

# Talk 6

## The Presence of God for life

## 2 Timothy 4:1-2

I charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and by his appearing and his kingdom:<sup>2</sup> preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, and exhort, with complete patience and teaching.

= Presence of God is “in Christ”

= Between his 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Appearing

# Presence of God in 3 Tenses

<sup>16</sup> At my first defense no one came to stand by me, but all deserted me. May it not be charged against them!<sup>17</sup> **But the Lord stood by me** and strengthened me, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it. So I **was rescued** from the lion's mouth. <sup>18</sup> **The Lord will rescue me** from every evil deed and bring me safely into his heavenly kingdom. To him be the glory forever and ever. Amen.

**Presence of God**  
**“in Christ” for Paul**

**Abandoned but not alone**

**Alone but not lonely**

**Attacked by not defeated**

# The Presence of God in 4 ways

God's Spirit (1:14)

God's grace (2:1)

God's Word (3:16)

God's Model (3:10)

= Why Timothy can also fight  
the good fight & finish the race!

## God's Model (3:10)

<sup>10</sup> You, however, have followed **my teaching, my conduct, my aim in life, my faith, my patience, my love, my steadfastness,** <sup>11</sup> **my persecutions and sufferings that happened to me at Antioch, at Iconium, and at Lystra—which persecutions I endured; yet from them all the Lord rescued me.**

**= Presence Jesus in ALL of Paul's life**

## But there is a battle (3:10)

<sup>12</sup> Indeed, all who desire to live a **godly life** in Christ Jesus will be **persecuted**, <sup>13</sup> while **evil people and impostors** will go on from **bad to worse**, deceiving and being deceived.

**= Choose between real and fake models**

# The Battle for People

The **Age** we live in

The **Society** we live in

The **Reality** we live with

= Be prayerful & mindful



**The Age we live in**

**From rural to urban age**

**More distanced from God,  
more depraved**

**Nature-deficit leads to  
God-deficit**

**More cities of Babylon,  
less city of Jerusalem**

**Revelation 18**

**= Come out, come out  
of Babylon**

# A Tale of 2 Cities

## Babylon

Self-made

Self-ruled

Self-glorifying

## Jerusalem

God-made

God-ruled

God-glorifying

# Society Today

**Most transient in human history**

**A Challenge to:**  
**Christian Stability**  
**Christian Fidelity**  
**Christian Authenticity**  
**= Christian Maturity**

**Physically close,  
Relationally distant**

**People people everywhere,  
BUT no ONE to call your friend**



# Specialisation & Fragmentation

In society

In 21<sup>st</sup> Century church

## Families:

- \* From extended to nuclear families
  - \* From nuclear to singular
- \* From lifelong to serial marriages
  - = **Later & fewer marriages**
  - = **More divorces, older divorcees**

## People Lostness

More & more dehumanised  
More & more depersonalised  
**= Less & less presence of God**

# Freedom

**The movement from People  
to Persons**

**= The idol of individuality**

**God's Answer**  
**From individuality to FAMILY**

**1 Timothy 5:1-2**

# God's Answer

## The Centrality of the Cross

= All about God creating  
& redeeming people!

= All about God **LOVING** people!

**God's Answer**  
**The Trinitarian God**

**The most ugly vs beautiful people!**

**Miserable vs meaningful.**

## 2 Timothy 1:10-12

and which now has been manifested through the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus, **who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel,** <sup>11</sup> for which I was appointed a preacher and apostle and teacher,<sup>12</sup> which is why I suffer as I do. **But I am not ashamed, for I know whom I have believed,** and I am convinced that he is able to guard until that day what has been entrusted to me.<sup>[c]</sup>



What's your opinion of

**1. People**

**2. Life**

**3. Death**

What's your obedience to

**1. Jesus?**

**2. About People?**

**3. About Life & Death?**

## Paul's Model (3:10)

<sup>10</sup> You, however, have followed **my teaching, my conduct, my aim in life, my faith, my patience, my love, my steadfastness,** <sup>11</sup> **my persecutions and sufferings that happened to me at Antioch, at Iconium, and at Lystra—which persecutions I endured; yet from them all the Lord rescued me.**

**= Presence Jesus in ALL of OUR life!**

**Where is God?**

**If Jesus is not**

**Lord of your moments,**

**He is not Lord at all.**

**= Are you fake or real?**