

# DEALING WITH TROUBLING TIMES

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2 TIMOTHY 3: 1-17

# I. THE SOURCE OF TROUBLE (2 TIMOTHY 3:1-5)

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## A. Definition of the times

“in the last times”

# HEBREWS 1:1 & 2

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*“Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, but in these last days, He has spoken to us by His Son, whom He appointed the heir of all things, through whom also He created the world.”*

# I. THE SOURCE OF TROUBLE (2 TIM. 3:1-5)

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- A. Definition of the times: “in the last times”
- B. Definition of the conditions: “difficult times will come”
- C. Description of the difficulty

# DESCRIPTION OF THE DIFFICULTY

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- Lovers of self
- Lovers of money
- Proud
- Arrogant
- Abusive
- Disobedient to parents
- Ungrateful
- Unholy
- Heartless
- Unappeasable
- Slanderous
- Without self-control
- Brutal
- Not loving good

# DESCRIPTION OF THE DIFFICULTY

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- Treacherous
- Reckless
- Swollen with conceit
- Lovers of pleasure rather than loves of God
- Having a form of godliness but denying its power

## II. THE SPREAD OF TROUBLE (2 TIMOTHY 3:6-9)

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- A. False teachers enter subtly (3:6-7)
- B. False teachers entrap the weak (3:6b, 7)
- C. False teachers distinguish themselves (3:8-9)
  - 1. They oppose the truth.
  - 2. They are of corrupt minds.

## II. THE SPREAD OF TROUBLE (2 TIMOTHY 3:6-9)

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- A. False teachers enter subtly (3:6-7)
- B. False teachers entrap the weak (3:6b, 7)
- C. False teachers distinguish themselves (3:8-9)
  - 3. They have denied the faith: “disqualified regarding the faith”
  - 4. They will not be successful.



### III. THE SOLUTION FOR TROUBLE (2 TIMOTHY 3:10-17)

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- A. Have a faithful mentor to follow (3:10,11)
- B. Have a realistic expectation (3:12,13)
- C. Have a firm foundation (3:14)
- D. Have a strong adherence to Scripture (3:15-17)



## D. HAVE A STRONG ADHERENCE TO SCRIPTURE

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1. Scripture provides instruction for salvation.
2. Scripture is produced by God. (3:16)
3. Scripture provides instruction for spiritual growth. (3:17)
4. Scripture provides equipment for good works.

# THIS CHURCH NEEDS PEOPLE WHO ARE:

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- Obedient to the Word of God
- Nurtured by the Word of God
- Standing on the Word of God
- Steadfast in their beliefs
- Equipped by the Word of God

# THIS CHURCH NEEDS A PASTOR WHO IS:

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- Obedient to the Word of God
- Nurtured by the Word of God
- Steadfast in his beliefs
- Equipped by the Word of God
- Dependent upon the Lord
- Determined to stand true to the Word of God

## I CORINTHIANS 16:13,14

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“Be watchful, stand firm in the faith,

Act like men, be strong.

Let all that you do be done in love.”