

## **TTS Scripture S6 – 2 Tim 1:8-2:7**

*<sup>11</sup> For this gospel I was appointed a herald and an apostle and a teacher, <sup>12</sup> and for this reason I suffer as I do. But I am not ashamed, for I know the one in whom I have put my trust, and I am sure that he is able to guard until that day what I have entrusted to him. <sup>13</sup> Hold to the standard of sound teaching that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. <sup>14</sup> Guard the good treasure entrusted to you, with the help of the Holy Spirit living in us.*

*<sup>15</sup> You are aware that all who are in Asia have turned away from me, including Phygelus and Hermogenes. <sup>16</sup> May the Lord grant mercy to the household of Onesiphorus, because he often refreshed me and was not ashamed of my chain; <sup>17</sup> when he arrived in Rome, he eagerly searched for me and found me <sup>18</sup> —may the Lord grant that he will find mercy from the Lord on that day! And you know very well how much service he rendered in Ephesus.*

*<sup>2</sup> You then, my child, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus; <sup>2</sup> and what you have heard from me through many witnesses entrust to faithful people who will be able to teach others as well. <sup>3</sup> Share in suffering like a good soldier of Christ Jesus. <sup>4</sup> No one serving in the army gets entangled in everyday affairs; the soldier's aim is to please the enlisting officer. <sup>5</sup> And in the case of an athlete, no one is crowned without competing according to the rules. <sup>6</sup> It is the farmer who does the work who ought to have the first share of the crops. <sup>7</sup> Think over what I say, for the Lord will give you understanding in all things.*

**[2 Tim 1:11-18]**

## **Timothy's Calling (In 2 Tim 1:8 - 2:7)**

### **To faithfully teach and hand on the Word as he has been taught it:**

- 1:8a So never be ashamed to tell others about our Lord.
- 1:13 Hold on to the pattern of wholesome teaching you learned from me.
- 1:14 Through the power of the Holy Spirit who lives within **us**, carefully guard the precious truth that has been entrusted to you.
- 2:2 You have heard me teach things that have been confirmed by many reliable witnesses. Now teach these truths to other trustworthy people who will be able to pass them on to others.

### **To expect and endure suffering for the sake of the Gospel:**

- 1:8b With the strength God gives you, be ready to suffer with me for the sake of the Good News.
- 2:3 Endure suffering along with me, as a good soldier of Christ Jesus.
- 2:9 And because I preach this Good News, I am suffering and have been chained like a criminal.

### The nature of the suffering:

- Persecution and opposition
  - 1:12 That is why I am suffering here in prison.
  - 2:9 chained like a criminal
- Betrayal by false brethren
  - 15 As you know, everyone from the province of Asia has deserted me—even Phygelus and Hermogenes.
  - 4:10 Demas has deserted me because he loves the things of this life and has gone to Thessalonica.
    - Acts 20:30 Even some men from your own group will rise up and distort the truth in order to draw a following.
    - 2 Thess 3:2 Pray, too, that we will be rescued from wicked and evil people, for not everyone is a believer.

### What sustains us in our suffering

- Our trust in and knowledge of Christ, sharing in the fellowship of his suffering:
  - 1:12b But I am not ashamed of it, for I know the one in whom I trust, and I am sure that he is able to guard what I have entrusted to him until the day of his return.
- Christ's own strength through the Holy Spirit:
  - 2:1 Timothy, my dear son, be strong through the grace that God gives you in Christ Jesus.
- The kindness of the brethren:
  - 1:16 **May the Lord show special kindness** to Onesiphorus and all his family because he often visited and encouraged me. He was never ashamed of me because I was in chains. 17 When he came to Rome, he searched everywhere until he found me. 18 **May the Lord show him special kindness** on the day of Christ's return. And you know very well how helpful he was in Ephesus.
- Our confidence in the power of the Gospel:
  - 2:9 But the word of God cannot be chained.
    - Romans 1:16 For I am not ashamed of this Good News about Christ. It is the power of God at work, saving everyone who believes—the Jew first and also the Gentile.
- And in the fruit it will bear:
  - 2 Timothy 2:6 And hardworking farmers should be the first to enjoy the fruit of their labor.

