II TIMOTHY 4; November 22; Will You Finish Like Paul?

ANALYSIS:

1. What are (9) points of Paul's ministerial charge to Timothy?

2. What dangers and oppositions would Timothy and later pastors face
in serving Christ?
3. Note the things Paul said were true of him as he neared the end of his
life.
4. Why did Paul ask Timothy to come to him soon?

5. What do we learn from,"Trophimus have I left at Miletum sick," when a few years earlier Paul survived a viper's bite and he could heal many sick and diseased (Acts 28:3-9)?

THINGS TO THINK ABOUT:

How does the first part of verse 16 affect you? To me, these are some of the saddest words in the Bible. Paul, a prisoner of Rome, was on trial under Caesar for his life. Paul must have sorrowed greatly when his gospel companions deserted him. Isn't it fair to read into these words that he expected others would stand with him? He prayed God would forgive them. But the Lord stood with him in a very strengthening way. He enabled Paul to continue preaching, that all the Gentiles might hear and delivered him from the mouth of the lion. Paul's hope was in his Lord's heavenly kingdom, and to Him Paul offered glory for ever and ever, Amen!

May the Lord give us a heart to stand with suffering and persecuted saints, and for the truth, without fearing any person. Whether among our family members, with our neighbors or in our nation, may we boldly uphold the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ and the truth He has committed to us.

HELP:

- 1. [1] Preach the word, [2] be instant (pressing, urgent), [3] reprove, [4] rebuke, [5] exhort (v 2); [6] watch in all things, [7] endure afflictions, [8] do the work of an evangelist, [9] make full proof of thy ministry (v 5).
- 2. [1] People will not endure (put up with) sound doctrine, [2] they will seek entertaining preachers, [3] they will turn away from the truth, [4] they will turn to fables (vs 3-4).
- 3. [1] I am ready to be offered and my time is at hand, [2] I have fought a god fight, [3] I have finished my course, [4] I have kept the faith (vs. 6-7).
- 4. Demas had forsaken him (Paul was alone except for Luke), bring my clock (no doubt he was cold), bring the books, especially the parchments (he wanted to read and write) (vs 10, 13).
- 5. Paul could no longer perform a miracle of healing, showing sign gifts "shall cease" just as he had earlier written (1 Cor 13:8).