

Some People “Useful For The Master”

2 Tim. 2:21

Introduction:

- A. Second Timothy written to young brother at Ephesus.
 - 1. Timothy 300 from home and nearly 1,000 miles from Paul.
 - 2. Timothy subject to temptation of youth in heathen city and the hardships of preaching.
 - 3. Timothy receive two encouraging letters from Paul.
- B. Second Timothy gives us a idea of people that are “vessels unto honor”-- “useful for the Master”.
 - 1. These are honorable people in God’s eyes.
 - 2. These are people that the Lord can use.

Discussion:

I. People Who Serve The Lord With A Pure Conscience. (1:3).

- A. Involves Faithful service.
- B. Involves conscientious service.
 - 1. Can be conscientious and not right. (cf. Acts 23:1).
 - 2. Can not be right without pure conscience. (cf. Rom. 14:23; 1 Cor. 8:7)

II. People Who Instill Faith In Their Children. (1:5).

- A. A scriptural faith (Rom. 10:6-8,17; 2 Tim. 3:15-17).
- B. An unfeigned faith - not play-acting.
- C. A demonstrated faith - first in them.

III. People With Proper Balance.

- A. Balancing firmness with gentleness. (2:24-26).
 - 1. Able to contend without being contentious.
 - 2. Able to humble without being either wimpish or artificial (cf. Col 2:18,23).
- B. Understanding difference in house and foundation. (2:19-21).

IV. People Who Are Willing To Preach The Gospel With Longsuffering and Doctrine. (4:1-2)

- A. In face of hardship. (2:3-10).
- B. In face of opposition. (4:14,15).

V. People Who Will Support Strong Gospel Preaching. (4:3-5)

- A. Financial support is useful, but very small part.
- B. Prayerful support is needed. (2:3-4).
- C. Moral support needed.
 - 1. When suffering for the gospel. (1:8-11).
 - 2. When standing up to opposition. (4:9-11, 14-18).

VI. People Who are Looking For Heaven. (4:6-8).

Conclusion:

- A. How useful are we to the Master?
- B. Are we vessels to honor or dishonor?
- C. We can correct it today, if we are not.