

2 Timothy Chapter 3

1. But know this, that in the last days perilous times will come:

A. But know this,

1. **know-** Gr. **ginosko-** *to become fully acquainted with*

B. that in the last days perilous times will come

1. **last-** Gr. **eschatos-** *farthest, final*

2. **days-** Gr. **hemera**

a. The last days started on the day of Pentecost. [Acts 2:17](#) This verse is speaking of the final days of the last days.

3. **perilous-** Gr. **chalepos-** *hard, rugged; furious, ferocious, difficult, trying, hard to bear, troublesome, dangerous*

a. I believe these perilous days Paul talked about have started and will be culminated in the Great Tribulation to come.

b. We are seeing Jesus' prophecy about the love of many growing cold because of iniquity come to pass in the days we live in. [Matt. 24:12](#)

c. It is becoming more and more perilous to be a Christian today. Are we ready to stand up for Christ no matter what?

4. **times-** Gr. **kairos-** *season*

2. For men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy,

A. For men will be lovers of themselves,

1. **men-** Gr. **anthropos-** *mankind*

2. **lovers of themselves-** Gr. **philautos-** *fond of themselves*

B. lovers of money-

 Gr. **philarguros-** *fond of silver*

1. First they are lovers of themselves and then lovers of money. They use their money to spend upon themselves. We should use our money to fund the gospel and to bless others not just ourselves.

C. boasters-

 Gr. **alazon-** *an empty pretender, a boaster*

1. There used to be only four members of the Pretenders. Now there is a whole society full of them!

D. **proud-** Gr. **huperephanos-** *showing one's self above others, overtopping, conspicuous above others, pre-eminent, with an overweening estimate of one's means or merits, despising others or even treating them with contempt, haughty*

E. **blasphemers**- Gr. **blasphemos**- *speaking evil, slanderous, reproachful, railing, abusive*

F. **disobedient to parents**

1. **disobedient**- Gr. **apeithes**- *unpersuaded*

2. **parents**- Gr. **goneus**

G. **unthankful**- Gr. **acharistos**- *without grace, unthankful*

1. Unthankful people are those who are not receiving or walking in grace.

H. **unholy**- Gr. **anosios**- *unholy, impious, wicked*

1. Nothing is sacred any longer to a growing number of people today.

2. Are we not seeing this list played out daily in our society? It will only grow worse until the return of the Lord.

3. unloving, unforgiving, slanderers, without self-control, brutal, despisers of good,

A. **unloving**- Gr. **astorgos**- *without natural familial affection and bonds*

1. It is not uncommon now to hear on the news how a mom or dad has killed their own kids.

2. Grandchildren are the reward you get for not killing your kids!

B. **unforgiving**- Gr. **aspondos**- *unwilling to make a treaty; hence, implacable, irreconcilable*

1. The number one recorded reason for divorce today is irreconcilable differences.

C. **slanders**- Gr. **diabolos**- *devils, slanderers*

1. When we run people down with our mouth we are doing the work of the devil!

D. **without self-control**- Gr. **akrates**- *not able to keep oneself in check, lack of self-government*

1. They lack the fruit of the Spirit which includes self-control. You can't control yourself without the Holy Spirit.

E. **brutal**- Gr. **anemeros**- *savage, fierce, ferocious*

1. Our entertainment today is becoming more savage and violent.

F. **despisers of good**- Gr. **aphilagathos**- *no fondness for good*

1. We see this today with the breakdown of respect for all godly things including authority.

4. traitors, headstrong, haughty, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God,

A. **traitors**- Gr. **prodotes**- *one who surrenders up another*

1. This is being a Judas.

B. **headstrong**- Gr. **propetes**- *to fall forwards, headlong, sloping, precipitously*

1. This is someone who is like a bull in a china shop.

C. **haughty**- Gr. **tuphoo**- *to be enveloped in smoke*

D. **lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God**

1. **lovers of pleasure**- Gr. **philedonos**

a. This is lovers of hedonism.

b. Lovers of pleasure shall be poor in the end. [Pro. 21:17](#)

2. **lovers of God**- Gr. **philotheos**

a. If you don't love God, you are a lover of pleasure.

b. At the right hand of God are pleasures forevermore! [Ps. 16:11](#) This is where Jesus and believers are right now.