In closing, I felt this poem, from WW1, summed up the evening's study:

### **A Sermon in a Hospital**

**[by G.A. Studdert-Kennedy, aka 'Woodbine Willy']**

*I were puzzled about this prayin' stunt,  
And all as the parsons say,  
For they kep' on sayin', and sayin',  
And yet it weren't plain no way.*

*For they told us never to worry,  
But simply to trust in the Lord,  
'Ask and ye shall receive,' they said,  
And it sounds orlright, but Gawd!*

*It's a mighty puzzling business,  
For it don't allus work that way,  
Ye may ask like mad, and ye don't receive,  
As I found out t'other day.*

*I were sittin' me down on my 'unkers,  
And 'avin' a pull at my pipe,  
And larfin' like fun at a blind old 'Un,  
What were 'avin a try to snipe.*

*For 'e couldn't shoot for monkey nuts,  
The blinkin' bleareyed ass,  
So I sits, and I spits, and I 'ums a tune;  
And I never thought o' the gas.*

*Then all of a suddin I jumps to my feet,  
For I 'eard the strombos sound,  
And I pops up my 'ead a bit over the bags  
To 'ave a good look all round.*

*And there I seed it, comin' across,  
Like a girt big yaller cloud,  
Then I 'olds my breath, i' the fear o' death,  
Till I bust, then I prayed aloud.*

*I prayed to the Lord Orlmighty above,  
For to shift that blinkin' wind,  
But it kep' on blowin' the same 'ole way,  
And the chap next me, 'e grinned.*

*'It's no use prayin',' 'e said, 'let's run,'  
And we fairly took to our 'eels,  
But the gas ran faster nor we could run,  
And, Gawd, you know 'ow it feels!*

*Like a thousand rats and a million chats,  
All tearin' away at your chest,  
And your legs won't run, and you're fairly done,  
And you've got to give up and rest.*

*Then the darkness comes, and ye knows no more  
Till ye wakes in an 'orspital bed.  
And some never knows nothin' more at all,  
Like my pal Bill—'e's dead.*

*Now, 'ow was it 'E didn't shift that wind,  
When I axed in the name o' the Lord?  
With the 'orrer of death in every breath,  
Still I prayed every breath I drewed.*

*That beat me clean, and I thought and I thought  
Till I came near bustin' my 'ead.  
It weren't for me I were grieved, ye see,  
It were my pal Bill—'e's dead.*

*For me, I'm a single man, but Bill  
'As kiddies at 'ome and a wife.  
And why ever the Lord didn't shift that wind  
I just couldn't see for my life.*

*But I've just bin readin' a story 'ere,  
Of the night afore Jesus died,  
And of 'ow 'E prayed in Gethsemane,  
'Ow 'E fell on 'Is face and cried.*

*Cried to the Lord Orlmighty above  
Till 'E broke in a bloody sweat,  
And 'E were the Son of the Lord, 'E were,  
And 'E prayed to 'Im 'ard, and yet, And yet*

*'E 'ad to go through wiv it, boys,  
Just same as pore Bill what died.  
'E prayed to the Lord, and 'E sweated blood,  
And yet 'E were crucified.*

*But 'Is prayer were answered, I sees it now,  
For though 'E were sorely tried,  
Still 'E went wiv 'Is trust in the Lord unbroke,  
And 'Is soul it were satisfied.*

*For 'E felt 'E were doin' God's Will, ye see,  
What 'E came on the earth to do,  
And the answer what came to the prayers 'E prayed  
Was 'Is power to see it through;*

*To see it through to the bitter end,  
And to die like a God at the last,  
In a glory of light that were dawning bright  
Wi' the sorrow of death all past.*

*And the Christ who was 'ung on the Cross is God,  
True God for me and you,  
For the only God that a true man trusts  
Is the God that sees it through.*

*And Bill, 'e were doin' 'is duty, boys,  
What 'e came on the earth to do,  
And the answer what came to the prayers I prayed  
Was 'is power to see it through.*

*To see it through to the very end,  
And to die as my old pal died,  
Wi' a thought for 'is pal and a prayer for 'is gal,  
And 'is brave 'eart satisfied.*