

/We will now begin the thirteenth lecture on 2 Timothy. /At this time we will study chapter three of 2 Timothy. /Chapter three speaks of the things to happen in the Last Days. /There is the personal apocalypse and the universal apocalypse.

/It says that there will be much tribulations in the Last Days. /We must be wise believers who prepare for the Last Days with the Word of God. /Verses 1-5 speak of the terrible times of the Last Days.

/Read verse 1. /But mark this: There will be terrible times in the last days.

/It says that there will be terrible times in the Last Days. /We must be wise people and prepare for it with the Bible. /Verse 2 speaks of the sin of selfishness.

/Verse 2. /People will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boastful, proud, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy,

/People love themselves in the Last Days. /They are self-centered, /and want things for themselves. /They experience difficulties in their relationships with others because of their selfishness. /Why do people think only of themselves? /It is because their hearts are filled with greed.

/Our Lord taught us to love our neighbors. /We must have Jesus in our hearts for us to love our neighbors. /Another sin of selfishness is love for money. /People kill others because of money, /and relationships are broken because of money.

/Today, money of the root of all evil. /Today, money has become an idol and hence, many love money more than God. /We must model our faith after Paul's faith and must be self-sufficient.

/We must faithfully do our best /in living in satisfaction with what God has given us. /We must know what it is like to be in poverty, /and know what it is like to be rich. /We must be satisfied in whatever environment we are in so that we can live in faith.

/Today, many people sin because of greed for money, /and they leave God and go into the world because of money. /Of course, we need money. /However, we must not love money but rather, live with what God has given us.

/It also says, "boastful." /To be "boastful" means to brag about oneself. /We must boast about the Lord. It is a sin of selfishness to boast about oneself. /Fourth, it says, "proud."

/A proud man has the qualities of the devil. /A proud man does not pray to God, /and neglects those who are more lacking than him. /Whoever has the heart of Jesus must always be humble.

/Even if we are rich, /have obtained a high education, /and have power, we must remain humble. /Paul was always humble after he discovered the Lord. /Man will grow apart

from God and experience troubles in his relationships with others /from the moment he becomes proud.

/There is also a sin that damages relationships with others. /Verse 2 says, “abusive.” /To be “abusive” means to look down on others, speak ill of, and hurt others. /Those who look down on God and on others in their relationships will experience troubles.

/It also says, “disobedient to their parents.” /Today, it is proper for children to respect their parents. /One must respect his parents so that he may receive God’s blessings, /and it is what pleases God. /God personally commanded that we honor our parents.

/Today, people disobey their parents and hence, encounter many troubles. /Verse 2 also says, “ungrateful.” /One who is ungrateful does not know grace. /Only those who know grace can be grateful.

/Some people give thanks conditionally, /and some only give thanks when others are good to them. /The most sophisticated form of thanksgiving is to give thanks in whatever environment one is in. /Verse 2 also says, “unholy.”

/Children of God must live like children of God. /To be “holy” means to live lives that are set apart from others. /We must live distinct lives from the world, /and we must be separated from sin. /We must be set apart from the evil in the world and must model ourselves after the Lord’s character.

/Next, verse 3 says, “without love.” /People will grow less empathetic in the Last Days. /Nowadays, relationships are dry /and love is disappearing. /Verse 3 also says, “unforgiving.”

/This refers to enmity between relationships with enemies. /We, believers of Jesus, must solve any problems that may arise with one another. /The Bible says that we are to love even our enemies.

/If we do not forgive others in our relationships, /we will grow apart from God in our relationship with him. /We believers must be in harmony with God /and with other people as well. /Verse 3 also says, “slandering.”

/To be “slandering” means to slander others for one’s own benefit. /It also refers to lying and speaking falsely. /Today, there are many people who suffer /because of people who slander others for their own benefits.

/Verse 3 also says, “without self-control.” /We must be people who can control our feelings. /There are many relationships that fail because there is no self-control. /What will happen if cars do not have brakes?

/There will be many accidents. /We need abilities for self-control. /Today, there are many people who experience troubles because people fail to be self-controlled. /Verse 3 also

says, “brutal.”

/People are becoming more and more brutal in the Last Days. /There is verbal abuse, /suppression of the weak, /and brutal personalities in people. /We must always be gentle like Jesus.

