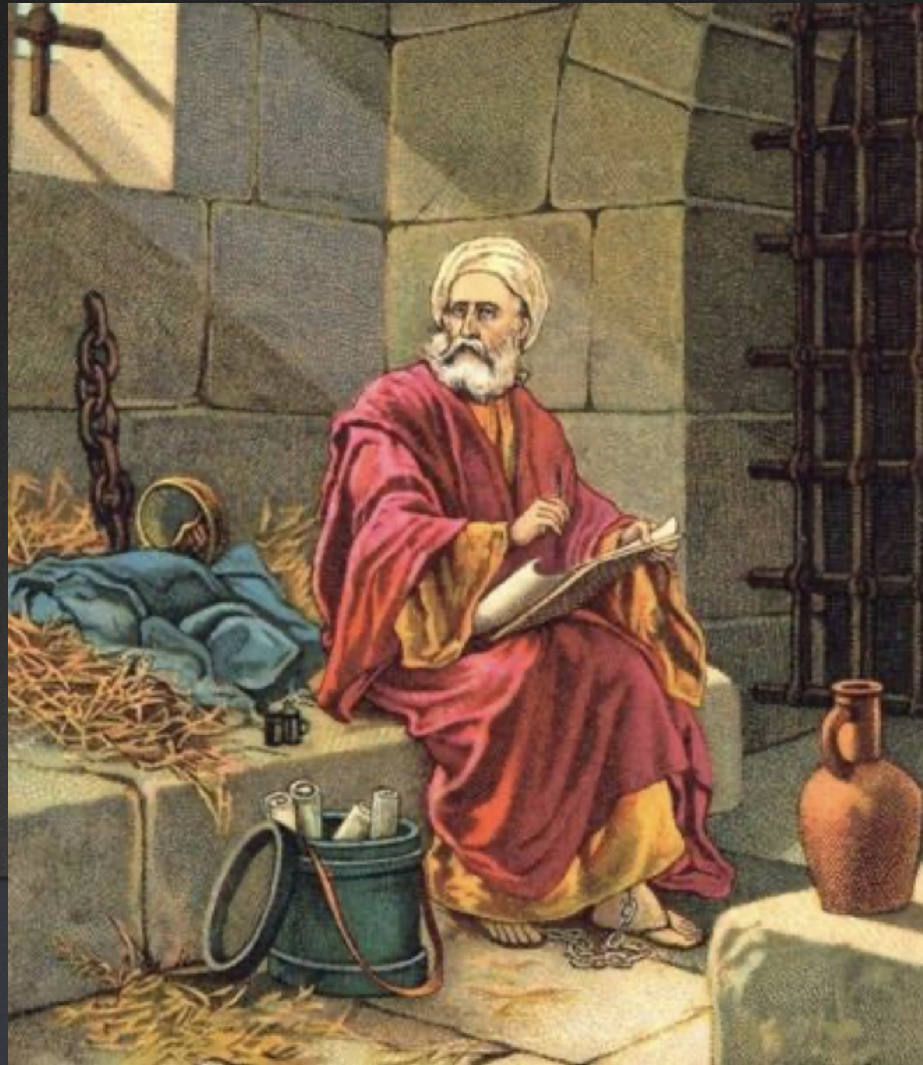


October 23–29

1 and 2 Timothy; Titus; Philemon

“Be Thou an Example of the Believers”



A Holy Calling

1Tim 1:12-16

What did Paul think of his former life?

What does Paul's conversion teach us about pattern that leads to being justified by Christ?

Marion G. Romney

"Our knowledge [of Paul] should strengthen our faith and give us hope and courage that even though we have strayed, in some degree, from the paths of wisdom, we likewise can, if we will, come all the way back. The forgiveness and peace that they obtained we can also obtain. In order to do so, however, we must repent as sincerely, learn wisdom, and "apply our hearts unto" it as diligently as did they.

"In Paul's First Epistle to Timothy, he indicated that his experience in coming back was meant to be a pattern for us.... And then this important thought: 'Howbeit for this cause I obtained mercy, that in me first Jesus` Christ might shew forth all longsuffering, for a pattern to them which should hereafter believe on him to life everlasting' (1 Tim. 1:12-16)."

("Learn Wisdom in Thy Youth," New Era, Dec. 1978)

A Holy Calling

Titus 3:3-8

What does Paul teach us about the importance of good works?

A Holy Calling

2Tim 1:9-11

What do we learn about gospel callings from Paul comments to Timmothy?

What did Paul state that he was called to do?

Monte J. Brough

"Why do these callings and responsibilities come to some and not to others?..."

"It is very dangerous for any of us to think we have earned the right to a Church calling. However, every member must come to know the sacred nature of his or her own service in the Church...."

"We must each prepare ourselves for every good work that might come to us and then accept the principle that revelation, not aspiration, is the basis for our respective callings." (CR, April 1997)

A Holy Calling

2Tim 1:6-8

What are some of the blessing of the Holy Ghost that will help Timmothy fulfill his calling?

What admission does Paul give to help Timmothy with his calling?

