

"On the Way" 365 Bible Reading Plan**2 TIMOTHY 4****2 Timothy 4**

I solemnly urge you in the presence of God and Christ Jesus, who will someday judge the living and the dead when he comes to set up his Kingdom: Preach the word of God. Be prepared, whether the time is favorable or not. Patiently correct, rebuke, and encourage your people with good teaching. For a time is coming when people will no longer listen to sound and wholesome teaching. They will follow their own desires and will look for teachers who will tell them whatever their itching ears want to hear. They will reject the truth and chase after myths.

But you should keep a clear mind in every situation. Don't be afraid of suffering for the Lord. Work at telling others the Good News, and fully carry out the ministry God has given you.
(II Timothy 4:1-5)

The final section of this remarkable letter is as though a curtain is pulled back the Apostle becomes misty eyed as he reflects on a life lived in sacrificial service to a great Master. He says, that he was in the process of being poured out as an offering, as sacrificial libations are poured out. It is a metaphor for total surrender. He further says, his **"time of departure is at hand..."** (v.6) The word for departure is not the common word for departure, Greek ek-hodos, exodus, but rather **ἀνάλυσις, analisis**, pronounced **(an-al'-oo-sis)** This is a compound word which means to **unloose**, to **unhook**, it was used to **unyoke** and **set free** transport animals after a day or

a season of labor. ***It refers to allowing well deserved season of rest and refreshment.*** He elaborates and says, he is not ashamed of what he has been able to do in the service of King Jesus. ***I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing.*** (vv.7-8) He is not dreading his unloosing, but rather is looking forward to the day when he will hear his great King say, ***"Well done good and faithful servant, enter into the joys of your LORD!"***

His closing words are some of the most touching in all of Scripture, ***"Timothy, please come as soon as you can."*** (v.9), ***"Do your best to get here before winter..."*** (v.21) Bring my cloak, mantle, wrap. This was Paul's outer garment that fastened around the neck and was more than likely sleeveless. It would serve as a blanket to keep him warm. He was probably well aware of the cold days coming in more ways than one. But his final ask was to bring my copies of Scripture, ***"Books and Parchments"*** as the promises of God, the Old Testament Scriptures is what kept his soul warm.

Prayer and Action Steps

***Lord, may I finish well.
Amen***