/Verse 3 also says, “not lovers of the good.” /This world is filled with dark powers, /and more people chase after evil and unlawfulness more than what is good. /Even if countless people walk down the road of unrighteousness, those who serve God in their hearts must chase after what is good.

/One who serves God in his heart loves what is good. /What is good belongs to God. /It is also good to make sacrifices for one’s neighbors. /Verse 4 says, “treacherous.”

/People deceive others for their own benefits. /There are many who are faithful at first, and then betray and follow others for their own benefits. /We live in such a world where it is difficult to trust others.

/There is no telling of when others will betray and leave us. /Therefore, leaders in the church must not rely on people, but rely solely on and follow after God. /Man is not a subject of dependence but a subject of love.

/Next, verse 4 says, “rash.” /People are always in a hurry and do not think ahead. /Many people are not cautious in their work and hence, make many mistakes. /Those who are rash are easily discouraged when their prayers are not answered.

/We must be patient and persevering. /Verse 4 also says, “conceited.” /To be “conceited” means to lift oneself up. /Today, people step over others so that they could reach the top.

/They are self-centered /and filled with conceit. /Verse 4 also says, /“lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God.” /Many are following the ways of hedonism in the Last Days. /People enjoy eating, drinking, and seeking pleasures.

/This world is perverse and debauched. /We must love God first and foremost, more than the fleshly pleasures of this world. /Verse 5 says, “having a form of godliness but denying its power.”

/Some may appear godly on the outside, /but they deny the form of godliness and do not have life. /They have the physical appearance but lack substance. /These people are hypocrites.

/We must protect ourselves so that we are not stained by secularism. /We must restore our relationships with God and have this ability to protect ourselves. /We must have the power of godliness so that we do not fall away into this world, /and we must have the power of godliness so that we may gain victory daily in the spiritual battle.

/There is power in the kingdom of God. /We must throw away selfishness and turn away in such times of trouble. /Verse 5 says, /“Have nothing to do with them.” /We must live and behave like children of God.

/We must do our best in our calling as leaders. /We possess citizenship in heaven. /We must not be swept away by this world but must hold on to our calling. /Verses 6-9 tell us to stay away from people who tempt others.

/Read verse 6. /They are the kind who worm their way into homes and gain control over weak-willed women, who are loaded down with sins and are swayed by all kinds of evil desires,

/People who tempt others go into others’ homes and entice them. /Why does it say, “homes?” /The church is God’s home, /and those who tempt others are not servants of God. /Such people worm their way into the church.

/There is no one who enters the church by announcing that they are cults. /They come forth disguised in sheep’s clothing. /Sometimes they disguise themselves as angels of light. /Thus, church leaders must have spiritual discernment.

/Is he a goat? Is he a sheep? /Is he grain? Is he weed? /Is he a good preacher? /Is he a false preacher? /Today, it is easy to be deceived if there is no discernment. /Then who do these people target? /They entice weak-willed women.

/The weak-willed women do not have wisdom, /do not have discernment, /are slow to believe in God’s Word, /are believers of the flesh, /and are believers who are child-like. /Therefore, the women sin and chase after greed.

/Today, people’s hearts are filled with worldly greed, and thus, the truth cannot enter their hearts. /It is very easy to entice greedy people. /The devil uses greed in any generation to make people fall.

/We must get rid of all greed in our hearts. /People fall to cults and are deceived by them because of greed. /Such weak-willed women continuously learn God’s Word, but do not attain knowledge of the truth.

/Read verse 7. /always learning but never able to acknowledge the truth.

/It says that they are always learning but never able to acknowledge the truth. /They always learn, but why the truth enter their hearts? /It is because there is so much greed in their hearts. /The truth also cannot enter because of the sins in their spirits.

/Verse 8 says, “Jannes and Jambres opposed Moses.” /Jannes and Jambres were magicians who opposed Moses. /What type of people are those who oppose the truth as it says in verse 8? /They are those who are corrupt in their hearts /and lack faith.

/To be corrupt in heart means to rot away in heart. /We must stand proper in our hearts so what we can receive God's truth. /Those who put God at the center of their lives do not reject the truth. /Why did these men oppose Moses?

/Verse 8 says, "as far as the faith is concerned, are rejected." /These men rejected faith and strayed far from it. /These people cannot hide their identities for long, and their true natures will eventually be revealed.

