

DISCIPLESHIP GROUPS

Our Mission: Reaching out to leaders who can change the world.

November 2014

PAUL'S LAST WORDS: COME QUICKLY!

INTRODUCTION

If you left home without anything, what would be the first thing you'd ask someone to bring to you? Why?

OBSERVATION/INTERPRETATION

Read 2 Tim 4:9-15

1. Why do you think Paul wanted Timothy to get to him quickly?

Note: It was hard to sail and navigate in the winter.

2. Who was Demas and how would you characterize him? Col 4:14; Phil 23, 24; Lk 8:1-15

3. What do you think caused Demas to desert Paul and the ministry? 1 Jn 2:15-17

4. What can we do to ensure we do not become like Demas?

5. What enabled Luke to have a close relationship with Paul? Lk 1:1-3; Acts 20:5-6; 27:1

6. What helps you develop and maintain close friendships? How have these relationships benefited you throughout your life?

7. Why did Paul want Mark to come to him? (Acts 12:25; 15:36-40)

8. What warning does Paul give concerning Alexander and what should Timothy do? 1 Tim 1:20

9. What does Paul ask Timothy to bring to him? Why? v 13

Note: The "cloak" Paul requested was a large sleeveless, woolen outer garment made of a single piece of heavy material with a hole in the middle for allowing the head to pass through. It would have resembled the poncho and would have provided excellent protection against the damp cold of a dungeon during winter¹

Read 2 Tim 4:16-22

Note: The Bible does not record the final days of Paul. Tradition tells us that he was found guilty and sentenced to die. He was probably taken outside the city and beheaded.

10. What happened at Paul's defense?

11. What was Paul's attitude and response in light of his lack of support from man?

12. Why do you think Paul was so personal in relationships with people?

13. What is significant in the way Paul closes out his letter in verse 22?

Note: "Grace be with you" (2 Timothy 4:22) was Paul's personal farewell, used at the end of his letters as a "trademark" that the letter was not a forgery

APPLICATION

- What steps are you taking to guard the Gospel that has been entrusted to you?
- What have you learned in 2 Timothy that you will pass on to others? 2 Tim 2:2

But Timothy and the other devoted believers carried on the work! As John Wesley used to say, "God buries His workmen, but His work goes on." You and I must be faithful so that (if the Lord does not return soon) future generations may hear the Gospel and have the opportunity to be saved.
The Bible Exposition Commentary

¹ Lea, T. D., & Griffin, H. P. (1992). *1, 2 Timothy, Titus* (Vol. 34, p. 254). Nashville: Broadman & Holman Publishers.