

A GOOD SOLDIER OF JESUS CHRIST

Scripture Reading: 2 Timothy 2:1-6

INTRODUCTION:

Millions of people today are searching for a reliable voice of authority. The Word of God is the only real authority we have. His Word sheds light on human nature, world problems and human suffering. But beyond that, it clearly reveals the way to God our Creator.

The message of the Bible is the message of Jesus Christ who said, in [John 14:6](#) "*I am the way, the truth, and the life*". It is the story of salvation; the story of our redemption through Christ; the story of life, of peace, of eternity.

Tonight, I want us to look in the Scripture to really find out how we can be a **GOOD SOLDIER**.

Second Timothy is the latest of the Pauline letters. As such it is of special interest not only because of what it reveals concerning the last days of Paul's life, but also because of what it reveals about its recipient.

In the second chapter of Second Timothy the believer is presented in seven characters.

He is called **A SON**, v. 1; **A SOLDIER**, v. 3; **AN ATHLETE**, v. 5; **AN HUSBANDMAN**, v. 6; **A WORKMAN**, v. 15; **A VESSEL**, v. 21, **AND A SERVANT**, v. 24.

With each of these characters there is a *suited* exhortation. So let's begin our study:

I- AS A SON (2:1)

Timothy Is Exhorted To Be Strong In Grace.

Grace goes with *sonship*, just as *law* goes with *servitude*—as we learn from Galatians. Grace is a gift.

II- AS A SOLDIER (2:3)

We are exhorted to endure hardness, and to avoid worldly entanglements; these are right elements of good *soldiership*.

III- AS AN ATHLETE (2:5)

If anyone enters competitive games, he is not crowned unless he competes lawfully (fairly, according to the rules laid down).

IV- AS A HUSBANDMAN (2:6)

The hardworking farmer ought to be the first to get a share of the crops.

V- AN A WORKMAN (2:15)

In verse 15 he is told what is required of him as a workman:

Study and be eager and do your utmost to present yourself to God approved (tested by trial), a workman who has no cause to be ashamed, correctly analyzing and accurately dividing [rightly handling and skillfully teaching] the Word of Truth.

VI- AS A VESSEL (2:21)

He is to be cleansed, separated: as a servant, gentle, patient, meek, and so of each of these seven aspects of his life as a Christian.

VII- AS A SERVANT (2:24)

The servant of the Lord must not be quarrelsome (fighting and contending). Instead, he must be kindly to everyone and mild-tempered; he must be a skilled and suitable teacher, patient and forbearing and willing to suffer wrong.

Conclusion:

We are not perfect, but we are to constantly strive to be **A GOOD SOLDIER OF JESUS CHRIST.**