

# Continue in Christ

2 Timothy 3:10-17

**10 You, however, have followed my teaching, my conduct, my aim in life, my faith, my patience, my love, my steadfastness, 11 my persecutions and sufferings that happened to me at Antioch, at Iconium, and at Lystra—which persecutions I endured; yet from them all the Lord rescued me. 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.**

## The “landscape” around Timothy ...

So much \_\_\_\_\_, bad doctrine, and bad beliefs (2 Tim 2:17-18; 3:8-9)

The escalation and normalization of \_\_\_\_\_ (2 Tim 3:1-5)

The constant specter of persecution with the awareness that following Christ will be \_\_\_\_\_ (2 Tim 1:11-12; 2:8-9)

Too many abandoning \_\_\_\_\_ (2 Tim 1:15)

## “You, however” – 7 Keys to Continuing in Christ

- 1) Be willing – if necessary – to \_\_\_\_\_.
- 2) Find a mentor whose life is worth \_\_\_\_\_; Live a life that someone else can \_\_\_\_\_.
- 3) Have the \_\_\_\_\_ to be unpopular, opposed, and even attacked for your faith and faithfulness.
- 4) Know that you are always “\_\_\_\_\_” spiritually. Choose daily which \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) Always \_\_\_\_\_ what you \_\_\_\_\_. Never separate “doctrine” from “life”.
- 6) Move from “\_\_\_\_\_” to “\_\_\_\_\_” the truths of God.
- 7) Trust in the \_\_\_\_\_ of, commit to the \_\_\_\_\_ of, and submit to the \_\_\_\_\_ of God’s Word.

*The ‘times of stress’ in which we seem to be living are very distressing. Sometimes one wonders if the world and the church have gone mad, so strange are their views, and so lax their standards. Some Christians are swept from their moorings by the floodtide of sin and error. Others go into hiding, as offering the best hope of survival, the only alternative to surrender. But neither of these is the Christian way. ‘But as for you,’ Paul says to us as he did to Timothy, ‘stand firm. Never mind if the pressure to conform is very strong. Never mind if you are young, inexperienced, timid and weak. Never mind if you find yourself alone in your witness. You have followed my teaching so far. Now continue in what you have come to believe. You know the biblical credentials of your faith. Scripture is God-breathed and profitable. Even in the midst of these grievous times in which evil men and impostors go on from bad to worse, it can make you complete and it can equip you for your work. Let the word of God make you a man of God! Remain loyal to it and it will lead you on into Christian maturity.’*

- John Stott