

Sound Doctrine: 1st Timothy, 2nd Timothy & Titus

Wage Warfare or Suffer Shipwreck

1st Timothy 1:18-2:7

Two vivid pictures: warfare & shipwreck Maybe we're not familiar with either never a soldier in a warzone Not a sailer or never even seen the ocean Mudslides in Tibet hearing about it, seeing it, being there, very different Vivid pictures to get us to seriously consider what's ahead	faith and the reality of situations spiritual circumstances <u>behind</u> them <i>Stress in training allows for better function during stressful situations</i> If we don't honestly assess a situation, We won't succeed Poor planning = poor Performance <i>Check yourself before you wreck yourself</i> Officer school, grunts You still need to know (pastors doct dangers)
:18 This charge: : (military order from commanding officer) Are orders ever optional? Bad day? Don't feel like it? Haven't had your coffee yet I think we sometimes make our spirituality an option, if we feel like it today It's why we need discipline This charge? Everything in this letter Son Timothy A reminder of the relationship always "consider the source"	For example For commands For speaking into our life the things of God (prophecy) Who is telling you these things? • Random internet person? • Friend? • Stranger? • Someone in a respected office? • Someone you respect? • Someone who cares about you? • Your boss or the new guy? <i>A stranger telling my kids to do something Me telling my kids</i> <i>Jurisdiction</i> <i>Tactical authority superseding rank</i> "Serious, but full of love" DG <i>Kind of dad and person I want to be</i>

The charge? Use good doctrine And the word of God for you Your purpose and call To... <i>Live a life of ease and comfort</i> <i>Be wish-washy and inoffensive to the world</i> <i>Be a charismatic leader</i> <i>Put John 3:16 on your chariot</i> Wage <u>good</u> warfare (We forget we're in a spiritual <u>war</u>) <i>Demon Hunter Life War</i> Good warfare vs. bad warfare Two sides, spy vs spy, nation v., kingdom	<i>Not every soldier, or action is good</i> <i>Geneva Convention (shipwrecked troops)</i> God's side wages war The enemy's side wages war To win, God's way • We need specific commands • ROE • Combat techniques • Use our sword correctly Eph 6:17 machaira (smaller sword, large knife, straight for thrusting) Rifles - long gun, carbine, CQB <i>Kids kempo, bringing knives into movement</i>
But also the ratified call Prophecies on his life Have you had relationships with older believers who could speak into your life? People you trust, have seen fight a good fight, and raise you up in it? Knowing the One who called you Knowing your calling itself Having it ratified Prophecy over us is important To our spiritual battle Not necessarily about the future word of God spoken into our lives	But <u>test</u> the spirits Aligns with scripture, what God's been showing you, you've been praying about <i>Prophecy of going back to school</i> "Warnings of extravagant prophecy, greater than. Counterfeit revival" What is most for us? God's Word. Sound doctrine. Solid guidance. From Him, to you. For you. To enable you to: wage good warfare, for life <u>And to help you go on when the warfare gets tough</u>

The real Christian life is not what the seeker-friendly megachurches are preaching and teaching

The Bible clearly gives us specific instruction

B-I-B-L-E

Basic instructions before leaving earth

*People wish for an instruction manual for life
This is it!*

**It teaches us how to know God
And survive in an active
warzone until His return
(or we die in battle)**

Bootcamp Instructions Before Leaving Earth

Psa 144:1 - [A Psalm] of David. Blessed [be] the LORD my Rock, Who trains my hands for war, [And] my fingers for battle--

I'm in the Lord's army! YES SIR!

**You will not survive this
christian life, let alone in
ministry, if**

**You don't have sound doctrine
You don't realize you're in a war**

*Recognize a real attack from a false flag
Recognize friendly fire or the enemy
Recognize the battlefield and triage*

Sheep, Goats & Wolves

**It's no wonder so many fall
away, get run over, sucked up
into false doctrine**

**They don't know they're in a war
And so they don't seek training**

First day at McD's drive thru

**Worse, they hear it's a war, are told to
train, but flee to a self-help concert**

Unprepared and rounded up for slaughter

2Ti 2:3 - You [who? It's in there, just for Timothy?] **therefore** must endure hardship as a good soldier of Jesus Christ.

Eph 6:11-13 - Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual [hosts] of wickedness in the heavenly [places]. Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.

You won't be able to withstand what's coming at you from the enemy

If you're not fighting in the war, you can expect to be left alone for a little while, but eventually you'll be taken out

either by being made inactive, distracted, or collateral damage

**Front lines today
Is the homefront tomorrow**

Drafted into this war at birth, whether you like it or not.

DG "[Timothy] should sense a responsibility to stay when he felt like leaving because he was like a soldier in a battle, who could not desert his post."

:19

- **Faith** - belief turned real, through and through
- **Good conscience** - you're not violating your own conscience "not searing it"
- **Sensitive to sin both active and passive**
- **Both what others might see and what you only see**
- **Knowing what's right and wrong but also knowing what's right and wrong for your warfare (beyond the basics)**

Some reject (even those you know) want a "form of godliness"

"Thrust away" -

severe hypothermia, clothes

Reject saving faith to stay "relevant" or "intellectual" - a cover for cowardice

Rejected alarmed conscience
"love sin and darkness"

This is big: suffered shipwreck

Stranded navigationally - spiritually
Moral compass in Pirates movies

faith in the word with conscience
(baptisms important role)

Psa 16:7 - I will bless the LORD who has given me counsel; My heart also instructs me in the night seasons.

