



1/14/2024 PM

Introduction:

I. REMAINING FAITHFUL TO THE FINISH (vs. 9-16)

A. Dealing with Loneliness (vs. 9-12)

How do you keep from falling in love with the world?

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B. Dealing with Being Uncomfortable (vs. 13)

“When you come bring the cloak which I left
at Troas with Carpus”

“and the books”

“especially the parchments.”

William Tyndale's letter to the Governor from his cell in the Vilvorde Castle prison (1536):

Bring me "...a warmer cap, for I suffer greatly from cold.... A warmer coat also, for that which I have is very thin. Also cloth for repairing my leggings.... I also ask for leave to use a lamp in the evening, for it is tiresome to sit alone in the dark. But above all, I beg and entreat your clemency earnestly to intercede with the lord commissary, that he would deign to allow me the use of my Hebrew Bible, Hebrew Grammar, and Hebrew Lexicon, and that I might employ my time with that study."

C. Dealing with Being Wronged (vs. 14-15)

“Alexander the coppersmith did me much harm”

“the Lord will repay him according to his deeds.”

“Be on guard against him yourself, for he vigorously opposed our teaching.

D. Dealing with being let down by others (vs. 16)

“At my first defense no one supported me, but all deserted me”

“may it not be counted against them” (Lk. 23:34; Acts 7:60; Ps. 32:2)

II. REMEMBERING TO LEAN ON THE LORD (vs. 17-18)

A. Trust in the Lord's conscious presence. (vs. 17a)

“But the Lord stood with me and strengthened me”

I Tim. 1:12

Deut. 31:6,8

Josh. 1:5-6

B. Trust in the Lord's confirming presence. (vs. 17b)

"so that through me the proclamation might be fully accomplished, and that all the Gentiles might hear"

Acts 23:11

Acts 27:23-25

"and I was rescued out of the lion's mouth." (Dan. 6; Heb. 11:33)

C. Trust in the Lord's continuing presence. (vs. 18)

"The Lord will rescue me from every evil deed..."

"and will bring me safely to His heavenly kingdom"

"to Him be the glory forever and ever. Amen."

III. REFRESHING OTHERS WITH ENCOURAGEMENT (vs. 19-22)

A. Encouragement comes from the love of friends. (vs. 19-21)

"Greet Prisca and Aquila, and the household of Onesiphorus. Erastus remained at Corinth, but Trophimus I left sick at Miletus."

"Make every effort to come before winter."

"Eubulus greets you, also Pudens and Linus and Claudia and all the brethren."

B. Encouragement comes from the presence of Christ. (vs. 22a)

"the Lord be with your spirit."

C. Encouragement comes from the reality of grace. (vs. 22b)

"Grace be with you."

Conclusion:

- 1) Develop deep friendships now, for at the close of life you'll understand their value.
- 2) Delegate and build your network early so you can both nurture and enjoy the results.
- 3) Depend on the Lord - leave vengeance to Him.