

## Lesson XII.

## PAUL'S CHARGE TO TIMOTHY

June 21, 1908

2 Timothy 3 : 14 to 4 : 8—Memory Verses, 12-14.

**Golden Text**—There is laid up for me a crown of righteousness.—2 Tim. 4 : 8.

14 But continue thou in the things which thou hast learned and hast been assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned *them* ;

15 And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Je'sus.

16 All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness :

17 That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.

Ch. 4 : 1 I charge *thee* therefore before God, and the Lord Je'sus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom ;

2 Preach the word ; be instant in season, out of season ; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine.

3 For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine ; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears ;

4 And they shall turn away *their* ears from

the truth, and shall be turned unto fables, 5 But watch thou in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, make full proof of thy ministry.

6 For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand.

7 I have fought a good fight, I have finished *my* course, I have kept the faith :

8 Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day : and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing.

## THE LESSON RETOLD

Such a terrible persecution had arisen against the Christians that Paul was again arrested and thrown into a dark and lonely prison.

Not knowing the moment when he might be put to death, the apostle spent his time in writing letters of advice and encouragement to his friends.

Among these was a young man called Timothy, who had lately been appointed minister of the church at Ephesus.

As a child, Timothy had been taught by his Jewish mother and grandmother to read and love the Old Testament. And while still a boy he became a Christian through the teachings of Paul, afterwards going with him upon some of his missionary journeys. To this beloved pupil Paul now wrote :

"MY DEAR TIMOTHY:

"As you are just beginning your work as a preacher of the gospel, I have some things

to say to you for your guidance and help.

"As a minister of Christ, I beg that, above all things, you will honor and obey the scriptures, for they alone are able to explain the way of eternal life. Remember with thankfulness how, as a child, you learned them by heart and be always grateful to those who helped you to understand their meaning.

"As the scriptures are God's own word, from them you may learn the best way to teach or warn or reprove those who are now under your care.

"They are also your best library, so perfect and complete, that in them you will find comfort and guidance for every time of need.

"But your work as a minister is not only to study the Bible. Your chief work is to tell others about Christ. And I charge you solemnly in the name of the Lord Himself,