

Apply The Word

www.crosswaypa.org



Message Info

Title:

He Cannot Deny
Himself

Speaker:

Peter Privitera

Date:

November 5, 2023

Scriptures:

2 Timothy 2:8-13

Theme: When you're tempted to shrink away remember that God cannot deny himself.

Introduction: Paul was in prison when we wrote 2 Timothy, shortly before his death. As he wrote his final letter to strengthen Timothy for the task before him, he sought to communicate compelling truth to his son in the faith. He wanted to strengthen Timothy with the news of our Savior's disposition toward his people.

Paul gave Timothy 1 truth and 2 implications of it to strengthen him:

1. God cannot deny himself (13b)

Though it may seem wrong to speak of things God cannot do, the Bible does affirm several. Here Paul seizes on one: God cannot deny himself.

This is so because, unlike us, the Lord is who he is. He is pure integrity. He never fails or compromises. He is the perfection and fulness of his virtues.

God does not have a war within himself. He always fully accomplishes all that he intends to do and he always upholds his word and his will.

Similarly, we should not use our 'freedom' for sin, but to obey God fully (Gal 5:13).

2. Remember Jesus (8-10)

Paul tells Timothy to "Remember Jesus Christ..." He reminds him of the gospel so that Timothy will put his trust in the person of Jesus.

Jesus is the Christ, the Messiah. He is also risen, having defeated sin and death.

He has also fulfilled the plan and promises of God.

By remembering the risen Christ, we are compelled to worship him, and to tell the truth about him to others. We fulfill his purposes for our lives.

3. Know the Gospel (11-13)

Paul creates a kind of gospel song to remind Timothy of the truth of the gospel.

He wants Timothy (and us) to remember Jesus by remembering the truths of the gospel.

Gospel clarity not only leads to salvation, but it also gives us courage, for: "If we have died with him, we will also live with him."

Because the Lord is faithful to his promises, we can have confidence in all that he has promised, which works in us to walk with courage here and now.

Even if we are faithless, he will be faithful—so we can turn and know his grace.

Questions:

1. Why does it matter that God cannot deny himself?
2. How are you tempted to shrink away?
3. How does knowing and trusting Jesus make you bold?