

2 Timothy 1:1-7

1 Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God, according to the promise of life which is in Christ Jesus, 2 To Timothy, my dearly beloved son: Grace, mercy, and peace, from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord. 3 I thank God, whom I serve from my forefathers with pure conscience, that without ceasing I have remembrance of thee in my prayers night and day; 4 Greatly desiring to see thee, being mindful of thy tears, that I may be filled with joy; 5 When I call to **remembrance the unfeigned faith that is in thee**, which dwelt first in thy grandmother Lois, and thy mother Eunice; and I am persuaded that **in thee also**. 6 Wherefore I put thee in **remembrance that thou stir up the gift of God, which is in thee** by the putting on of my hands. 7 **For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.**

Just as Paul encouraged Timothy by reminding him about the gift that God had given to him, I want to also encourage you by reminding you of God's gift that He put within you when you were born of Him. When you received Jesus as your Lord and Savior, you also received **everything** that He bought for you! You received the Spirit of God, because that is the only way He can live within you - through His Spirit. God told Adam if he ate of the tree of knowledge of good and evil, that he would die, and when he sinned in the garden and ate of that tree, he became **spiritually dead**. God's Spirit left him, and everyone born after him would be spiritually dead and in need of a Savior! That's why Jesus came - to rescue you, out of **love** for you! He made a way that you could be alive, spiritually, once again - so He could live in you and walk and function in you just as He did in Adam before he sinned! Now if you have been born again, you have God's very own Spirit living within you and that is what makes you acceptable to God! That is God's Gift to you - You are **one** with Him in Spirit!

Not only did you receive spiritual life (eternal life) when you got born again, you also received **everything** that Jesus bought for you in your redemption. He bought your healing and health by letting His body be scourged. *Who His own self bare our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: **by whose stripes ye were healed.*** (1 Peter 2:24) Jesus redeemed you from all sickness and disease, including all mental and emotional issues by taking it upon Himself... all for you!

*For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor, **that ye through His poverty might be rich.*** (2 Corinthians 8:9) Jesus also made sure you were taken care of financially before He left. Remember, God provided everything for Adam and Eve by creating it before He put them in the Garden of Eden. All their needs were met, and so are yours! God has blessed you in every area of your life so you could bless others and be the conduit that will supply any and every need the people around you may have! **Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ.** (Ephesians 1:3)

There is so much going on in the world today that the devil is "stirring up." He has tried to give the phrase "March Madness" a brand new meaning, but no matter how things look, we as followers of Christ, still have our faith in Him, and not what Satan has planned. You see, the devil is a thief and he is out to steal your life right out from under you! *The **thief** cometh not, but for to **steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.*** (John 10:10) This was Jesus Himself talking while He was still on the earth, warning everyone about the devil's plans for them. Satan knows he doesn't have much time left, so he is busy and doing his best to do everything he can to wreak havoc on the earth... and in your life!

*I am the door: by me If any man enter in, he shall be **saved**, and shall go in and out, and find pasture.* (John 10:9)

Here is the Good News! This is the verse right before the one that Jesus told us about the devil - He told us about Himself! He said that **He is the DOOR!** If you want to have the assurance that if you

left this earth today, that you would make heaven your home for all eternity, then all you have to do is **enter in through the Door!** *Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but my Me. (John 14:6)* If you have ever seen the famous picture of Jesus knocking on the door, you will notice that there is no doorknob on the outside - the person on the **inside** has to open the door and let Him in. Jesus is constantly knocking on the door of your heart, and speaking to you, and all you have to do is open up and receive Him in! **Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with Me.** *(Revelation 3:20)*

If you have received Jesus as your Lord **by faith**, then now is a perfect time to **concentrate** on Him. Get out the Word of God and focus on what God says about the situations going on around you and in your life. If you only listen to the news, which is not **good** news, then it will produce **fear** in you, which is **not** of God, and your faith will **not** work. However much fear is in you is how much your faith will not work! Fear is the devil's kind of faith, and he can work through it! You have to realize that **fear is a spirit**, as it says in our first verse, in 2 Timothy 1:7. God didn't give you an evil **spirit of fear**, but He gave you **His power, His love, and His mind!** *For who hath known the mind of the Lord, that he may instruct him? But we have the mind of Christ. (1 Corinthians 2:16)* Just think about it: if you have Jesus, you have **all** of Him **living inside** of you! *You are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is He that is in you, than he that is in the world. (1 John 4:4)* *What? Know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? (1 Corinthians 6:19,20)*

So let me now put YOU into remembrance of the gift that God has put within you - You received the unfeigned (sincere) faith of God Himself when you received Jesus as the Lord of your life! There is absolutely nothing you cannot do through Him! *I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me. (Philippians 4:13)* Concentrate on Him - His power, His love, and His mind, and live your life every day in LOVE! (in God)

Whosoever shall confess that Jesus is the Son of God, God dwelleth in him and he in God. And we have known and believed the love that God hath to us. God is love; and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him. Herein is our love made perfect, that we may have boldness in the day of judgment: because as he is, so are we in this world. there is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear: because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love. (1 John 4:15-18)

Jody