

# THE LIFE OF TIMOTHY

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15B



# **POST-ACTS BIBLICAL HISTORY AND THE PROBLEMS IN EPHESUS**

SESSION 15B



# THE AFTERMATH OF JERUSALEM – WHAT HAPPENED TO TIMOTHY?

- After bringing the Collection, things go very badly at the Temple...
- Timothy may part for now...
- What ideas do you guys have?
- The next time we "see" him is in Paul's Prison Epistles, depending on where you place those.
- Perhaps the most likely scenario to me is that Paul wanted him to check in on the other churches and then to meet up with him in Rome.



# AFTER ACTS

- Following the Roman imprisonment of 60-62 AD, what was next?
- Paul had mentioned plans of visiting Spain
  - Bruce, *Paul, Apostle of the Heart Set Free*, p. 446-8 re: Clement
  - Whether or not this happened is debatable, but the "Pastoral Epistles" give us the following possible theory of the team's movements after the book of Acts:



# AFTER ACTS (PROBABLY)

- Paul, Timothy, and Titus evangelize Crete
  - Titus remains to set things in order and appoint elders
- Paul and Timothy stop through Ephesus and find his fears confirmed:
  - Some of the elders they appointed are now teaching and living error
  - Paul excommunicates the ringleaders
  - Timothy [reluctantly] stays behind to continue to deal with the issues in the church[es] of Ephesus



# AFTER ACTS (PROBABLY)

- Paul moves on to Macedonia (where he probably writes to Timothy and Titus)
  - Timothy was to remain in Ephesus
  - Titus was to be relieved by Tychicus or Artemas (turned out to be Artemas)
- Titus rejoins Paul in Nicopolis
- Attempting to return to Ephesus, Paul is arrested at Troas (Alexander)
- Paul endures a more difficult Roman imprisonment (where he writes 2 Tim.), followed by martyrdom



# THE SITUATION IN EPHESUS

- (Historical setting and repetition in the Pastorals lend credibility to their authenticity.)
- Acts 20:30 is being fulfilled – this is not just an infiltration (as with Galatia and Corinth), but a mutiny.
  - The very leaders they had put in place were now leading the flock astray.
- *Thoughts from Gordon Fee's commentary.*



# OVERVIEW OF TIMOTHY'S JOB IN EPHESUS

- (1) Stop the false teachers
  - (1a) Order them to stop
  - (1b) Rebuke publicly those that continue
- (2) Replace those who won't stop with true teachers
- (3) Set the example of true teaching and living yourself
  - (3a) Teach, teach, teach
  - (3b) Watch *yourself* and your teaching



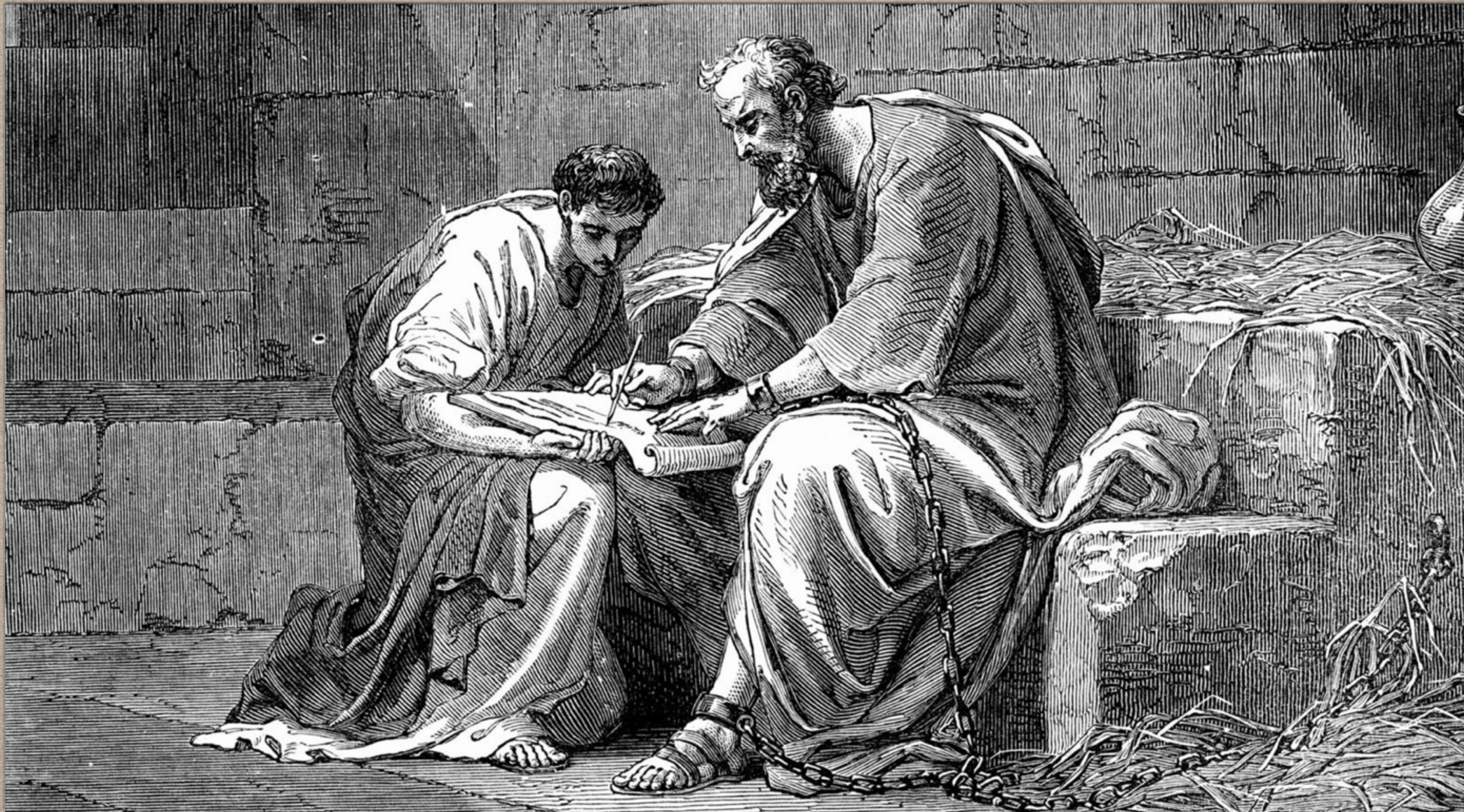
# WHAT WAS THE PURPOSE OF THIS LETTER?

- To encourage Timothy to carry out this difficult task
- To give him Paul's authority to carry it out with, if needed, which is why the letter is not just a personal one to Timothy, but also to the church.
  - The final verse: The Lord be with your (SINGULAR) spirit. Grace be with you (PLURAL).
- Personally, being encouraged by reading these letters was the beginning of my interest in the life of Timothy.



# EXPLORING 1 TIMOTHY





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