5. having a form of godliness but denying its power. And from such people turn away!

A. **having a form of godliness but denying its power.**

1. **form**- Gr. **morphosis**- *a forming, shaping*

2. **godliness**- Gr. **eusebeia**

a. This verse shows us that the list of ungodly traits listed in the previous verses are not just the heathen outside of the church, but this will include many church folk!

3. **denying**- Gr. **arneomai**

4. **power**- Gr. **dunamis**

a. This means they are professing Christians but they have not been born again and do not have the Spirit of God. [Rom. 8:9](#)

The Spirit of God brings divine power into one's life to manifest and testify of Jesus. [Acts 1:8](#)

B. **And from such turn away**

1. **turn away**- Gr. **apotrepo**

a. Do not fellowship with other so-called Christians that show no fruit of the Spirit in their life. The way we can tell if someone belongs to Jesus is that they depart from iniquity. [2](#)

Tim. 2:19

b. Many in the world and also in the church think that it is not loving to ever reject anyone. However, if you allow Scripture to stand in the way of what you believe then you will see that this is false. Rom 16:17; 2Th 3:6; 2Th 3:14, 1Ti 6:5; Tit 1:14; Tit 3:10, 2Jn 1:10-12.

6. For of this sort are those who creep into households and make captives of gullible women loaded down with sins, led away by various lusts,

A. For this sort are those who creep into households and make captives of gullible women loaded down with sins,

1. **creep-** Gr. **enduno-** *to put on, clothe with a garment, to creep into, insinuate one's self into, to enter, to push or work one's self into favor; to introduce by slow, gentle or artful means.*

a. We have authority over creeps! Gen. 1:26

b. These false teachers clothe themselves in sheep clothing but they are wolves. Mat 7:15

c. This gets worse! Not only will this list of ungodly character traits be seen in the church, but will also be seen among ministers!

2. **households-** Gr. **oikia**

3. **make captives-** Gr. **aichmaloteuo-** *take captive, capture*

4. **gullible women-** Gr. **gunaikarion-** *a little woman; a trifling, weak, silly woman*

a. *This is characteristic. They plan their visit when the husband is apt to be at work or elsewhere. History repeats itself. Satan approached Eve in the Garden of Eden and deceived her. Satan's methods have not changed. He still approaches women with his false teachings and leads them captive. These **women** are **gullible** in the sense that they are weak and unstable. They do not lack brains as much as they lack strength of character. - Believers Bible Commentary*

5. **loaded down-** Gr. **soreuo-** *to pile up, to overwhelm one with a heap of anything*

6. **sins-** Gr. **hamartia**

a. When we labor in our own works we will end up laden with sins. [Mat 11:28](#) We need to come to Jesus and receive His finished work. It is the antidote!

B. led away by various lusts

1. **led away**- Gr. **ago**- *to be carried away, led by an outside force*

a. *This suggests that they are burdened under a sense of sin and feel a need in their lives. It is at this crucial time that the false cultists arrive. How sad it is that those who know the truth of God's word are not more zealous in reaching these anxious souls [as the cultists are].* -Believers Bible Commentary

2. **various**- Gr. **poikolos**- *multi-colored, varied*

3. **lusts**- Gr. **epithumia**- *strong desires*

b. *They are **led away by various lusts**. The thought seems to be that, conscious of their load of sin and seeking relief from it, they are willing to expose themselves to every passing wind of doctrine and to every religious novelty.* -Believers Bible Commentary

7. always learning and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth.

A. learning- Gr. manthano

1. They never graduate and use their knowledge in any practical way at all. True theology will always come with shoe leather on it! It will be practical and be useable in the everyday things of life.