Angel Abrea

“This is the assurance found in the lives of faithful Latter-day Saints, coming from a change brought about by the power of the Spirit, that prompts them to bear testimony of the divinity of the work

“It is the testimony, it is the true knowledge that ‘God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind’ (2Tim 1:7). This gives us the courage, the strength, and the commitment to testify of Christ and his gospel regardless of circumstances or external factors. But for the weak and the unsure... external factors prove to be more important than learning of Christ and gaining a testimony.” (CR, April 1988)

Gordon B. Hinckley

“Yes, this work requires sacrifice, it requires effort, it means courage to speak out and faith to try. This cause does not need critics; it does not need doubters. It needs men and women of solemn purpose. As Paul wrote to Timothy: ‘God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power.... Be not thou therefore ashamed of the testimony of our Lord’ (2 Tim 1:7-8).

“I would that every member of this church, and every good man throughout the world, would put those words where he might see them every morning as he begins his day. They would give him the courage to speak up, they would give him the faith to try, they would strengthen his conviction of the Lord Jesus Christ.

“I believe that miracles would begin to happen over the earth.” (CR, Oct. 1969)

A Holy Calling

1Tim 4:12-16

What else was Timmothy admonished to do to help others come to Christ?

Russell Ballard

“We should be spiritually sensitive to moments when the powerful and important truths of the gospel can be shared with others. Perhaps more importantly, however, we should seek at all times to purify ourselves and to lead such worthy lives that the Light of Christ emanates from us in all that we say and do. Our day-to-day lives should stand as immutable witness of our faith in Christ. In the words of the Apostle Paul, ‘Be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity’ (1Tim 4:12).” (CR, April 2000)

Don't Be Lead Astray

2Tim 3:1-7

What blessing have we been given that can help us “turn away” from such evil-doers and deceivers?

Elray L. Christiansen

"Now, despite these conditions that Paul described, this is a favored time and a favored day of the Lord. We ought to be thankful that we live in this particular day, notwithstanding all the fears and the troubles and the anxieties which come upon us because of unsettled conditions that prevail in the world. Our gratitude comes mainly because we are the glad recipients of the restored gospel brought back to earth.... There is no need to walk in darkness or in uncertainty. In our day the Church has the vision and the inspiration and the word of the Lord to give to the people to keep them from the pitfalls of life, from sorrow, regret, and failure."
(CR, April 1963)

Don't Be Lead Astray

2Tim 4:2-5

Why is it that some people “will not endure sound doctrine”?

N. Eldon Tanner

“The last days are here and now, and Paul's prophecy is being fulfilled before our very eyes. Men are refusing sound doctrine, and after their own lusts they are turning their ears from the truth and are listening to those who preach to their own liking. As a result, we are suffering many tribulations throughout the world. We have reached a time in our history which I believe is the most crucial mankind has ever had to face....

“The only clear and sure solution to our problems is to make our professed Christianity real, to make it personal, apply it in our lives, accept Jesus Christ as the Son of God, and as the real living Savior of mankind, ‘for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved’ (Acts 4:12).” (CR, Oct. 1968)

Don't Be Lead Astray

Titus 1:10-16

What does Paul tell Titus to do to combat “vain talkers and deceivers”?

Don't Be Lead Astray

1Tim 1:3-7

What are some of the characteristics of those who are focused on ministering true doctrine?

Joseph Smith

"How precious are the souls of men!... Nothing is so much calculated to lead people to forsake sin as to take them by the hand, and watch over them with tenderness. When persons manifest the least kindness and love to me, O what power it has over my mind....

"The nearer we get to our heavenly Father, the more we are disposed to look with compassion on perishing souls; we feel that we want to take them upon our shoulders, and cast their sins behind our backs."
(Teachings of the Prophet Joseph Smith, pg. 240-241)

Don't Be Lead Astray

2Tim 3:12-17

What is Timothy admonished to do to avoid being deceived and to stay on the path?

Ezra Taft Benson

“The Apostle Paul also saw our day. He described it as a time when such things as blasphemy, dishonesty, cruelty, unnatural affection, pride, and pleasure seeking would abound. He also warned that ‘evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving, and being deceived’ (2 Tim 3:13).

“Such grim predictions by prophets of old would be cause for great fear and discouragement if those same prophets had not, at the same time, offered the solution. In their inspired counsel we can find the answer to the spiritual crises of our age.... [Paul] said this to Timothy: ‘But continue thou in the things which thou hast learned.... From a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation’ (2 Tim 3:14–15).

“My dear brethren, this is an answer to the great challenge of our time. The word of God, as found in the scriptures, in the words of living prophets, and in personal revelation, has the power to fortify the Saints and arm them with the Spirit so they can resist evil, hold fast to the good, and find joy in this life.” (CR, April 1979)

Don't Be Lead Astray

2Tim 2:9-11

What reason does Paul give for being willingly to endure all the trials and hardships of his ministry?

Don't Be Lead Astray

2Tim 4:6-8

Thomas S. Monson

"At the end of our mortal journey, may we be able to echo the words of Paul: 'I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith.' (2 Timothy 4:7.) By so doing we shall be given that 'crown of righteousness' which perisheth not, and hear the plaudit from our Eternal Judge: 'Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord.' (Matthew 25:21.)

"Each will then have completed his journey, not to a nebulous 'Anywhere,' but to his heavenly home—even eternal life in the celestial kingdom of God." (Teachings of Presidents of the Church: Thomas S. Monson, Ch. 5, pg. 5)

Next Week:

October 30–November 5

Hebrews 1–6

“Jesus Christ, ‘the Author of Eternal
Salvation’”

