



Title | The Antidote
Series | The Difference a Book Makes
Text | 2 Tim 3:1-17
By | Roger Fankhauser
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Sermon Notes

2 Timothy 3:1–5 (ESV) — **1** But understand this, that in the last days there will come times of difficulty. **2** For people will be lovers of self, lovers of money, proud, arrogant, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, **3** heartless, unappeasable, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not loving good, **4** treacherous, reckless, swollen with conceit, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, **5** having the appearance of godliness, but denying its power. Avoid such people.

2 Timothy 3:12–17 (ESV) — **12** Indeed, all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted, **13** while evil people and impostors will go on from bad to worse, deceiving and being deceived. **14** But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it **15** and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. **16** All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, **17** that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.

Big Idea:

Psalm 119:127 (ESV) —
Therefore I love your
commandments above
gold, above fine gold.

For Reflection and Application:

Monday:

Read 2 Tim. 3:1-5. In what ways are we living in the “last days”? Does the description of the culture Paul told Timothy about resemble our world today? Does it help us to know that our cultural condition is no surprise to God?

Tuesday:

Read 2 Tim. 3:10-13, Paul commends Timothy for following his teaching and life. But he also tells him “All who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will be persecuted.” How does such a promise make you feel? Should we be surprised when our Christian faith comes under attack?

Wednesday:

Read 2 Tim 3:14-15. Paul offers Timothy the solution to navigating this messy world and to knowing truth: the “Sacred writings” (the Scriptures). What difference can it make that the Scriptures can give “wisdom?” Does the principal Paul stated to Timothy apply today? Can you think of any issues in your life or in our culture that such wisdom can help?

Thursday:

Read 2 Tim 3:16. What does “inspired by God” or “God breathed” mean? Does this concept make any difference to how we perceive the words of the Bible?

Friday:

Read Psalm 119:12-16. In this long Psalm, the writer has 22 sections, each with 8 verses. All of them focus on the greatness of God’s Word. The writer frequently says things like “I shall delight...” or “I love your commandments.” How would you describe your feelings about the Scriptures?

Daily Prayer:

Lord, thank you for giving us your Word so that we might know you better!

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