



PEOPLE IN THE MINISTRY – 2 TIMOTHY 4:9-22

As the apostle Paul closes out his final recorded message to Timothy (the pastor of the Ephesian church), he focuses on _____ needs, and _____ in the ministry. He writes from the lower dungeon in the Mamertine prison, called in ancient times the *Tullianum*, located 12 feet below the surface in a cold damp cell approximately 8' square and 6' high. The trial has already been completed, his guilty verdict set, and now an executioner's axe awaits him. Today's text records his _____ personal messages. Here we see what was most _____ to him. May the significance of these words resonate in our hearts affecting our values and relationships.

1. Paul's personal requests to Timothy – 2 Timothy 4:9, 13, 19-21

a. Do thy diligence to come _____ unto me – verses 9, 13

- Come quickly—please do not waste any time, the clock is ticking

Bring the cloke – verse 13a

Bring the books – verse 13b

Especially bring the parchments – verse 13c

b. Salute my friends – verse 19-20

- Salute – to offer expressions of _____; best wishes or regards

Prisca (short for Priscilla) and Aquila

The household of Onesiphorus

Erastus (he abode at Corinth)

Trophimus (he is sick—the apostolic sign gifts have now _____ – Ro. 11:25; Acts 28:28; 1 Cor. 1:22; 13:8; 14:22; Phil. 2:25-28)

c. Do thy diligence to come before _____ – verse 21a

- Winter is coming—_____ may pass you by if you are not diligent

d. Greetings from: Eubulus, Pudens, and Linus, and Claudia, and all the brethren – verse 21b

2. Paul's personal comments on people – 2 Timothy 4:10-12, 14-18

a. Trusted co-laborers – verses 10b, 11-12

- Crescens (send him to Galatia) – He is anonymous and only listed here, obviously a trusted pastor, leader, or servant

- Titus (send him to Dalmacia) – A good missionary, partner and fellow laborer with the apostle whose job it was to ordain new pastors for new churches throughout the region. He was likely led to faith in Christ and _____ by Paul. A pastoral epistle was written to this faithful man
- Luke – Perhaps Paul’s most trusted personal friend; a physician, co-laborer, biblical author of the gospel bearing his name (emphasizing Jesus as the son of man), and likely the apostle’s amanuensis while in his second Roman imprisonment—documenting Paul’s dictations...
- Mark – John Mark, likely Barnabus’ nephew. Once an unprofitable quitter, now a valuable asset, and the author of the gospel that bears his name – Mark; Acts 12:12, 25; 13:5, 13; 15:36-41; Col. 4:10; Phm. 24
 - Never give up on people – unfaithfulness and poor behaviour can be just a chapter or two in the story of a person’s life
- Tychicus (I sent him to Ephesus *to take your place*) – A beloved brother and faithful minister often used by the apostle as a trusted personal envoy

b. Many adversaries – verses 10a, 14-16

- Demas (a fellow believer) – Forsook Paul while he was in Rome and imprisoned. He fell in love with the evil present world...
 - Many Christians are genuinely saved but the attraction of the world is too powerful for them to resist, in time they simply give in and give up harming the work – Eph. 1:1; 1 Jo. 2:15-16
- Alexander the coppersmith (an evil lost man) – He undoubtedly participated with the uproar in Ephesus during the events of Acts 19:24-34 and is possibly the same man named in 1 Ti. 1:20. Paul is _____ Timothy that he is still a problem...
 - Although this type of evil character is few and far between, they do exist in the ministry. We need to watch out for them and be prepared for Satan to send them our way...
- All men (*at my first answer* no man stood with me, they forsook me)
 - I pray for them as Jesus did – Lk. 23:34
 - There is always hope with the Lord

c. Our Savior and Deliverer in life and in death – verses 17-18

- The person of the Lord Jesus Christ will never leave us nor forsake us...

3. Paul’s personal closing – 2 Timothy 4:22

- A timeless blessing