2. People love to be taught, but don't love putting it into practice!

3. *The expression **always learning** does not mean that they are continually learning more about the Lord Jesus and the Word of God. Rather, it means that they are constantly delving into one cult after another, but **never able to come to the knowledge of the truth**. The Lord Jesus is Himself the Truth. These women seem to come ever so close to Him at times, but they are taken captive by the enemy of their souls and never attain the rest that is found only in the Savior. It should be noted at this point that members of the various cults invariably say, "I am learning," mentioning the system by name. They can never speak with finality as to an accomplished redemption through faith in Jesus Christ.* - Believers Bible Commentary

B. able- Gr. **dunamai**

1. They are not able to come to revelation knowledge of Jesus because the Holy Spirit will not bear witness or give revelation to teaching that does not exalt Jesus and His finished work. We can only receive revelation knowledge by the power and ability of the Holy Spirit.

C. knowledge- Gr. **epignosis-** *higher knowledge, revelation knowledge*

D. truth- Gr. **aletheia**

1. Jesus is the Truth! These women keep studying new ideas and teachings but never arrive at the focal point of the Word which is the person of Jesus Christ. [2Ti 4:3](#); [2Ti 4:4](#)

2. It is interesting that all cults either ignore Jesus or interject heresy about the person of Jesus. Either they deny that He is God or that He was fully man. They also reject His substitutionary work of the cross and His resurrection.

8. Now as Jannes and Jambres resisted Moses, so do these also resist the truth: men of corrupt minds, disapproved concerning the faith;

A. Now as Jannes and Jambres resisted Moses,

1. **Jannes-** means *one who vexes*

a. A minister is supposed to bless people. Some ministers just vex people.

2. **Jambres-** means *foamy healer, a rebel*

a. A cult leader is just a foamy healer. He promises healing and blessing but all he imparts or leaves is foam. Foam looks big and impressive but it really is just puffed up with air.

b. In this book of 2 Timothy we see three pairs of men. First, we see Phygellus and Hermogenes- these were ashamed of the truth, next we see Hymenaeus and Philetus- these erred concerning the truth, and Jannes and Jambres- these resisted the truth.

c. These men tried to copy the miracles performed through Moses. It is interesting to note these magicians could not make the plagues they copied go away. Pharaoh asked that Moses would make them stop. After the frogs the magicians could not

copy the miracles performed through Moses let alone make them leave. The magicians could turn the water to blood- probably by demonic power killing the animals in the water and releasing their blood into the water. They also could bring frogs up out of the Nile by demonic aid, but when lice were created out of the dust, they could not match it. Satan can't create anything. The magicians could not do it and said this is the finger of God which is a metaphor for this was God's creative act.

3. **resisted**- Gr. **anthistemi**- *to stand against*

4. **Moses**- means *drawn from the water*

a. A true minister will draw their teaching from the water of the Word.

B. so do these also resist the truth

1. **resist**- Gr. **anthistemi**

2. **truth**- Gr. **aletheia**

a. They resist the Spirit of truth.

C. men of corrupt minds,

1. **men**- Gr. **anthropos**

2. **corrupt**- Gr. **kataphtheiro**- *thoroughly corrupted*

a. These men are rotten to the core of their mind. There is nothing healthy left in their mind for truth to attach to and turn them back again.

3. **minds**- Gr. **nous**

D. disapproved concerning the faith

1. **disapproved**- Gr. **adokimos**- *to be rejected after testing*

a. When tested concerning **the Christian faith**, they are found to be **disapproved** and spurious. The greatest single test that can be applied to them is to ask the simple question, "Is Jesus Christ God?" Many of them seek to hide their false doctrine by admitting that Jesus is the Son of God, but they mean that He is a son of God in the same sense that others are children of God. But when faced with the question, "Is Jesus Christ God?" they show their true colors. They not only deny the deity of Jesus Christ but usually become angry when so challenged. This is

true of Christian Scientists, Spiritualists, Christadelphians, Jehovah's Witnesses, and "The Way." -Believers Bible Commentary

2. faith- Gr. **pistis**

a. Either these men never were believers or they have left the faith altogether. Sadly, I have seen this happen in my lifetime.

9. but they will progress no further, for their folly will be manifest to all, as theirs also was.

A. but they will progress no further,

1. **progress-** Gr. **prokopto-** *to cut in advance of to make progress*

2. **further-** Gr. **epi pleion-** *on more*

a. This means they will be exposed for the sham they are.