/Verse 9 says, /"But they will not get very far because, /as in the case of those men, /their folly will be clear to everyone."

/There is a limit to those who deceive others. /God reveals their true natures in due time. /There is nothing anyone can hide from God. /There are powers that deceive temporarily. /Why does God reveal who they are?

/It is so that we would not be deceived. /Even if there are powers that deceive, /their true identities will soon be revealed. /Even though it may not be clear at the beginning, /their true identities will be shown through the fruit that they bear.

/Thus, Jesus said that we would know them by their fruit. /Verses 10-12 tell us to imitate the faith of the apostles.

/Verse 10. /You, however, know all about my teaching, my way of life, my purpose, faith, patience, love, endurance,

/It says, "my teaching." /The apostle Paul had correct faith. /Paul not only lived correctly, but also correctly preached the gospel. /It is God's grace to meet good leaders in the Last Days.

/One can only learn correctly when he meets good leaders. /What did Paul teach? /Paul was proper in his way of life. /Paul was always humble, /he lived to glorify God, /and he lived for the gospel.

/The Pharisees spoke elaborately but their actions were wrong. /True leaders must live proper lives and must properly lead the believers. /Paul's second teaching was "purpose." /"Purpose" refers to a correct purpose of life.

/Why did God call us? /Why must we live on this earth? /God called us so that we would live for God and the gospel. /There are many people who live without purpose on earth.

/We believers must have a definite purpose in life. /We must live to glorify God, /and we must be faithful to the gospel. /Third, it says, "faith." /"Faith" refers to unchanging and living faith.

/There is false faith today. /There is faith that believes only with the mine, /there is emotional faith that moves according to one's emotions, /and there is faith that only

demands miracles. /That is healthy faith today?

/It is faith that correctly learns God's Word and believes in its heart, /and it is faith that obeys with the body. /Fourth, it says, "patience." /Paul was patient for the gospel when he preached the gospel. /This means to persevere in the midst of difficulties.

/Fifth, it says, "love." /What is the greatest commandment? /First, it is to love God, /and next it is so love our neighbors as ourselves. /God is the God of love.

/God's kingdom is a kingdom of love. /Today, the church must be overflowing with love. /Church leaders must truly love each soul. /The apostle Paul greatly emphasized love. /He said to do everything in love.

/Sixth, it says, "endurance." /It means to continue to love without despairing. /Today, we cannot do God's work without endurance. /Paul gives his testimony in verses 11-12.

/Verse 11. /persecutions, sufferings-- what kinds of things happened to me in Antioch, Iconium and Lystra, the persecutions I endured. Yet the Lord rescued me from all of them.

/The apostle Paul testified that God rescued him from persecutions and sufferings. /The crowd threw Paul out from the temple in Lystra when they thought they had stoned him to death. /God rescued Paul at the time.

/God rescued Paul in situations where he was to die. Why did God rescue the apostle Paul? /It was because God still needed Paul.

/No matter what troubles we encounter /or threatened with death, /God will not take us if he needs to use us. /God extends our lives because he needs us for his gospel.

/Verse 12 says that there is persecution for everyone who wants to live a godly life. /Today, believers with faith walk through the narrow door. /Jesus told us to enter the narrow door. /What door do people like?

/Many people like to go through the wide door. /There is much persecution and suffering if we desire to go through the narrow door. /Today, there are two types of believers in the church. /There are believers of the flesh, /and believers of the spirit.

/Believers of the flesh persecute believers of the spirit. /We must be prepared for persecutions and live godly lives. /What is a godly life? /It is to keep oneself from being stained with secularism, /and it is to serve God until the end.

/Today, many people walk down the road of unrighteousness, /compromise with the world, /sell off their faith, /and walk down the wide road. /We must live godly lives even if others walk down the wide road /and even if there are persecutions.

/Verses 13-14 tell us to continue in what we have learned. /Why does it say to continue in what we have learned?

/Verse 13. /while evil men and impostors will /go from bad to worse, deceiving and being deceived.

/This world deceives and are deceived. /It is easy for us to be deceived by the devil if we do not stand strong in God's Word. /Today, believers must not deceive others /and must not be deceived, /but have spiritual discernment.

