



Unashamed Loyalty
2 Timothy 1:6-14
July 4, 2021
Pastoral Intern: Olle T. Larson II

Introduction

In our passage today, Paul explains that God empowers and summons believers to an active and unashamed loyalty despite opposition.

The Text: 2 Timothy 1:6-14

⁶For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands, ⁷for God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control. ⁸Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony about our Lord, nor of me his prisoner, but share in suffering for the gospel by the power of God,⁹ who saved us and called us to a holy calling, not because of our works but because of his own purpose and grace, which he gave us in Christ Jesus before the ages began, ¹⁰and which now has been manifested through the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel, ¹¹for which I was appointed a preacher and apostle and teacher, ¹²which is why I suffer as I do. But I am not ashamed, for I know whom I have believed, and I am convinced that he is able to guard until that day what has been entrusted to me. ¹³Follow the pattern of the sound words that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. ¹⁴By the Holy Spirit who dwells within us, guard the good deposit entrusted to you.

- 1) God summons and empowers faithful Christians to cultivate their gifts for Gospel ministry (vv. 6-7).

- 2) God summons and empowers Christians to a life of unashamed loyalty to the Gospel (vv. 8-14).
 - A) The Christian's loyalty is grounded in the excellence of God's Gospel message (vv. 9-10).

 - B) The Christian's loyalty is grounded in a confidence in God's Gospel ministry (vv. 11-12).

 - C) The Christian's loyalty takes shape in keeping the faith (vv. 13-14).

Response

Be loyal and not ashamed of the ministry of the Gospel.

Sunday Text Questions for 2 Timothy 1:6-14 (“Entrusted to You” Series)

July 4, 2021

Pastoral Intern: Olle T. Larson II

- 1) Starter Question: What are some things in life you are unashamedly loyal to (i.e. sports team, family, principles, an idea, etc.)? Why?
- 2) Read the text aloud and discuss together any significant observations or issues needing clarification.
- 3) Paul begins vv. 6 with “for this reason,” which is a logical connection. What might be the relationship between this passage (vv. 6-14) be with the preceding passage (v. 1-5)?
- 4) In what ways has God equipped you for ministry at Hope? How can you take steps or are you already currently taking steps to “fan into the flame the gift of God?” How has he equipped you for the building up of the saints at Hope?
- 5) What might be the significance of Paul calling himself “his prisoner” rather than a prisoner of Rome in v. 8? What is Paul getting at with this title?
- 6) Why might the gospel and Paul’s ministry bring shame to Timothy? In what ways might the Gospel be seen as a “source of shame” today?
- 7) In vv. 8-12, Paul’s rich but terse exposition on the gospel and explanation of his ministry are meant to spur Timothy to be a loyal co-sufferer with Paul. Within these verses, what spurs you the most toward an unashamed and active loyalty for the Gospel today? Why?
- 8) In what ways are the exhortations in vv. 13-14 (“follow the pattern of the sound words” and “guard the good deposit...”) similar and in what ways are the different?
- 9) How does Paul in this passage push against both a passive “live and let God” approach to the Christian life and ministry on the one hand and a “pull yourself up by your bootstraps” approach on the other hand? Which of these approaches tends to be your default and why?
- 10) Throughout the entire passage, how does Paul encourage Timothy and what are some of the different nuances Paul uses to encourage him? How might this passage serve as a paradigm of important elements for Christian encouragement among our brothers and sisters today?