

my purpose, my faith, my patience, my love, my endurance,¹¹ as well as the persecutions and sufferings^A that happened to me in Antioch, in Iconium, and in Lystra.^B I endured these persecutions and the Lord delivered me from them all.¹² Now in fact all who want to live godly lives in Christ Jesus will be persecuted.¹³ But evil people and charlatans will go from bad to worse,^C deceiving others and being deceived themselves.^D You, however, must continue^E in the things you have learned and are confident about. You know^F who taught you^G and how from infancy you have known the holy writings, which are able to give you wisdom for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.¹⁶ Every scripture^H is inspired by God^I and useful for teaching, for reproof,^J for correction, and for training in righteousness,¹⁷ that the person dedicated to God^K may be capable^L and equipped for every good work.

Charge to Timothy Repeated

4 I solemnly charge you before God and Christ Jesus, who is going to judge the living and the dead, and by his appearing and his kingdom: ²Preach the message,^M be ready^N whether it is convenient or not,^O reprove, rebuke, exhort^P with complete patience and instruction. ³For there will be a time when people^Q will not tolerate sound teaching. Instead, following their own desires,^R they will accumulate teachers for themselves, because they have an insatiable curiosity to hear new things.⁵ ⁴And they will turn away from hearing the truth, but on the other hand they will turn aside to myths.⁷ ⁵You, however, be self-controlled^U in all things, endure hardship, do an evangelist's work, fulfill your ministry. ⁶For I am already being poured out as an offering, and the time for me to depart^V is at hand. ⁷I have competed well;^W I have finished the race; I have kept the faith!⁸ Finally the crown of righteousness is reserved for me. The Lord, the righteous Judge, will award it to me in that day—and not to me only, but also to all who have set their affection on^X his appearing.

Travel Plans and Concluding Greetings

⁹ Make every effort to come to me soon. ¹⁰For Demas^Y deserted me, since he loved^Z the present age, and he went to Thessalonica. Crescens went to Galatia and Titus to Dalmatia. ¹¹Only Luke is with me. Get Mark and bring him with you, because he is a great help^a to me in ministry.¹² Now I have sent Tychicus to Ephesus. ¹³When you come, bring with you the cloak I left in Troas with Carpas and the scrolls, especially the parchments. ¹⁴Alexander the coppersmith did me a great deal of harm.^c *The Lord will repay him in keeping with his deeds.*^d ¹⁵You be on guard against him^e too, because he vehemently opposed our words. ¹⁶At my first defense no one appeared in my support; instead they all deserted me—may they not be held accountable for it. ¹⁷But the Lord stood by me and strengthened me, so that through me the message^f would be

in Greek to apply to each of the words in the series.

A TN Grk "persecutions, sufferings," as a continuation of the series from v. 10.

B SN In Antioch, in Iconium, and in Lystra. See Acts 13–14 for the account of these persecutions.

C TN Grk "will advance to the worse."

D TN Grk "deceiving and being deceived."

E TN Grk "but you, continue," a command.

F TN Grk "knowing," giving the reasons for continuing as v. 14 calls for.

G TN Grk "those from whom you learned."

H TN Or "All scripture."

SN There is very little difference in sense between *every scripture* (emphasizing the individual portions) and "all scripture" (emphasizing the composite whole). The former option is preferred, because it fits the normal use of the word "all/every" in Greek (πᾶς, *pas*) as well as Paul's normal sense for the word "scripture" in the singular without the article, as here. So *every scripture* means "every individual portion of scripture."

ISN Inspired by God. Some have connected this adjective in a different way and translated it as "every inspired scripture is also useful." But this violates the parallelism of the two adjectives in the sentence, and the arrangement of words makes clear that both should be taken as predicate adjectives: "every scripture is inspired...and useful."

J TN Or "rebuke," "censure." The Greek word implies exposing someone's sin in order to bring correction.

K TN Grk "the man of God," but ἄνθρωπος (*anthrōpos*) is most likely used here in a generic sense, referring to both men and women.

L TN This word is positioned for special emphasis; it carries the sense of "complete, competent, able to meet all demands."

M TN Or "the word."

N TN Or "be persistent."

O TN Grk "in season, out of season."

P TN Or "encourage."

X TN Grk "all who have loved."

Y SN Demas is most likely the same individual mentioned in Col 4:14 and Phlm 24.

Z TN Grk "having loved."

a TN Grk "useful."

b TN Or "in serving me."

c TN Grk "showed me much evil."

d SN An allusion to Ps 28:4.

e TN Grk "against whom," as a continuation of the previous clause. Because of the length and complexity of the Greek sentence, a new sentence was started here in the translation.

f TN Or "the preaching."

Q TN Grk "they"; the referent (the people in that future time) has been specified in the translation for clarity.

R TN Grk "in accord with."

S TN Grk "having an itching in regard to hearing," "having itching ears."

T SN These myths were legendary tales characteristic of the false teachers in Ephesus and Crete. See parallels in 1 Tim 1:4; 4:7; and Titus 1:14.

U TN Or "sober," "temperate."

V TN Grk "of my departure."

W SN The expression *I have competed well* (Grk "I have competed the good competition") uses words that may refer to a race or to a boxing or wrestling match: "run the good race" or "fight the good fight." The similar phrase in 1 Tim 1:18 uses a military picture and is more literally "war the good warfare."