

## ***2 Timothy: Lessons for the Church – the Pillar of the Truth***

### **Chapter 3: Living with Conviction and Confidence**

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Key Verse (v. 14): **...continue in what you have learned and have become convinced of, because you know those from whom you learned it...** (NLT)

#### **1. Our convictions will be tested (vv. 1-5)**

*For people will love only themselves and their money. They will be boastful and proud, scoffing at God, disobedient to their parents, and ungrateful. They will consider nothing sacred. They will be unloving and unforgiving; they will slander others and have no self-control. They will be cruel and hate what is good. They will betray their friends, be reckless, be puffed up with pride, and love pleasure rather than God. They will act religious, but they will reject the power that could make them godly.* vv. 2-5 (NLT)

- It will get a lot worse before it gets better.
- As the world becomes a darker place, Christians can shine brighter.

#### **2. Confront counterfeits with confidence (vv. 6-9)**

- Beware of counterfeit Christians and religious leaders.
- The genuine article: *love for God and others, humble, shows honor and respect to those in authority (God, parents), grateful, forgiving, controls speech and body, kind, loyal, sincere, acknowledges the transforming power of Christ.*

#### **3. Timothy's confidence in Paul (vv. 10-14)**

- Before following a spiritual leader, examine not just his teaching but also his character.
- Everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution.

#### **4. Confidence in the Scriptures (vv. 15-17)**

- Scripture reveals God's truth (teaching), points out our errors (rebuking), points us in the right direction (correcting), and shows us how to stay on course (training).