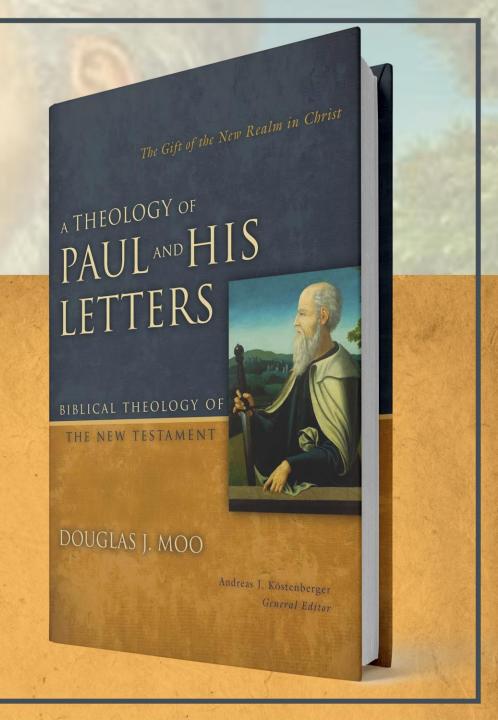
#### CHAPTER 16

2 Timothy



### Locating the Letter

• Paul wrote the letter to Timothy during his imprisonment in Rome.

Paul had been sentenced to death.

## Isolating the Issues

- Timothy had continued to face false teachers.
- Paul was encouraging Timothy to be a faithful minister of the gospel to combat false teachers.
- Paul had created a chain so that people would receive the gospel, and Timothy was part of that chain.

## Analyzing the Argument

- This is the most personal of Paul's letters.
- He referred to his own personal circumstances, as well as those of Timothy.

#### Timothy and Paul (1) (1:1-2:13)

- Paul gave thanks for Timothy and included details about Timothy's family.
- Timothy had been given a spiritual gift upon his entrance to the ministry.
- Paul encouraged him to continue to use this gift to combat false teachers.

- Paul wanted Timothy to remain strong in his faith and ministry despite Paul's execution.
- He commanded Timothy to create a chain of faithful teachers who would spread the true gospel.
- He used imagery to reinforce his command and to help Timothy understand the role of suffering in their ministry.

- Paul may have also used an existing creed to explain how believers are unified with Christ.
- The creed also warned people against turning from Christ.
- It emphasized the tension "between divine sovereignty and human responsibility."

#### Timothy and the False Teachers (2:14–3:9)

- The false teachers may have been the same ones addressed in the first letter to Timothy.
- Paul described the false teachers' sins and personal faults.

- Paul believed that the best way to counter false teachers was through gentle instruction.
- This instruction would guide them to the truth and prompt them to repent.
- He outlined the personal traits Timothy must have in order to confront heresy and to be a faithful minister of the gospel.

# Timothy and Paul (2) (3:10-4:22)

- Paul used his own life as a pattern for Timothy to follow.
- He encouraged Timothy to remain steadfast and faithful.
- His reference to "all Scripture" is disputed by scholars. It could mean
  - Every Scripture
  - Every text of Scripture

 Paul outlined the importance and usefulness of Scripture.

 He charged Timothy to preach the gospel, and he reminded Timothy of his own faithfulness.