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To Timothy (2)

Chapter One

Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by Godde's will according to the promise of the life that's in Christ Jesus,²to Timothy, my beloved child: Grace, mercy, and peace, from Godde the Mother and Christ Jesus our Lord.

³With a pure conscience I thank Godde, whom I serve as my ancestors did. I constantly remember you in my prayers night and day. ⁴I remember your tears and long to see you so that I may be filled with joy ⁵and be reminded of your sincere trust, which first lived in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and, I'm sure, in you too. ⁶Because of this I remind you to rekindle the gift of Godde which you received when I laid my hands on you ⁷because Godde didn't give us a spirit of fear, but of power, love, and self-control. ⁸So don't be ashamed of the testimony of our Lord or of me, his prisoner, but join with me in suffering for the good news according to the power of Godde, ⁹who gave us life and called us with a holy calling, not according to our deeds but according to her own purpose and grace. This grace was given to us in Christ Jesus before the beginning of time, ¹⁰but now it has been revealed by the appearing of our Life-Giver, Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the good news, ¹¹for which I was appointed a herald, an apostle, and a teacher. ¹²I'm also suffering because of this. But I'm not ashamed, because I know the one whom I've trusted and am sure that she's able to guard what I've entrusted to her until that day. ¹³Hold to the example of the sound message which you've heard from me, in trust and love in Christ Jesus. ¹⁴That good thing which was committed to you, guard through the Holy Spirit who dwells in us.

¹⁵You know that everyone in Asia turned away from me, including Phygelus and Hermogenes. ¹⁶May the Lady show mercy to the household of Onesiphorus, because he often refreshed me and wasn't ashamed of my chains. ¹⁷When he was in Rome, he eagerly looked for me and found me. ¹⁸May the Lady show him her mercy on that day! You know very well how much he did in Ephesus.

Chapter Two

So you, my child, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. ²What you've heard from me through many witnesses, entrust to trustworthy people who will be able to teach others too. ³Join with me in suffering, as a good soldier of Christ Jesus. ⁴No soldier on duty gets caught up in civilian affairs; they please the one who enlisted them instead. ⁵And an athlete isn't crowned unless they've competed by the rules. ⁶The hard-working farmers should be the first to get a share of the crops. ⁷Think about what I'm saying, because the Lady will give you understanding in all things.

⁸Remember Jesus Christ, the offspring of Bathsheba and David, who was raised from the dead according to my good news, ⁹for which I'm suffering imprisonment as a criminal. But Godde's word isn't imprisoned! ¹⁰So I endure everything for the chosen ones, so that they too may gain the life in Christ Jesus with eternal glory. ¹¹This is a trustworthy saying:

"If we died with him,
we will also live with him.
¹²If we endure,
we will also reign with him.
If we deny him,
he will also deny us.

¹³If we fail to trust,
he remains trustworthy,
because he can't deny himself."

¹⁴Remind them of these things, directing them before Godde not to argue about words, which does nothing except ruin those who listen. ¹⁵Be eager to present yourself approved to Godde as a worker who doesn't need to be ashamed, cutting to the chase with the true message. ¹⁶But avoid empty chatter, because it promotes corruption, ¹⁷and their teaching will spread like gangrene. Among them are Hymenaeus and Philetus, ¹⁸who have strayed from the truth and upset some peoples' trust by saying that the resurrection has already happened. ¹⁹But Godde's solid foundation stands, having this seal: "The Lady knows those who are hers," and, "Everyone who appeals to the Lady's name should depart from injustice."

²⁰A large house has not only gold and silver vessels, but wood and clay vessels too. Some are for special use and others are for ordinary use. ²¹So anyone who cleanses himself from these things will be a vessel for special use, made holy and useful to the Mistress, ready for every good work. ²²Flee from immature desires, but pursue justice, trust, love, and peace with those who appeal to the Lady with a pure heart. ²³But reject foolish and ignorant speculations, knowing that they give birth to conflict. ²⁴The Lady's bondservant shouldn't fight, but should be kind to everyone, able to teach, patient, ²⁵gently teaching opponents so that Godde may help them change, leading to the knowledge of truth, ²⁶that they may come to their senses and escape from the trap of the devil who enslaved them.