B. for their folly will be manifest to all,

1. **folly-** Gr. **anoia-** *ignorance, stupidity*

a. To mess around with the occult is just stupid. You are ignorant of what is really behind it which is Satan.

2. **manifest-** Gr. **ekdelos-** *to make quite plain, conspicuous, very evident*

C. as theirs also was

1. After Jannes and Jambres could not reproduce a similitude of the miracles of Moses their game was suddenly up.

10. But you have carefully followed my doctrine, manner of life, purpose, faith, longsuffering, love, perseverance,

A. But you have carefully followed my doctrine,

1. **carefully followed-** Gr. **parakoloutheo**

2. **doctrine-** Gr. **didaskalia**

B. manner of life- Gr. **agoge-** *how one's lead one's life, a way of life, the manner of leading or spending life*

C. purpose- Gr. **prothesis-** *a putting forth, predetermination, purpose*

1. Paul's purpose was to cleave unto the Lord and bear His fruit.

[Act 11:23](#)

D. faith- Gr. **pistis-** *firm persuasion*

1. A fruit of the Spirit. [Gal. 5:22-23](#) The fruit of the Spirit was proof of Paul being united to Christ and the manifestation His Spirit operating in his life. The gifts of the Spirit are not proof you belong to Jesus, bearing His fruit is. Some will say on that day, "Lord did we not perform miracles in your name." He will say to them, "Depart from me I never knew you." [Matt. 7:22-23](#)

2. The false teachers may have seemed gifted or even had supernatural signs accompany them, but they did not possess God's Spirit or His fruit. Jesus said false prophets and teachers will be known by their fruits [or lack thereof]. [Matt. 7:15-16](#)

E. longsuffering- Gr. **makrothumia**

1. A fruit of the Spirit

F. love- Gr. **agape**

1. A fruit of the Spirit

G. perseverance- Gr. **hupomone**

1. A fruit of the Spirit

11. persecutions, afflictions, which happened to me at Antioch, at Iconium, at Lystra—what persecutions I endured. And out of *them* all the Lord delivered me.

A. persecutions- Gr. **diogmos**

B. afflictions- Gr. **pathema-** *sufferings*

C. which happened to me at Antioch,

1. **happened-** Gr. **ginomai-** *to come to be, to happen*

2. **Antioch-** means *speedy driver [of a chariot]*

a. [Acts 13:50](#)

D. at Iconium- means *coming*

1. [Acts 14:1-5](#)

E. at Lystra- to *dissolve or disperse*

a. Timothy would have known about Paul's afflictions here because his home town was Lystra. He would have also heard of what happened to Paul in the neighboring towns of Antioch and Iconium. I am sure Paul getting raised from the dead after being stoned had a great effect on Timothy getting saved.

b. It is interesting to see the meanings of names in the Bible. They often convey a message in them. Paul entered the region of Galatia and the first city he came to was Antioch. He came into **Antioch** like a **speeding chariot driver**. He first sped into the city of Antioch with the gospel. Satan came against him in Antioch with persecution. However, Paul moved on from there and still had momentum going into **Iconium** and he still **was coming** with God's message. Satan hit him again. It was in **Lystra** that Satan did his best to stop Paul and **dissolve** his ministry and message. Paul was stoned in Lystra and left for dead. I believe he did die and was taken to the third heaven and received revelations. [2 Cor. 12:2](#) However, the disciples stood around him and prayed for him and he was raised up miraculously. [Acts 14:19-20](#)

c. Many of God's servants start really strong and fast in the ministry but are slowed and eventually stopped because of persecution. Don't let anything or anyone stop you. Even if the devil kills you, God can still raise you up from the dead!

