

II Timothy 1:8-16
The Priority of the Gospel

GOSPEL'S VALUE – Do not be ashamed (8-12) - ***of the Gospel or His messengers***

The Source (Mark 8:38) – ***Jesus and His words are the source of the Gospel***

The Servants (Hebrews 10:32-35) – ***those who trust in Him do not shrink back***

The Suffering (Philippians 3:10-11 / Acts 5:41) – ***it is part of the package***

The Saving Grace (Ephesians 2:8-9) – ***it comes completely from Him, by GRACE***

The Satisfaction – having light and life (Ephesians 5:8 / John 10:10)

True light and abundant life become ours

The Security (I Corinthians 15:58 / Hebrews 6:10; 18-20) – ***our labor is never in vain***

Our hope is secure, anchored behind the veil

GUARDING the GOSPEL (13-14) – ***not just for our salvation, but for our lives in Christ***

Following the pattern (Philippians 3:17 / I Corinthians 4:16-17 / Galatians 5:6))

Faith expressed in love – the examples of those who give Jesus their all

Faithful with what we have been given (no compromise in our lives or teaching)

(Jude 3) – ***entrusted with His Word and His Spirit, all that we need***

GOOD & BAD EXAMPLES (15-18)

Separation – abandoning the faithful followers (Luke 14:25-35)

Those unwilling to count the cost and put Jesus 1st in everything

Standing firm – supporting faithful followers no matter the cost (Romans 12:5)

Those who understand our brotherhood and are will to sacrifice for others

(I John3:16)

Discussion questions for II Timothy 1:8-16

In what ways can we be ashamed of the Gospel? (Romans 1:16-17/Luke 9:26/Matthew 5:14-16)

Not recognizing its power. Not acknowledging the requirement of faith from beginning to end. Not taking the Gospel wherever we go. Hiding our light, which is truly His light, so that others don't have the opportunity to see Him. Trying to share or live the Gospel in our own strength. (John 15:5)

How can we overcome this? (II Timothy 1:7 / Deuteronomy 33:25-27 / II Peter 1:3-4)

Acknowledging what we have been given by His Spirit (power, love and a sound mind) By believing that He gives the strength we need each day and that we are held by His everlasting arms. By holding to and living by His promises.

What are the blessings received through the Gospel? (Romans 3:21-22; 5:1, 10; 6:23; 8:1, 38-

39) We are given the righteousness of God (II Corinthians 5:21) We now have peace with God, no longer under His wrath (John 3:36) We have been given life, everlasting (John 3:16) We are no longer condemned. We cannot be separated from His love.

How can we be guardians of the Gospel? (Psalm 19:14 / Titus 1:16 / Philippians 3:17-20)

Asking God to control our thoughts and words, that they would be pleasing to Him. Recognize that by actions and behavior matter. Yielding myself to the control of the Spirit who dwells within me, that I may truly live for Him. Joining with others who wholeheartedly seek to follow after God – not giving in to fleshly and worldly desire but rather recognizing that we are citizens of heaven – looking to the return of our glorious Savior. (I Peter 1:13)

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