Chapter Three

But understand this: There will be dangerous times in the last days. ²People will be selfish, greedy, boastful, proud, slanderers, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, ³heartless, unforgiving, slanderers, unrestrained, brutal, hating what is good, ⁴traitors, reckless, full of themselves, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of Godde, ⁵having a form of piety but denying its power. Avoid them, ⁶because some of them creep into households and captivate people who are unwary and overburdened with guilt, led on by various desires, ⁷always learning but never able to come to a knowledge of truth. ⁸Just as Jannes and Jambres opposed Moses, so they oppose the truth too. Their minds have been corrupted and they're failures concerning the faith. ⁹But they won't get very far because their folly will be plain to everyone, as in the case of Jannes and Jambres.

¹⁰But you've followed my teaching, conduct, purpose, trust, patience, love, perseverance, ¹¹and the harassments that I suffered at Antioch, Iconium, and Lystra. What harassments I endured! The Lady rescued me from them all. ¹²All who want to live a good life in Christ Jesus will suffer harassment. ¹³But evil people and charlatans will grow worse, deceiving and being deceived. ¹⁴But as for you, continue in what you've learned and in what you've trusted, knowing from whom you've learned it. ¹⁵Ever since you were a child you've known the holy writings which are able to make you wise for life through trust which is in Christ Jesus. ¹⁶Every scripture is Godde-breathed and useful for teaching, for warning, for correction, and for instruction in justice, ¹⁷so that the person of Godde may be complete and equipped for every good deed.

Chapter Four

I direct you before Godde and Christ Jesus, who's about to judge the living and the dead, and by his appearing and reign: ²Proclaim the word; be ready in season and out of season; warn, correct, and encourage with all patience and teaching. ³There will be a time when they won't put up with sound teaching, but to suit their own desires they'll round up teachers for themselves to tell them what they're

itching to hear. ⁴They'll turn away from listening to the truth and turn aside to fables. ⁵But as for you, always exercise self-control, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, and fulfill your ministry.

⁶As for me, I'm already being poured out like a drink offering, and it's time for me to depart. ⁷I've competed in the good competition, I've finished the race, I've kept the faith. ⁸From now on, there's stored away for me the crown of justice, which the Lord, the just judge, will give to me on that day – and not just to me, but also to all who've longed for his appearing.

⁹Be eager to come to me soon, ¹⁰because Demas deserted me and went to Thessalonica, loving this present age. Crescens has gone to Galatia and Titus to Dalmatia. ¹¹Only Luke is with me. Get Mark and bring him with you, because he's useful to me for ministry. ¹²I sent Tychicus to Ephesus. ¹³When you come, bring the cloak that I left at Troas with Carpus. Bring the scrolls too, especially the parchments. ¹⁴Alexander the coppersmith did me great harm. The Lord will repay him according to his deeds. ¹⁵You should beware of him too, because he strongly opposed our message.

¹⁶At my first defense, no one came to help me – everyone deserted me. May it not be held against them! ¹⁷But the Lord stayed by my side and gave me strength, so that through me the proclamation might be completed and all the Gentiles might hear. I was rescued from the lion's mouth. ¹⁸The Lord will rescue me from every evil deed and will give me life in her heavenly reign. To her be the glory forever and ever! Amen.

¹⁹Greet Prisca and Aquila and the household of Onesiphorus. ²⁰Erastus stayed in Corinth, but I left Trophimus in Miletus because he was sick. ²¹Be eager to come before winter. Eubulus, Pudens, Linus, Claudia, and all the sisters and brothers greet you. ²²The Lord be with your spirit. Grace be with you all! Amen.