O most mighty, with thy glory and thy majesty.  
4 And in thy majesty ride prosperously because of truth and meekness and righteousness, and thy right hand shall teach thee terrible things.  
5 Thine arrows are sharp in the heart of the king's enemies; whereby the people fall under thee.  
6 Thy throne, O God, is for ever and ever: the sceptre of thy kingdom is a right sceptre.  
7 Thou lovest righteousness, and hatest wickedness: therefore God,

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## 2 Timothy Outline

- I. Introduction (1:1-2)
- II. Thanksgiving (1:3-7)
- III. Encouragement to be faithful (1:8-2:13)
  - A. In the face of hardships (1:8-14)
  - B. In the face of desertions (1:15-2:13)
- IV. Instructions to Timothy (2:14-4:5)
  - A. On being a faithful servant (2:14-26)
  - B. On apostasy in the Church (3:1-4:5)
- V. Paul's testimony (4:6-8)
- VI. Conclusion (4:9-22)

LESSONmaker Outlines.