

## 2 Timothy

### Keeping the Faith

### *The Last Days, Part 2; The Word*

**INTRO:** *Surviving the **perilous** last days in which the Church ministers will require an unmovable standard to serve as our guide. What is that standard?*

**I. The \_\_\_\_\_ are characterized by *self-loving* people who oppose God's \_\_\_\_\_ (3:1-9).** *These "last days" began with Jesus' first advent and are described as **difficult**, a word elsewhere describing demon-possessed men (Matthew. 8:28).*

**II. Believers pursuing \_\_\_\_\_ in God's \_\_\_\_\_ will be \_\_\_\_\_ by the \_\_\_\_\_ (3:10-13).** *Christlikeness is godly character. Contrary to many popular sermons, persecution, not prosperity, is promised in the Bible!*

**III. Despite *promised* \_\_\_\_\_, remain fixed upon God's \_\_\_\_\_ as our standard in the \_\_\_\_\_ (3:14-17).** *Within context, **sacred writings** (v15) refer to the Old Testament, but **All Scripture** (v16) may refer to *any* sacred writing, including that which became the New Testament (Cf. 2 Peter 3:15-16; 1 Thess. 5:27; 2 Thess. 2:15).*

**A. God's Word brought us \_\_\_\_\_.** *God used people to evangelize and disciple us (Cf. 1:5).*

**B. God's Word equips us for \_\_\_\_\_.** *For this reason we were saved (Eph. 2:8-10). The four-fold ministry mentioned is the supernatural means of equipment.*