*And if the bugler doesn't sound a clear alarm, how will the soldiers know they are being called to battle?*
1st Corinthians 14:8 NLV

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First Love Ministries, Inc.
Prayer Study #543
**ENDTIME BELIEVERS**
**A LOOK AT THE LIFE OF TIMOTHY**

*You should know this, Timothy, that in the last days there will be very difficult times. For people will love only themselves and their money. They will be boastful and proud scoffing at God, disobedient to their parents and ungrateful. They will consider nothing sacred. They be unloving and unforgiving; they will slander others and have no self-control; they will be cruel and have no interest in what is good. They will betray their friends, be reckless, be puffed up with pride, and love pleasure rather than God. They will act as if they are religious, but they will reject the power that could make them godly. You must stay away from people like that.*
2nd Timothy 3:1-5 NLV

Background: Timothy's name means *worshiping God* (sometimes translated as *honored of God* or *valued of God*). He was a young man of Lystra, not far from Paul's birthplace, Tarsus. Timothy was the son of Eunice, a Christian Jew, and of a Greek father who probably was dead when Paul first visited the home, as recorded in Acts 16. Timothy's grandmother was Lois. Most likely Paul led young Timothy to Christ, and he definitely ordained Timothy as a minister of the Gospel. He also

circumcised him. Paul served as Timothy's spiritual father, and Timothy consistently sought Paul's instruction (2nd Timothy 2:3 and 3:14).

Timothy came from a Christian home, and he no doubt was heavily influenced by his mother Eunice and his grandmother Lois. He was encouraged to read scripture and learn the things of God. It is thought that Paul recovered from his stoning at Lystra at Timothy's home. Timothy's speciality in the Gospel was as an evangelist. He was Paul's closest companion and co-sufferer for the Gospel.

In the end he was martyred in Ephesus while attempting to stop an indecent heathen procession during the Festival of Diana. He was thought to have been about 80 years old at the time.

## 1st Timothy

Written by the Apostle Paul to his son in the faith, Timotheus or Timothy, for the purpose of giving Timothy guidance on how to organize a church, at a time when his church was in revival and booming and doing wonderfully well. Timothy had written his spiritual father and asked for instructions on how to select leadership and how to organize the church. Many scholars believe Timothy's church was growing faster than any of the other first century churches.

**Highlights of 1st Timothy (NKJV):**

1st Timothy 1:5-*Now the purpose of the commandment is love out of a pure heart, from a good conscience, and of sincere faith.*

1st Timothy 1:15-*This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came in to the world to save sinners, of whom I am chief.*

1st Timothy 2:5-*For there is one God and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus.*

1st Timothy 4:8-*For bodily exercise profits a little, but godliness is profitable for all things, having promise of the life that now is and of that which is to come.*

1st Timothy 4:12-*Let no one despise your youth, but be an example to the believers in word, in conduct, in love, in spirit, in faith, in purity.*

1st Timothy 5:22a-*Do not lay hands on anyone hastily….*

1st Timothy 6:6-*Now godliness with contentment is great gain.*

1st Timothy 6:7-*For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out.*

1st Timothy 6:10-*For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, for which some have strayed from the faith in their greediness and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.*

## 2nd Timothy

Written by Paul, who was in a Roman prison cell, to Timothy, who had apparently written to Paul telling him of the terrible

persecution that was going on against the Christians and telling him of his broken heartedness over so many that had left the faith, some of which had betrayed him. The church is not doing well at all. Timothy is worried. His elders and deacons are leaving him. His church is shrinking. He fears that he might be martyred. Yet he had to be strong and comfort the believers in the midst of great tribulation (1st Thessalonians 3:2). Timothy is one of those referred to as a *doulos* or bond slave of Christ. To me being a bond slave for Jesus is one of the greatest honors in this life.

Timothy is a type of Last Day's Believer, a part of the Remnant Company of the Last Days. Some of those here, no doubt will give their lives for the Gospel, or, at the very least, they will be called on to make tremendous sacrifices and will suffer persecution if they make the choice to live a godly life in Christ Jesus.

The Last Day's Believers will exhibit the following characteristics as found in Paul's letter to Timothy (all scripture from the New King James, unless otherwise noted):

1. **They will not walk in fear: 2nd Timothy 1:7-** *For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.*
2. **They will not be ashamed of the Gospel of Christ: 2nd Timothy 1:12b-***I am not ashamed for I know whom I have believed and am persuaded that He is able to keep what I have committed to Him until that Day.*

3. **They will be strong in the Lord: 2nd Timothy 2:1 (AMP)-***So you, my son, be strong (strengthened inwardly) in the grace (spiritual blessing) that is (to be found only) in Christ Jesus.*
4. **They will endure hard times: 2nd Timothy 2:3 (AMP)-***Take [with me] your share of the hardships and sufferings [which you are called to endure] as a good (first class) soldier of Christ Jesus.*
5. **They will not entangle themselves with the affairs of the world: 2nd Timothy 2:4-***No one engaged in warfare entangles himself with the affairs of this life, that he may please him who enlisted him as a soldier.*
6. **They will study for God's approval: 2nd Timothy 2:15 (KJV)-***Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.*
7. **They will see perilous times: 2nd Timothy 3:1-5 (NLV)-***You should know this, Timothy, that in the last days there will be very difficult times. For people will love only themselves and their money. They will be boastful and proud, scoffing at God, disobedient to their parents, and ungrateful. They will consider nothing sacred. They will be unloving and unforgiving; they will slander others and have no self-control; they will be cruel and have no interest in what is good. They will betray their friends, be reckless, be puffed up with pride, and love pleasure rather than God. They will act as if they are religious, but they will reject the power that could make them godly. You must stay away from people like that.*

8. **They will suffer persecution: 2nd Timothy 3:12-***Yes, and all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution.*
9. **They will preach the Word: 2nd Timothy 4:2-4-***Preach the word! Be ready in season and out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching. For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers; and they will turn their ears away from the truth and be turned aside to fables.*
10. **They will do the work of an evangelist: 2nd Timothy 4:5-***But you be watchful in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.*
11. **They will persevere in testing: 2nd Timothy 4:6-7-***For I am already being poured out as drink offering and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought the good fight. I have finished the race. I have kept the faith.*
12. **They will long for His appearing and receive a crown of righteousness: 2nd Timothy 4:8-***Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give to me in that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing.*