

The LORD IS FAITHFUL.

Review: 2 Timothy 4:9-10; 1 Timothy 1:19-20

KEY: If you can't handle _____, criticism or _____ then **you will not like** the ministry.

Serving the Lord isn't _____.

Paul gives a warning here to a son he loves over an enemy of the Gospel before he passes on. Compare **Acts 20**. Contrast **1 Kings 2:1-9**

The **proper** church age response to the wicked. "*the Lord reward him according to his works*"

FIRST: Leave the problem in the Lord's hands. **SECOND:** Warn others away!

1. Though all may _____ ... Vs 16.

- When there is a great adversity, sometimes many of God's people _____ into hiding.

Think of the investment that Paul made in Rome, and of the church's testimony there.

Romans 1:8

But now no one is willing to stand with Paul?

We need men and women of BOLD FAITH!

- **Forsook** – the same word is used in vs 10. "*Demas hath **forsaken** me*"
- In response to this, Paul DID NOT get _____. He didn't want vengeance.

Hebrews 12:15

- Let God use the hurt of others to make you _____

(to make you more _____ to the _____ of Christ) **Luke 23:33-34**

Example: _____ **Acts 7:59-60**

- God allows these trials to take place to _____ for good in our lives. **Romans 8:28-29; 15:1**

2. The Lord is _____! Vs 17a

- God _____ with His own!
When Paul **FIRST** met Jesus face to face on the road to Damascus, it blinded him. **Acts 9**

Now, Paul facing discouragement over his treatment by people he sacrificed to make an investment in! Example **Acts 23:11**

- Sometimes, serving the Lord can be _____.

The Lord stood with Paul to _____ him. He'll stand with you! **Deuteronomy 31:8; Joshua 1:9; Isaiah 41:10; 46:4; Matthew 28:20b; Hebrews 13:5-6; Psalm 23:3-4**

- God is our _____. "*and strengthened me*" **2 Peter 2:9**
Strengthened = to enable. **Isaiah 40:29-31**
Example: **Ezra 7:27-28**

The Lord will strengthen you. Just ask Him! **Psalm 138:1-3**

Live Christ. **Ephesians 3:14-16; Colossians 1:9-11**

- God strengthened Paul to empower _____ and for the _____ of the Gospel. **17b**

Vs 17b. That's the _____.

Luke 4:16-19; Acts 14:19-22; 16:8-10; 1 Corinthians 1:17-18; 9:16-18; Romans 15:17-21

- God strengthened Paul for _____ in a very real spiritual warfare. **17c**
Proverbs 18:10; Hebrews 12:2-3
Remember, the devil is always looking for _____. **1 Peter 5:8**
- *"I was delivered" – that is _____.*
- **Vs 18:** That's _____! There are _____.
2 Corinthians 1:9-10

Future tense example: _____. **Romans 11:26-27**

Present tense example: US! **Colossians 1:12-14** compare **1 Thessalonians 5:23**