



03 MAY 2026 PM

2 Timothy

SLIP

= to slide out of place; to fall into error

Therefore we ought to give the more earnest heed to the things which we have heard, lest at any time we should let them slip.

Hebrews 2:1

INTRODUCTION

- last Sunday night, I preached from **First Timothy** and so tonight I was moved to look at **Second Timothy**

this book is unique for several reasons, not least of which is that it contains the last words written by Paul before he was martyred **4:6-7**

this second letter was written about seven years after the first one

- tonight, I want us to notice that in **every chapter** of this book, Paul mentioned **two men** who failed to be examples of godly faithfulness

in other words, they **SLIPPED**

by looking at their examples, we can identify the marks of one who has slipped away from God, and hopefully avoid the pitfalls

Romans 16:17

Now I beseech you, brethren, mark them which cause divisions and offences contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned; and avoid them.

1. Slipping leads to BACKSLIDING 1:15

This thou knowest, that all they which are in Asia be turned away from me; of whom are Phygellus and Hermogenes.

turned away = (*apostrepho*)

apostrophe = a mark indicating something has been omitted

all they which are in Asia...

this would include the regions and cities of Mysia, Lydia, Phrygia, Ephesus, Colossae, and the seven churches addressed in *Revelation*

two names in particular are mentioned here by Paul: *Phygellus* (fugitive) and *Hermogenes* (born to Hermes)

we know nothing about them, but apparently Timothy was aware of them

they had turned their backs on Paul and no doubt, his doctrinal teaching

perhaps the political scene had become too heated for them to remain faithful... Paul was a political prisoner after all

in the Old Testament, this idea of *turning away* is translated as 'backslider'

Proverbs 14:14

The backslider in heart shall be filled with his own ways: and a good man shall be satisfied from himself.

Psalms 68:6

God setteth the solitary in families: he bringeth out those which are bound with chains: but the rebellious dwell in a dry land.

rebellious = backslider

NOTE: it is interesting that this word is found 13x in the book of *Jeremiah* alone

2. Slipping Leads to BIBLE IGNORING

2:16-18

But shun profane and vain babblings: for they will increase unto more ungodliness. and their word will eat as doth a canker: of whom is Hymenaeus and Philetus; who concerning the truth have erred, saying that the resurrection is past already; and overthrow the faith of some.

the result of *slipping* in the lives of the next two men led to:

profane and vain babblings

profane = a threshold; something walked over

vain babbling = empty talk

sports; weather; gossip

these things led to more and more ungodliness

NOTE: *ungodliness* doesn't necessarily mean evil; it simply means God is not in it

this was something Paul had warned Timothy about early in his ministry

1 Timothy 6:20

O Timothy, keep that which is committed to thy trust, avoiding profane and vain babblings, and oppositions of science falsely so called:

honestly, has the internet led us to be a more godly society???

just like Timothy, these vain babblings are a constant battle for all of us

verse 18 Philetus and Hymenaeus had introduced false doctrine into the church

the future resurrection had already passed
...so why were they still there?

kingdom now theology

canker = gangrene; a sore

overthrow = to corrupt; to undermine

1 Timothy 4:1

Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils;

Titus 1:11

Whose mouths must be stopped, who subvert whole houses, teaching things which they ought not, for filthy lucre's sake.

the solution for such things?

2 Timothy 3:15-17

And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: that the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.

3. Slipping Leads to BAD LIVING 3:7-8

Ever learning, and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth. Now as Jannes and Jambres withstood Moses, so do these also resist the truth: men of corrupt minds, reprobate concerning the faith.

NOTE: these two men were never godly at all, but served as magicians in Pharaoh's household; nevertheless they had the witness of Moses and Aaron

in **3:1-5**, Paul warns what professing Christians will become if they are not actively committed to Christ

they have a form of godliness

= outward appearance

Titus 1:16

They profess that they know God; but in works they deny him, being abominable, and disobedient, and unto every good work reprobate.

Jannes and Jambres

see **Exodus 7:11-12, 22 (8:7, 18)**

every time they performed their enchantments,
Pharaoh's heart was hardened

in the same way, the unfaithful Christian is
guilty of two things:

accepting substitutes

hardening the hearts of others

4. Slipping Leads to BACK STABBING

4:10, 14

For Demas hath forsaken me, having loved this present world,
and is departed unto Thessalonica; Crescens to Galatia, Titus
unto Dalmatia...Alexander the coppersmith did me much evil:
the Lord reward him according to his works:

at one time, **DEMAS** had been a part of
the ministry of Paul and others

Colossians 4:14 with Luke

Philemon 24 fellow laborer

he had been willing to travel and
sacrifice for the cause of Christ

now, he had departed because he
'loved this present world'

1 John 2:15

Love not the world, neither the things that are in the
world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is
not in him.

obviously, this man **ALEXANDER** was still a problem, even for Timothy

he was Jewish...a coppersmith...idol-maker?

he had actively attacked Paul's ministry

1 Timothy 1:19-20

...some having put away concerning faith have made shipwreck: of whom is Hymenaeus and Alexander; whom I have delivered unto Satan, that they may learn not to blaspheme.

as a result, he was in danger of judgment:

turned over to satan

rewarded according to what he did

see **Acts 19:24-34**

BACKSLIDING

BIBLE IGNORING

BAD LIVING

BACK STABBING