



“Raking is easy, but all you get is leaves; digging is hard, but you might find diamonds.”

- John Piper

Recap:

(1:1-5) Paul writes t(w)o Timothy: *Giving what's been given*

- Do you have intentional spiritually edifying relationships?

(1:6-14) *Do not be ashamed of the gospel*

- Are you actively involved in making Jesus known?

2 Timothy 1:15-18: Don't desert

Question: Why is it such a serious issue that Paul is all alone in his prison cell, abandoned by everyone from the province of Asia?

- A sanctification issue?
- A compassion issue?
- Or something more serious?

Pause the recording read 1 John 1:1-3 and then think about the following:

“Why is it so serious that people are deserting Paul?”

Tracing Paul's Apostleship

Look up Galatians 1:11-24:

- Paul received the gospel directly from Jesus
- The other Apostles did not modify what Paul was preaching
- Paul corrected Peter (Acts 15:6-12, Galatians 2:11)

Pulling it together

Departing from the Apostles' teaching (and the whole Bible) is to be out of fellowship with the Apostles and therefore out of fellowship with God.

Anyone who supports and teaches truth contrary to what the Apostles taught is a false teacher.

Fellowship can only ever be on the basis of the truth of the gospel.