

Sunday, May 4, 2014—The Judgment Seat of Christ—The Faithful Saying of II Timothy 2:11-13: If Statement Number Two

### Introduction/Review

- In our last study I sought to restate some teaching regarding II Timothy 2:11-13 in a more simplistic manner.
- Regarding the use of the word “if” in the New Testament we observed that in Greek there are 4 different types of conditions: 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 4<sup>th</sup> class conditions. The two we spent the most time seeking to understand were 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> class conditions. The mood of the verb following the condition determines which type of condition is in play: 1) *Indicative Mood* is a simple statement of fact; 2) *Subjunctive Mood* the action described may or may not occur, depending upon circumstances.
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Class—Assumed to be true: *If and it's true* (Logical/Fact Stating)
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> Class—Maybe or maybe not: *Maybe it is maybe it isn't* (Conditional)
- This faithful saying is comprised of 4 “if we” statements in verse 11 through 13. A consideration of the grammatical structure of the 4 “if we” statements contained in II Timothy 2:11-13 reveals the exact same structure. This reality means that all four expressions are FACT stating, not CONDITIONAL.
  - *If Statement—Number 1 (II Tim. 2:11b)—“ . . . For if (ei) we be dead with (indicative mood) him, we shall also live with him.”*
  - *If Statement—Number 2 (II Tim. 2:12a)—“If (ei) we suffer (indicative mood), we shall also reign with (indicative mood) him.”*
  - *If Statement—Number 3 (II Tim. 2:12b)—“ . . . if (ei) we deny (indicative mood) him, he also will deny (indicative mood) us.”*
  - *If Statement—Number 4 (II Tim. 2:13)—“If (ei) we believe not (indicative mood), yet he abideth (indicative mood) faithful: he cannot deny himself.”*
- Historically, I have held to a Traditional View of this passage; maintain that the statements of FACT in verses 11 and 13 were bookends for the statements of CONDITION in verse 13. I now believe that the all 4 of these “if we” statements in II Timothy 2:11-13 are statements of FACT and none of them are statements of CONDITION.
- “If we” Statement—# 1—assumes the truth of Romans 6 as a matter of FACT. This portion of II Timothy. 2:11 is a clear reference to the truth set forth in Romans 6:8.

- Therefore, this first portion of the faithful saying in II Timothy 2:11-13 is not calling into question whether or not believers died with Christ and will subsequently live with him. Rather this first “if we” statement is stating these truths as a matter of FACT based upon Romans 6.

### “If we” Statement—# 2 (II Tim. 2:12a)

- Grammatically this portion of the verse is a 1<sup>st</sup> Class Condition—“If (**ei**) we suffer (**indicative mood**), we shall also reign with(**indicative mood**) *him*.”
- First we need to consider what the statement DOES NOT say. The verse does not read as follows, “If we suffer **WITH HIM**, we shall also reign with *him AS A JOINT-HEIR*.” The words in bold are subconsciously inserted into the verse by supporters of the “two inheritance” view of Romans 8:17. The verse does not say anything about “suffering with him” nor does it mention anything about being a joint-heir with Christ.
- The Greek word translated “suffer” in II Timothy 2:12 is the word *hypomenō* which means “to preserve under misfortunes and trials to hold fast to one’s faith in Christ; to endure to bear bravely and calmly ill treatments,” according to *Strong’s Concordance*. The Greek word *hypomenō* occurs 17 times in the *Textus Receptus* and is translated in English by the King James translators as: endure (11x), take patiently (2x), tarry behind (1x), abide (1x), patient (1x), and suffer (1x).
- Within the immediate context, in II Timothy 2:10 we find the same Greek word (*hypomenō*) rendered “endure” in English. Some more prominent occurrences of the word *hypomenō* include:
  - Matthew 10:22—And ye shall be hated of all *men* for my name's sake: but he that **endureth** to the end shall be saved.
  - Matthew 24:13—But he that shall **endure** unto the end, the same shall be saved.
  - Romans 12:12—Rejoicing in hope; **patient** in tribulation; continuing instant in prayer;
  - I Corinthians 13:7—Beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, **endureth** all things.
- The meaning of the word “suffer” in II Timothy 2:12 comes into focus when one considers the definitions of the English words “endure” and “suffer.”
  - Endure—1) to last; to continue in the same state without perishing; to remain; to abide. 2) To bear; to brook; **to suffer** without resistance, or without yielding. To bear with patience; to bear without opposition or sinking under the pressure. Therefore, I endure all things for the elect's sake. 2 Tim 2.

- Suffer—1) to feel or bear what is painful, disagreeable or distressing, either to the body or mind; to undergo. 2) **To endure**; to support; to sustain; not to sink under.
- II Timothy 2:1-5, 9-10—in the context, the word “suffer” carries the idea of “enduring” or remaining in the truth regardless of hardship. Paul “endured,” i.e., “suffered trouble as an evil doer,” on account of his unique gospel according to II Timothy 2:8-9. Is this not what Paul is exhorting Timothy to do in this context, “endure hardness as a good soldier of Jesus Christ (II Tim. 2:3)?” Enduring suffering and trouble are characteristic of the good soldier that Paul is exhorting Timothy to be.
- II Timothy 2:10—Paul endured all things for the “elect’s sake,” i.e., justified members of the body of Christ that “they may also obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory.”
  - I = Paul
  - They = The elect, i.e., all members of the body of Christ
- II Timothy 2:11—who is the “we” in verse 11? It’s Paul and the elect from verse 10. The “if we” statement in verse 11 is true for all members of the body of Christ.
- II Timothy 2:12—“If we suffer” and we will (1<sup>st</sup> Class Condition, *If and it’s true*). It’s a FACT that all members of the body of Christ WILL and do suffer.
- II Timothy 2:10—in the context what type of things does Paul endure/suffer for the sake of the elect? All things or every type of hardship.
- When we consider the sufferings that believers endure there are generally 3 different types or categories of suffering.
- Romans 8:18-25—the sufferings of this present time would be any suffering related to the fact that we still live in a fallen creation. This would include physical and emotional suffering, lack of physical necessities (lack of basic needs). sickness and disease, perishing of the outerman, etc.
- Galatians 6:7-8—sufferings related to poor/unwise choices. If a brother goes out and sows to the flesh, gets drunk, and get in a crash, gets hurt, that is the result of his own poor choice.
- II Timothy 3:12—suffering related to standing faithfully for the truth of God's Word and living godly.
- II Corinthians 11:23-28, 12:10—looking at the sufferings that Paul experienced you can actually see how all the things he suffered could fit into these categories.

- II Timothy 2:12—following from the grammatical structure of the verse, suffering is not **CONDITIONAL** but a **FACTUAL** reality.
  - I Corinthians 12:26—“suffer” and “suffer with” are two different Greek words.
  - II Corinthians 1:4-7—the Corinthians partook in the same sufferings as Paul.
  - Philippians 1:29—it is a given that suffering will follow those who believe on him.
  - II Thessalonians 1:4-5—the Thessalonians endured tribulation and suffered for the kingdom of God.
- II Timothy 2:12—“If we suffer” is not a maybe you will maybe you won’t statement it’s a statement of **FACT** supported by the rest of the Pauline Scriptures.
- Next week we will finish our consideration of this portion of the faithful saying and attempt to demonstrate what it means to reign with Christ.