

INTRODUCTION.

- A. Scripture text: **2Timothy 2:14-26**.
- B. Preparation is the key to success. Without good preparation many worthwhile goals suffer and die.
- C. Paul gives Timothy many good things to think about and do as he prepared for every good work.

I. KEY WORDS IN THE STUDY.

- A. Paul uses four key words in what Timothy is to do. They are:
 - 1. Shun or avoid (2:16).
 - 2. Purge or cleanse (2:21).
 - 3. Flee (2:22).
 - 4. Refuse (2:23).
- B. In the narrative Paul explains what exactly Timothy is to do.

II. WHAT WE ARE TO STAY AWAY FROM.

- A. First, avoid or shun:
 - 1. Worldly chatter (sinful conversations that do not build up).
 - 2. Empty chatter (not worth repeating in the teaching of others).
 - 3. Wrangling about words in 2:14 (don't argue about silly things).
- B. Second, purge or cleanse:
 - 1. From these destructive things mentioned above.
 - 2. From the people who spread these teachings (2Tim. 2:17,18; 1Cor. 15:33).
- C. Third, flee youthful lusts.
Don't make some of the same mistakes that young people make. Act mature. (Some people never seem to grow up!)
- D. Fourth, refuse ignorant and foolish speculations.
Some matters are interesting to talk about but have no spiritual value, if fact, if allowed to persist might be detrimental.
- E. One cannot be prepared for every good work when he is weighted down by things not relevant to spiritual growth.

III. WHAT WE ARE TO BE AND DO.

- A. At the same time Paul is telling what should not be paid attention to he instructs us with things to do, to be prepared for every good work.
- B. Look at this list of verbs, and things to be:
 - 1. Diligent (2:15).
 - 2. A workman (2:15).
 - 3. Sanctified (2:21).
 - 4. Useful (2:21).
 - 5. Kind to all (2:24).
 - 6. Able to teach (2:24),
 - 7. Patient (2:24).
 - 8. Gentle-ness (2:25).
 - 9. Correcting (2:25).
- C. All of these things might be wrapped up in v22 when Paul uses the word 'pursue'.
- D. How we do all of these things is according to God's word (2Tim. 3:16,17).

CONCLUSION AND INVITATION.

- A. Again, as I have said before, Christianity is a matter of attitude-
- B. This attitude can be further strengthened by doing certain things and not doing certain other things.
- C. We are to be prepared "for every good work," so that when the opportunity arises we can fill the need (Gal. 6:10).
- D. Our being prepared is accomplished by obeying the word of God.
- E. If you are not a Christian, or an unfaithful one you are not prepared to meet God.
- F. Plan of salvation for non-Xians; erring Xians.