

## The Promise of Life

2 Timothy 1:1,2

### Introduction

- A. How would you begin a letter if you knew it was your last?
- B. 2 Timothy is the apostle Paul's last letter.
  - 1. He was awaiting execution by the order of N\_\_\_\_\_, the Roman Emperor.
  - 2. He begins his letter focusing on the certainties of l\_\_\_\_\_.
- C. When we face life's dreaded circumstances
  - 1. It is natural to focus on the p\_\_\_\_\_.
  - 2. Try to refocus on the certainties of l\_\_\_\_\_ which God has promised to all believers in Christ.

### An explanation – refocus on the certainties of the promised life (1)

- A. Paul identifies himself as an a\_\_\_\_\_ of Jesus Christ.
  - 1. He states that he received this apostleship not by his own choice but by God's w\_\_\_\_\_.
  - 2. His points to his duty of proclaiming the p\_\_\_\_\_ of life in Jesus Christ.
- B. What is the promise of life but the g\_\_\_\_\_ message (see I Cor 15:1-8).
  - 1. The person of Christ – the word, Christ, means a\_\_\_\_\_ one and refers to the one prophesied about in the O.T.
    - a. Is 9:6 – He would be called the Mighty G\_\_\_\_\_
    - b. Is 7:14 – He would be born of a v\_\_\_\_\_
  - 2. The work of Christ
    - a. He d\_\_\_\_\_ for our (believers') sins according to the scriptures (see Is 53).
    - b. He was b\_\_\_\_\_ - this reminds us of all the efforts made to keep His body in the tomb: the large s\_\_\_\_\_, the Roman guards, and the governmental s\_\_\_\_\_).
    - c. He raised from the dead on the third day according to the scriptures (see Ps 16:10).
  - 3. The proof of Christ – He appeared to all of His followers over a 40 day period giving many convincing p\_\_\_\_\_ (see Acts 1:3,4).
  - 4. The life IN Christ
    - a. It is immediately received when you t\_\_\_\_\_ Jesus.
    - b. It is a q\_\_\_\_\_ of life – a personal relationship with God through Christ (Jn 17:3).
    - c. It is a life that lasts f\_\_\_\_\_ (Jn 3:16; 11:25)

- C. If someone were to ask you, *How are you doing?* when you are going through some kind of crisis, how might you respond?
1. If you only mention your miseries, then your focus is on the wrong thing.
  2. If you say that your f\_\_\_\_\_ when you are not, then your focus is on the wrong thing.
  3. If you acknowledge the pain but keep your focus on your promised life in Christ, then your focus is where it should be.

**An exclamation – reflect on the benefits of the promised life (2)**

- A. Three words are used to describe the benefits of the promised life in Christ. Paul wrote these words (he wrote in Greek) in a form that is equal to our exclamation point.
1. G\_\_\_\_\_ !
    - a. No amount of w\_\_\_\_\_ that we do can secure this life in Christ.
    - b. It is an undeserved g\_\_\_\_\_ given when we trust in Christ's work to save us (Eph 2:8,9)
  2. M\_\_\_\_\_! - this emphasizes God refraining from giving us the judgment we d\_\_\_\_\_ - separation from God forever in the Lake of Fire (Rev 20:15)
  3. P\_\_\_\_\_ !
    - a. This does not refer to a f\_\_\_\_\_ of peace.
    - b. This refers to an actual h\_\_\_\_\_ with God (Rom 5:1)
      - 1) Sin made us God's e\_\_\_\_\_ (Rom 5:10a)
      - 2) Christ made us God's f\_\_\_\_\_ (Rom 5:10b)
- B. As we reflect on these three benefits
1. It will p\_\_\_\_\_ us through any adversity.
  2. We will be reflecting on what does not c\_\_\_\_\_ in the face of changing circumstances.

*How are you doing?*