Heart will instruct with what's in it - is it the Word hidden? Is it sin unrestrained?

Ships are expensive

Getting them back is even more so

- Costa concordia, billions
- Ever Given, stuck in suez
- Harbor pilots, make millions

bankruptcy, disability, homelessness

no way to continue on or get back to home - lost livelihood and life and hope

Do we know the depth of fear with satellite phones, GPS, modern life?

Back east - familiar with I-95, family & friends

This isn't stuck in a rut
This is spiritual hopelessness
You were on your way, now ruined

*Hopes, dreams, calling, maybe even
salvation forfeit*

**Because if you've rejected the faith - you'll
never find the truth again, you'll never
accept the right way to go even if it's clear**

If you've seared your conscience - you
don't even have the inner guidance,
compass, moral stops are gone

*Waves you were riding won't free you
They'll destroy you*

*Wind once moving you now just rips your
sails*

*Even if the compass works, and you want to
go the right way, your boat is done for*

Stuck on a sandbar
he lighthouse right there
The shoreline not that far away

lukewarm stuck between hot and cold

How can you ever get back on the right way?

This is the West - so morally corrupt, post
christian, conscience seared, faith rejected

This is much of the "church" - looking for
things other than the truth of God's word,
promoting sin, rejecting the real Jesus

**Difference between sailing
and wreckage?**

- Obey lighthouse or ignore
- Follow map or forge your own way
- Check your own depth or ignore the signs

Trust the captains who've gone before
Pay attention to the weather
Know it can happen to you

It doesn't take much

*People crossing flash floods in cars,
many die every year*

"But for the grace of God, there go I"
Martyr John Bradford

Faith shipwrecked -

*Christian, you're not in the kiddie pool
What happens in this life matters for eternity*

:20

Paul names names

**1 - to use them as an example, a
good example of what not to do**

**You'll be an example one way or
another,**

used by God one way or another, either in
righteousness or not

**2 - to call them out to be avoided,
to be careful of**

Hymenaeus and Alexander, That's all we know, Timothy knew at least of “While Christians are not to judge one another’s motives or ministries, we are certainly expected to be honest about each other’s conduct” (Wiersbe). Their conduct? Blasphemous Doctrine, prophesy, attitude, living Speaking evil of God	Paul knew he was this way BEFORE Christ, He would be the last to tolerate it AFTER 2Ti 4:14-15 - Alexander the coppersmith did me much harm. May the Lord repay him according to his works. You also must beware of him, for he has greatly <u>resisted our words.</u> <i>We'll dig more into that when we get there</i>
John, the author of “love” letters 3 John 1:9-10 - I wrote to the church, but Diotrephes, who loves to have the preeminence among them, does not receive us. Therefore, if I come, I will call to mind his deeds which he does, prating against us with malicious words. And not content with that, he himself does not receive the brethren, and forbids those who wish to, putting them out of the church. • 2 Timothy, Jannes and Jambres • Jude calls out sons of Korah, Balaam and Cain as bad examples	Scripture offers people commendation And condemnation - based on behavior <i>When someone tells you who they are with their behavior, believe them</i> Just as it's not wrong to commend It's not wrong to call people out <i>In accordance with their influence And in order</i> To warn fellow ministers For the protection of the people <i>Man in Maryland Divisive, false teachers in NY</i>
Don't want to be a partaker in their sins! Especially When you have spiritual authority, You can't let it go unspoken of - You'll be liable <i>Judges letting criminals go</i> 1 - if they're never warned, who will warn? 2 - others will be hurt if they're never told	<i>Wild animals in neighborhood</i> This isn't about who's right or wrong - It's about eternal salvation • Yours • Theirs • Everyone else's <i>“Tough love”</i>

Why were they turned over to Satan?

Removed from Paul's fellowship, protection, guidance

Taking someone supposedly on your side and putting them in the enemy's hands

To learn not to blaspheme

Full exposure to the enemy in an attempt to get their spiritual attention

1. **If they're a sheep**, they'll realize they're without their shepherd, Jesus
2. **If they're a goat**, maybe they'll realize the sheep have it good and become a sheep
3. **If they're a wolf**, well they're just back with the pack
4. **Either way, the other sheep are safe**

Not just blasphemy, but for unrepentant sin that has a stronghold in someone's life

Not a struggle, but a boastful sin

1st Corinthians, kicked out

When it affects the faith of others

Corinthians thought they were so loving and accepting this man in his sin

Gal 5:9 - A little leaven leavens the whole lump.

Sometimes, there is no easy answer

Something has to be said

Has to be done

You want it to be different

You don't enjoy the task

**It's a duty as a soldier
And ship's captain**

**Because it's your duty to do what
God wants with**

- His people
- His Word
- His Church
- His Name

1Pe 4:17-18 - For the time [has come] for judgment to begin at the house of God; and if [it begins] with us first, what will [be] the end of those who do not obey the gospel of God? Now "If the righteous one is scarcely saved, Where will the ungodly and the sinner appear?"

**It works with those who are saved
Or will be**

2nd Corinthians, He repented.

Told To be brought back in.
(We tend to forget to do that!)

There's a level for this in all our lives

**It's not the first tool, or only tool
But it's a necessary tool**

To keep the boat afloat
To keep winning the spiritual war

**So you, Christian,
Jesus charges you,
Wage good warfare,
don't suffer shipwreck**