



The Good Fight

2 Timothy 4:6-8

⁶ For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure has come. ⁷ I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.

⁸ Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved his appearing.



To continue encouraging him to proclaim Jesus boldly, Paul reminds Timothy that fighting the good fight leads to an eternal reward.



Timothy, my time here is short



2 Timothy 4:6-8

⁶ For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure has come. ⁷ I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.

⁸ Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved his appearing.



2 Timothy 4:6-8

⁶ For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and **the time of my departure has come.** ⁷ I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.

⁸ Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved his appearing.



Last Words



Last Words

- The weight of last words



Last Words

- The weight of last words
- Passing the baton, the mantle



Last Words

- The weight of last words
- Passing the baton, the mantle
- Urgency



Fight The Good Fight



2 Timothy 4:6-8

⁶ For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure has come. ⁷ **I have fought the good fight**, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.

⁸ Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved his appearing.



2 Timothy 4:6-8

⁶ For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure has come. ⁷ I have fought the good fight, **I have finished the race**, I have kept the faith.

⁸ Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved his appearing.



2 Timothy 4:6-8

⁶ For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure has come. ⁷ I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, **I have kept the faith.**

⁸ Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved his appearing.



The Good Fight



The Good Fight

What it is NOT –



The Good Fight

What it is NOT –

- Fighting people



2 Timothy

2:14 – “remind them not to quarrel about words...”

2:24-25a – “The Lord’s servant must not be quarrelsome, but kind to everyone...patiently enduring evil, correcting his opponents with gentleness.”



The Good Fight

What it is NOT –

- Fighting people



The Good Fight

What it is NOT –

- Fighting people
- Fighting a good fight



The Good Fight

What it is NOT –

- Fighting people
- Fighting a good fight
- Fighting well





The Good Fight

What it is NOT –

- Fighting people
- Fighting a good fight
- Fighting well



The Good Fight

What it is NOT –

- Fighting people
- Fighting a good fight
- Fighting well
- A sprint



The Good Fight

IS:



The Good Fight

IS:

The struggle to continue – through disappointments, difficulties, opposition, and failure – pouring out the content and character of the gospel for others.



The Good Fight

IS:



The Good Fight

IS:

- For a limited time



The Good Fight

IS:

- For a limited time
- Eternally significant



The Good Fight

IS:

- For a limited time
- Eternally significant
- A fight (requires effort)



The Good Fight

IS:

- For a limited time
- Eternally significant
- A fight (requires effort)
- THE Good Fight



Kept The Faith



Kept The Faith

- Preserved the content of the Gospel
 - Jesus + Nothing



Kept The Faith

- Preserved the content of the Gospel
 - Jesus + Nothing
- Persevered in pouring it out for others



What it feels like...



What it feels like...

- Overwhelming
 - “No ordinary people”



What it feels like...

- Overwhelming
 - “No ordinary people”
- Tiring, Depressing, Discouraging
 - No end to the opposition



What it feels like...

- Overwhelming
 - “No ordinary people”
- Tiring, Depressing, Discouraging
 - No end to the opposition
- Scary
 - No guarantee of success
 - It’s costly



What it feels like...

- Overwhelming
 - “No ordinary people”
- Tiring, Depressing, Discouraging
 - No end to the opposition
- Scary
 - No guarantee of success
 - It’s costly
- Frustrating
 - Change is slow



Where are you feeling the fight?

- Overwhelmed
- Tired, Depressed, Discouraged
- Scared
- Frustrated



Let's Ask For God's Help



2 Timothy 4:6-8

⁶ For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure has come. ⁷ I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.

⁸ Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved his appearing.



2 Timothy 4:6-8

⁶ For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure has come. ⁷ I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.

⁸ Henceforth **there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness**, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved his appearing.



The Crown of Righteousness

- The Victor's Wreath





The Crown of Righteousness

- The Victor's Wreath
- **Stephanos = crown**





The Crown of Righteousness

- The Victor's Wreath



The Crown of Righteousness

- The Victor's Wreath
 - The fight/race is over



The Crown of Righteousness

- The Victor's Wreath
 - The fight/race is over
 - “Well done”



The Crown of Righteousness

- The Victor's Wreath
- Christ's Righteousness



2 Timothy 4:6-8

⁶ For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure has come. ⁷ I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.

⁸ Henceforth there is laid up for me **the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me** on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved his appearing.



2 Timothy 4:6-8

⁶ For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure has come. ⁷ I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.

⁸ Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me **on that day**, and not only to me but also to all who have loved his appearing.



On That Day



On That Day

- When Jesus is the Righteous Judge



2 Timothy 4:1

¹ I charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead...



On That Day

- When Jesus is the Righteous Judge



On That Day

- When Jesus is the Righteous Judge
- When He has returned in power and glory...



On That Day

- When Jesus is the Righteous Judge
- When He has returned in power and glory...
- To judge the living and the dead...



On That Day

- When Jesus is the Righteous Judge
- When He has returned in power and glory...
- To judge the living and the dead...
- With eternal judgments:
 - Eternal rewards for the faithful
 - Eternal punishment and separation for those without faith



2 Timothy 4:6-8

⁶ For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure has come. ⁷ I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.

⁸ Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved his appearing.



2 Timothy 4:6-8

⁶ For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure has come. ⁷ I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.

⁸ Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved his appearing.



Two Expressions of Faith



Two Expressions of Faith

- Fight the Good Fight



The Good Fight

The struggle to continue –
through disappointments, difficulties,
opposition, and failure – pouring out the
content and character of the gospel for others.



Two Expressions of Faith

- Fight the Good Fight



Two Expressions of Faith

- Fight the Good Fight
- Love His Appearing



Loving His Appearing

- What does that mean?



Holidays



Loving His Appearing

- What are the obstacles?



Loving His Appearing

- What are the obstacles?
 - Remnant of works-based acceptance



Leonardo's Last Words

“I have offended God and mankind because my work did not reach the quality it should have.”



Loving His Appearing

- What are the obstacles?
 - Remnant of works-based acceptance
 - All the unknowns



Loving His Appearing

- What are the obstacles?
 - Remnant of works-based acceptance
 - All the unknowns
 - Loving this world too much



Loving His Appearing

- What does it look like?



Loving His Appearing

- What does it look like?
 - We look forward to completion and rest



Loving His Appearing

- What does it look like?
 - We look forward to completion and rest
 - We trust in His wisdom, goodness, and power



Loving His Appearing

- What does it look like?
 - We look forward to completion and rest
 - We trust in His wisdom, goodness, and power
- The Triune God is our treasure



Asking For God's Help

- A greater awareness of our sin, that we might long to be free of it
- A stronger confidence in His perfect wisdom, infinite goodness, and unlimited power
- A deeper experience of His love, that we might treasure Him and share Him above everything