F. what persecutions I endured

1. **persecutions**- Gr. **diogmos**
2. **endured**- Gr. **hupophero**- *to bear up under*

G. And out of them all the Lord delivered me

1. **delivered**- Gr. **rhuomai**- *to draw out of a rushing current, to deliver, to rescue from perishing*
 - a. God pulled Paul out of the rushing river of death and raised him up!
 - b. [Psa 34:19](#)

12. Yes, and all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution.

A. Yes- Gr. **de**- *but, and*

1. This is a promise of God but you never find it in any God's Promises book!

B. and all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution

1. **desire**- Gr. **thelo**- *to will*
 - a. If you are born again you should have a desire to live godly.
2. **live**- Gr. **zao**

3. godly- Gr. **eusebos**

a. What does it mean to live godly? Ask yourself, "What is God like?" Then godly living will represent that.

4. suffer persecution- Gr. **dioko**

a. If you do an exhaustive study on the subject of suffering in the NT you will see that the words suffer, suffering, sufferings are almost always referring to suffering **persecution**. There are a few instances where it mentions suffering in regards to resisting sin and the flesh. You never see that we are to suffer sickness, poverty, or defeat. We are redeemed from these, however, we are not redeemed from persecution.

b. Jesus said that if they persecuted Him then they would persecute you [us His servants]. [John 15:20](#)

13. But evil men and impostors will grow worse and worse, deceiving and being deceived.

A. But evil men and impostors will grow worse and worse,

1. **evil-** Gr. **poneros-** *wicked, evil that is harmful to others*

2. **men-** Gr. **anthropos**

3. **impostors-** Gr. **goes-** *a wailer, a wizard, enchanter (because incantations used to be uttered in a kind of howl), imposter, cheat*

a. Literally, "conjurers." Magical arts prevailed at Ephesus ([Act 19:19](#)), and had been renounced by many Ephesians on embracing Christianity: but now when Paul was writing to Ephesus, symptoms of a return to conjuring tricks appeared. - Jamieson, Fausset, Brown Commentary

4. **grow worse and worse-** Gr. **prokopto epi cheiron-** *advance on more worse*

a. If it was bad in Paul's day it is worse today and will get worse until Jesus returns.

B. deceiving and being deceived

1. **deceiving-** Gr. **planao**

2. **being deceived-** Gr. **planao**

a. People who deceive people are themselves deceived.

14. But you must continue in the things which you have learned and been assured of, knowing from whom you have learned *them*,

A. But you must continue in the things which you have learned and been assured of,

1. continue- Gr. **meno**

a. This is the requirement for being a disciple according to Jesus- [John 8:31-32](#)

2. learned- Gr. **manthano**

a. If you don't continue in what you have learned you will either be a deceived Christian or become a false teacher.

3. assured- Gr. **pistoo-** *believed*

B. knowing from whom you have learned them,

1. knowing- Gr. **eido**

2. learned- Gr. **manthano**

a. The kingdom life flows upon revelation and relationship. We need to keep to the revelation of the New Testament and remain in relationship with those who taught us that revelation.

b. Sometimes Christians will let a complete stranger have great influence over them and receive their teachings. We should both check out the teaching and the person teaching it. Both should be of noble pedigree.

c. The early church continued steadfastly in the apostles doctrine and in fellowship [relationship]. [Act 2:42](#)

15. and that from childhood you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.

A. and that from a childhood you have known the Holy Scriptures,

1. childhood- Gr. **brephos-** *infant*

a. This is why Timothy was ready for church leadership at such an early age.

2. known- Gr. **eido**

a. This was because his mother and grandmother taught him

from a baby the Word of God.

B. which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.

1. **able-** Gr. **dunamai**

2. **make you wise-** Gr. **sophizo**

a. Timothy had great wisdom at an early age because he studied the Word of God from an early age.

3. **salvation-** Gr. **soterion**

a. This is not just eternal salvation but temporal salvation. We need wisdom to walk in temporal salvation in our soul and body. You can have salvation in your spirit without much wisdom, but you can't have salvation in your soul and body without it! There is a lot of foolish Christians who are saved but are being destroyed in their soul and body because of the lack of knowledge and wisdom.

b. You need the knowledge and wisdom of the Word of God to save your soul. [Jas 1:21](#)

4. **faith-** Gr. **pistis**

a. Your faith is not enough! Your faith needs to be educated! Add to your faith virtue and to virtue knowledge [in the Word] [2 Pet. 1:5](#)

16. All Scripture *is* given by inspiration of God, and *is* profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness,

A. All Scripture is given by inspiration of God,

1. **All**

a. This is the OT, Gospels, and the NT.

b. Today among the grace circles some are teaching that the OT and Gospels are inferior to the NT and that they should not be read or studied by Christians. This is false. Here we see all the Scripture is given by inspiration of God and is profitable.

