

2 Timothy 4:9-22

1. Paul instructed Timothy to bring Mark, his cloak and his scrolls to Rome because ministry involves plotting (9-13)

9 Do your best to come to me quickly, 10 for Demas, because he loved this world, has deserted me and has gone to Thessalonica. Crescens has gone to Galatia, and Titus to Dalmatia. 11 Only Luke is with me. Get Mark and bring him with you, because he is helpful to me in my ministry. 12 I sent Tychicus to Ephesus. 13 When you come, bring the cloak that I left with Carpus at Troas, and my scrolls, especially the parchments.

2. Paul warned Timothy about the gospel opposition of Alexander because ministry involves pain (14-15)

14 Alexander the metalworker did me a great deal of harm. The Lord will repay him for what he has done. 15 You too should be on your guard against him, because he strongly opposed our message.

3. Paul reassured Timothy of God's sovereign deliverance because ministry requires perseverance (16-18)

16 At my first defence, no one came to my support, but everyone deserted me. May it not be held against them. 17 But the Lord stood at my side and gave me strength, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it. And I was delivered from the lion's mouth. 18 The Lord will rescue me from every evil attack and will bring me safely to his heavenly kingdom. To him be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

Conclusion

Principles in the life of the great Apostle that shape these final words

- He invested in God's people:
- He partnered in God's mission:
- He fed on God's word:
- He trusted in God's sovereignty:
- He worked for God's glory:

1. We're about planning the progress of the gospel
2. We're about enduring the painful opposition of unreasonable individuals
3. We're about trusting the promise of God to bring us safely to his eternal kingdom and our heavenly home