

2nd Timothy: Swan Song Guard Well

The challenge of serving God faithfully: you might suffer personally...

And of this gospel I was appointed a herald and an apostle and a teacher. That is why I am suffering as I am. (2 Tim. 1:11-12a)

If we're going to build a great "swan song" then we must guard against...

- **Spiritual doubt** – "Yet I am not ashamed, because I know whom I have believed, and am convinced that He is able to guard what I have entrusted to Him for that day." (v. 12b)

¶ **Note: Paul's confidence came from knowing God, not living comfortably** – "...I know whom I have believed..." (v. 12b)

Yet he did not waver through unbelief regarding the promise of God, but was strengthened in his faith and gave glory to God, being fully persuaded that God had power to do what he had promised. (Rom. 4:20-21)

The faithfulness of God will keep me

- **Wrong doctrine** – "What you heard from me, keep as the pattern of sound teaching, with faith and love in Christ Jesus." (v. 13)

If anyone teaches false doctrines and does not agree to the sound instruction of our Lord Jesus Christ and to godly teaching, he is conceited and understands nothing. (1 Tim. 6:3-4)

The Word of God will direct me

Guard the good deposit that was entrusted to you – guard it with the help of the Holy Spirit who lives in us. (v. 14)

The Spirit of God will help me

- **Relational discouragement** – "You know that everyone in the province of Asia has deserted me, including Phygelus and Hermogenes." (v. 15)

A man of many companions may come to ruin, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother. (Prov. 18:24)

May the Lord show mercy to the household of Onesiphorous, because he often refreshed me and was not ashamed of my chains. On the contrary, when he was in Rome, he searched hard for me until he found me. May the Lord grant that he will find mercy from the Lord on that day! You know very well in how many ways he helped me in Ephesus. (vv. 16-18)

The people of God will support me