

## THE AFFLICTIONS OF THE GOSPEL

### II Timothy 1:8-10

Intro:

- A. Timothy should be ready to make every sacrifice for the service of God.
  - 1. He should stir up the gift of God.
  - 2. This would ready him for trouble.
  
- B. He should not be filled with fear.
  - 1. Fear would not come from God.
  - 2. God would give him power, love and a clear mind to think through fearful situations.

#### I. The Source Of Gospel Afflictions. Vs 8

- A. "Be not thou therefore ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, nor of me his prisoner:..."
  - 1. "Ashamed" = επαισχυνομαι = "to shame one's self upon, in or at".
  - 2. "Testimony" = μαρτυριον = "witness", "the declaration which confirms or makes known any thing".
  - 3. "So don't be ashamed to tell about our Lord" - BECK
  - 4. "Nor of me who am in prison".
  - 5. "Prisoner" = δεσμιος = "binding", "bound".
  
- B. "...but be thou partaker of the afflictions of the gospel according to the power of God;"
  - 1. "Partaker" = συνκακοπαθεω = "to suffer evil together", "to take one's share of evil treatment".
  - 2. "Gospel" = ευαγγελιον = "a message that brings good as well as the good message".
  - 3. The servant is not above his master.
  - 4. This is done by the power of God.

II. To Suffer Is A Part Of His Calling. Vs 9

- A. "Who hath saved us, and called us with an holy calling,..."
1. "Called" = καλεω = "to call", "to summon".
  2. God saved them, God called them. Both were by God's grace and not of works.
- B. "...not according to our works,..."
1. "Not for any merit of ours" - NEB
  2. "Not on account of our works" - BAS
  3. Romans 9:11-12
- C. "...but according to his own purpose and grace,..."
1. "Purpose" = προθεσις = "deliberate resolution", "what one sets before himself as a purpose"
  2. "But because of and to further His own purpose" AMP
  3. What is God's grace-purpose? Romans 9:11
  4. The provision for and invitation to salvation is to all men and women of the world. His call to preach or to be an instrument of special use will rest only upon God's will. It is to His OWN purpose. This will never make sense to the world.
- D. "...which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began,"
1. "Which he gave us ages ago in Christ Jesus"
  2. Men are invited to be saved. They may reject the call. This doesn't mean they aren't called. They are. God said so.