/Today, many people are deceived by the devil and fall. /The devil knows that he does not have much time left, /and does whatever he can to deceive chosen believers and make them fall. /Then what can we do to not be deceived?

/Verse 14. /But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have become convinced of, because you know those from whom you learned it,

/It says to continue in what we have learned and become convinced of. /We must learn the legitimate Word of God. /We must strive to learn the correct truth. /To continue in what we have learned means to abide in the truth.

/We must have confidence in the Word of God /and stand firm in faith so that we would not be deceived. /It says, "know those from whom you learned it." /The foundation and root of our faith is extremely important. /There is a great difference according to whom we learn from.

/We will see great spiritual damages if we learn from someone who incorrectly interpreted the Bible. /However, Timothy met a good mother /and a good teacher. /He received good faith through his mother, /and correctly learned God's Word through Paul.

/It is a blessing for us to meet good leaders in this world. /Leaders who properly teach God's Word are good leaders. /Today in our time, we need leaders like Paul /and leaders like Timothy.

/Verses 15-17 tell us to follow the Scriptures. /The Bible is the Word of God. /The Bible is the standard of faith. /The Bible is also the standard of life. /One can only walk down the correct path if he chases after God's Word. /Timothy learned the Bible from a young age.

/Verse 15. /and how from infancy you have known the holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.

/The foundation of faith is extremely important. /One's foundation must be on God's Word for his faith to not be shaken. /A building falls when its foundation is not firm. /Timothy learned the Bible from a young age, /and he learned the correct truth from Paul.

/The Bible gives us wisdom to obtain salvation. /God's Word alone teaches us about the road of life. /There are many books in this world. /However, there is no other book that teaches us about the way to salvation.

/The Bible alone teaches us how to obtain salvation. /Why is God's Word so important? /God's Word allows us to be born again. /The born again man must also properly learn God's Word in order for his faith to grow.

/God's Word also changes us. /God's Word has power to heal. /Also, we must be filled with God's Word so that we would not sin. /Believers who have been saved also receive blessings when they are obedient to God's Word.

/Abraham obeyed God's command, /and he received many blessings because he followed God's Word. /Today, we must follow God's Word so that our spirits can live. /The Bible was recorded by the inspiration of God.

/Verse 16. /All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness,

/The Bible is God-breathed. /The Holy Spirit inspired the writers, /and used their knowledge and character, /skills and literary styles /so that the Bible would be recorded without any errors.

/God's Word is complete /and was recorded with inspiration, /and there are no errors. /God's Word is precise and inerrant. /Thus, Timothy learned the Bible from a young age and obeyed what was written in the Bible.

/There are times when God's Word teaches us /and reproaches us for our wrongdoings. /We must take to heart what God is teaching us every time we read the Bible. /Sometimes, the Bible reproaches us for our wrongdoings.

/God's Word makes us upright. /Those who are corrupt /do not think correctly, /do not have upright hearts, /and are not upright in action. /Therefore, we must properly learn God's Word so that we may live upright lives.

/Those who are nurtured with God's Word /are upright /in mind, /in heart, /and in action. /The Bible says the Bible is useful for training in righteousness. /God's Word alone makes us righteous.

/One must obey God's Word /and live according to the Word to be righteous. /What type of people must we become through God's Word?

/Verse 17. /so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

/It says, "so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped." /The purpose for being nurtured by God's Word /is that we may be made complete as God's people. /To be made

complete as God's people /means to be one with God in heart.

/We will also be made people who are after God's ministry. /We are lacking when we first believe in Jesus, /but when we are trained by God's Word and grow in training, /we will become people suitable to do God's work.

/Timothy was nurtured with God's Word at a young age, /and he became a worthy servant of God. /The apostle Paul held on to God's Word and was used valuably by God.

/It also says, "be thoroughly equipped for every good work." /To "be thoroughly equipped for every good work" means to /be transformed into someone who is ready to do good works. /God uses people who are ready in the Last Days.

/How must we be prepared through God's Word? /We must possess noble character, /and we must obtain skills so that we would be experts of the Bible.

/We must also be believers with spiritual power. /We must properly teach God's Word to those who have already been saved. /Then, we must help them be complete as God's people, /and help them be ready to do good works.

/We will complete the thirteenth lecture on 2 Timothy. /Thank you.