

FROM ONE MAN TO ANOTHER

"FLEEING AND PURSUING"

2 Timothy 2:20-26

Pat Hobin | October 27, 2026

2 Timothy 2:20-26

²⁰ Now in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and silver but also of wood and clay, some for honorable use, some for dishonorable. ²¹ Therefore, if anyone cleanses himself from what is dishonorable, he will be a vessel for honorable use, set apart as holy, useful to the master of the house, ready for every good work.

²² So flee youthful passions and pursue righteousness, faith, love, and peace, along with those who call on the Lord from a pure heart. ²³ Have nothing to do with foolish, ignorant controversies; you know that they breed quarrels. ²⁴ And the Lord's servant must not be quarrelsome but kind to everyone, able to teach, patiently enduring evil, ²⁵ correcting his opponents with gentleness. God may perhaps grant them repentance leading to a knowledge of the truth, ²⁶ and they may come to their senses and escape from the snare of the devil, after being captured by him to do his will.



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Discussion Questions

1. How did Paul's use of the terms "honorable" and "dishonorable" vessels hit us?
2. What "youthful passions," if any, have we dealt with as adults?
3. What is our reaction to Paul's use of the word "quarrelsome"?
How easy is it for us to get drawn into a "quarrel"?
4. What makes "foolish, ignorant controversies" so hard to avoid?
5. Paul talks about "correcting his opponents with gentleness". But how easy is it for us to RECEIVE correction from our "opponents," even when they do it with "gentleness"?
6. What do we think about "the snare of the devil"?
What are some ways we see it at work around us?

For Next Week

Spend some time focusing on next week's passage: 2 Timothy 3:1-9.

Here are questions to help us understand the passage:

- What does Paul mean by "the last days" (v. 1)? Are we living in them now?
- What do you observe in Paul's list in vv. 2-5?
- What does Paul mean by "having the appearance of godliness, but denying its power" (v. 5)?

Here are questions to connect the passage to our lives:

- According to Paul, why do we experience "times of difficulty"?
- Where do we see the world around us in vv. 2-5? Where do we see ourselves?
- Why is it easy to have the form of godliness but deny its power?

Teaching Notes
PCPC Tuesday Morning Men's Bible Study
2 Timothy 2:20-26
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Verse 20

- Gold and Silver versus Wood and Clay
- Honorable versus Dishonorable

Verse 21

- Cleanses himself from what is dishonorable
 - Vessel for honorable use
 - Set apart as holy
 - Useful to the master of the house
 - Ready for every good work

Verse 22

- **SO...**
 - Flee youthful passions and pursue righteousness
 - Webster's Definition of "Passions"
 - a strong feeling of enthusiasm or excitement for something or about doing something, as well as an intense, driving, or overmastering feeling or conviction
 - What are "youthful passions"?
 - Sexual interests and/or desires? Pleasure
 - Attention and/or admiration? Identity
 - Happiness and/or fitting in? Self-focused
 - Doing right and being seen as right? Self-righteous
 - And pursue ...
 - righteousness, faith, love, and peace
 - What is Webster's definition of righteousness?
"Acting in accord with divine or moral law; free from guilt or sin; or morally right and justifiable"
 - Not to gain the approval of others, but to simply live in accordance with what God has told us to do.
 - In our relationships
 - In our work
 - In our time
 - "along with those who call on the Lord from a pure heart"
 - Living life in a **community** of believers
 - Not isolated
 - Not superficial

Verse 23

- “Have nothing to do with foolish, ignorant controversies”
 - Why? “they breed quarrels.”

Verse 24

- **AND...**
 - the Lord’s servant must not be quarrelsome
 - but kind to everyone
 - able to teach
 - patiently enduring evil
 - correcting his opponents with gentleness (Verse 25)

WHY?

- God may perhaps grant them repentance leading to a knowledge of the truth, and they may come to their senses and escape from the snare of the devil, after being captured by him to do his will (Verses 25-26).

WAIT...

**my response, actions, and/or reactions
could profoundly impact people’s lives like that?!**