2. **Scripture-** Gr. **graphe**

a. Scripture is both a written thing and the Living Lord Jesus. The Word is written and a person- Jesus. Jesus is called the

Word of God [[John 1:14](#)] and He is also called the Scripture.

b. We see this in the book of Galatians- [Gal 3:8](#) **And the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel to Abraham beforehand, saying, "In you all the nations shall be blessed."**

c. It was the Lord who called Abraham out and told him to look up at the stars and spoken of the coming seed. [Gen. 12:6](#) In Galatians 3 we see the Scripture foresaw and preached the gospel to Abraham. This was the Lord Christ!

3. given- Gr. **didomi**

a. The Word of God is a gift to us. Where would we be if God had not given His Word to the sons of men?

4. inspiration- Gr. **theopneustos**- *God breathed, divinely inspired*

B. and is profitable for doctrine,

1. **profitable**- Gr. **ophelimos**- *profitable, useful, beneficial; serviceable*

2. **doctrine**- Gr. **didaskalia**- *teaching*

a. The Word of God is profitable and brings you profit when you study it, believe it, and put it into practice. We see this in other places- [Jer. 1:8](#), [Acts 20:20](#), [1 Tim 4:15](#)

b. What Christians need more than anything is teaching. Preaching is mainly for the sinner. Preaching is proclaiming the truth, teaching is explaining the truth. Christians need to be taught the Word of God.

C. for reproof- Gr. **elegchos**- *proof, conviction*

1. This means to provide evidence that leads to conviction of truth. The Word of God does this. This is a function of love. Love will show where you are wrong so you are not hurt by it. Not only does the Word show you where you are thinking, believing, and acting wrong, it also moves on to show you how to correct it.

D. for correction- Gr. **epanorthosis**- *correction, reformation, improvement*

1. The Word shows us the correct way to think, believe, and act so that it will bring improvement to our life.

E. for instruction in righteousness

1. **instruction**- Gr. **paideia**- *child training*

- a. God uses the Word of God to child train his children. He does not use sickness, disease, or disasters to do this.
- b. This same word is used in Hebrews 12 and is translated there as **chasten**. God chastens [child trains- **paideuo**] those who He receives. [[Heb. 12:6](#)] Again, God uses His Word to do this. If someone refuses to be child trained by the Word of God, then the negative consequences from our fleshly decisions and actions will train them. This is not from God but from your own foolish decisions. Believe me you want to be child trained by the Word of God!

2. **righteousness**- Gr. **dikaioisune**- *the state of one who is as they ought to be*

- a. The training of the Word of God will leave the peaceable fruit of righteousness in our lives. [Heb. 12:11](#)

17. that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.

A. that the man of God may be complete,

- 1. **man**- Gr. **anthropos**- *mankind- this includes male and female*
- 2. **complete**- Gr. *entirely suited; complete in accomplishment, ready*
 - a. Every sport has training camp. What is the camp for? It is to be ready to win. Personal time in the Word and time in church receiving teaching is training camp for believers. It is so that we are ready to go out into the field and be a witness for Christ and win- souls!

B. thoroughly equipped for every good work

- 1. **thoroughly equipped**- Gr. *to equip or furnish completely*
- 2. **good**- Gr. **agathos**- *divine good*
 - a. There are just good work or there is God works. We are called to do God works!

3. work

- a. The end result of the intake of the Word of God is the output of the Word of God in work that benefits others and expands God's kingdom in the earth.
- b. Good works done by believers are done by the power of the

Word of God and the Spirit of God.

c. We were born again a new creation. This was a gift. However, that was not God's end purpose. He made us new creations so we could walk in good works He has ordained for us so we can be billboards for Jesus and win souls and expand His kingdom and glory. [Eph. 2:10](#)