

2 Timothy 4:3-4

{Sunday, September 14, 2014 A.D.}

REFERENCE TEXTS:

1 Timothy 4:1-2 (NASB95)

¹ But the Spirit explicitly says that in later times some will fall away from the faith, paying attention to deceitful spirits and doctrines of demons, ² by means of the hypocrisy of liars seared in their own conscience as with a branding iron,

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Romans 1:18-23 (NASB95)

¹⁸ For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, ¹⁹ because that which is known about God is evident within them; for God made it evident to them. ²⁰ For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly seen, being understood through what has been made, so that they are without excuse. ²¹ For even though they knew God, they did not honor Him as God or give thanks, but they became futile in their speculations, and their foolish heart was darkened. ²² Professing to be wise, they became fools, ²³ and exchanged the glory of the incorruptible God for an image in the form of corruptible man. . .

Romans 2:12-16 (NASB95)

¹² For all who have sinned without the Law will also perish without the Law, and all who have sinned under the Law will be judged by the Law; ¹³ for *it is* not the hearers of the Law *who* are just before God, but the doers of the Law will be justified. ¹⁴ For when Gentiles who do not have the Law do instinctively the things of the Law, these, not having the Law, are a law to themselves, ¹⁵ in that they show the work of the Law written in their hearts, their conscience bearing witness and their thoughts alternately accusing or else defending them, ¹⁶ on the day when, according to my gospel, God will judge the secrets of men through Christ Jesus.

FOCUS TEXT:

2 Timothy 4:3-4 (NASB95)

³ For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but *wanting* to have their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers in accordance to their own desires, ⁴ and will turn away their ears from the truth and will turn aside to myths.

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1. The unregenerate mixed into the visible church, through the preaching of a false gospel, resulting in their false conversion and their recognition as members by church elders after no or inadequate biblical examination

 2. Those in rebellion against God in some area(s) of His Lordship in their lives

 3. Those truly deceived by years of hearing mal-practicing, unfaithful, hireling preachers, reinforced by a wide variety of other equally unfaithful contemporary or historical voices inside and outside the local church

 4. Those unwilling to labor and learn in the Holy Scriptures

 5. Those who forsake the assembly of the saints

 6. etc.

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- Identify an area(s) where you are particularly vulnerable:
- Pray (identification/repentance—godly sorrow/victory/love of God—truth)
 - Search the Holy Scriptures to strengthen you
 - Seek confirmation of truth from the Elders God has placed over you in the church
 - Utilize the historic orthodox confessions/catechisms of the church as well as other faithful classic works
 - Spiritual disciplines/hedges

Matthew 24:24 (NASB95)

²⁴ "For false Christs and false prophets will arise and will show great signs and wonders, so as to mislead, if possible, even the elect.

