# The Pastorals - 1 Timothy, Titus, 2 Timothy

# (BT80613)

**20 Units – 6 Study Credits**

## DESCRIPTION

This module is a study of Paul the apostle's 'settled canon' as, towards the end of his life and ministry he hands on the flaming torch of the Gospel to his trusted co-workers Timothy and Titus and through them seeks to correct the leadership in Ephesus and the believers in Crete respectively. Throughout these units we shall – primarily, though not exclusively – study The ‘Pastoral’ Letters with the help of only one commentary: The Bible.

“A Bible that’s falling apart usually belongs to someone who isn’t… Visit many good books, but live in the Bible.” (Charles H. Spurgeon)

**OBJECTIVES**

The aim of this module is to:

• Demonstrate – on the principle that 'the Bible is its own best commentary' – the possibility and the absolute necessity of illuminating part of Scripture – in this case the Pastoral Letters – by means of “all Scripture” (Luke 24:27; 2 Timothy 3:16)

• Discover why Paul’s “dungeon flamed with light” – even on death row!

As a result of the student’s successful completion of this module, s/he will:

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| **Cognitive** *(Head)* | * Grasp the primacy of the Biblical revelation for both Church and personal life, adopting a 'Berean integrity' that will 'test all things' – even excellent scholarship – against the ultimate plumb-line |
| **Behavioural** *(Hand)* | * Encourage confident use of Scripture to illuminate Scripture |
| **Affective** *(Heart)* | * Engage with Paul's passionate commitment to the 'non-negotiable' Gospel |

## TEXTBOOKS

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| **Required** | Donald Guthrie - *The Pastoral Epistles* (Tyndale New Testament Commentaries) |
| **Recommended** | The Bible Knowledge Commentary – 2 volumes covering the entire Bible, pub. Victor Books (digital editions available). Within the limits of 66 books per 2 volumes, and its bold dispensational / pre-millennial (Dallas Theological Seminary) stance, it does a solid conservative job of ‘joining up the Bible’ – and Bible history. Interpretation is literal – though comfortable with metaphor and symbol – inerrancy is assumed, liberal fictions are rejected and Israel is not confused with the Church!  (Wheaton: Crossway, 2021) |

**See over for Schedule and Assignment**

## SCHEDULE

11.00am – 1.00 pm on Wednesdays

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| **Date** |  |  |
| 1 October | Module intro: Bible as Commentary / Heresy vs. Paradox |  |
| 8 October | 1 Tim 1:1 – 3:15 Moulded by Mercy |  |
| 15 October | 1 Tim 3:16 – 6:10 Until He comes |  |
| 22 October | Titus 1:1 – 2:10 God never lies |  |
| 29 October | Titus 2:11 – 3:15 Educated by Grace |  |
| *5 November* | *No class (READING WEEK)* |  |
| 12 November | 2 Tim Intro: Life, immortality and light – on death row! |  |
| 19 November | 2 Tim 1:1-14 FIGHT FEAR! |  |
| 26 November | 2 Tim 1:1-15 – 2:26 FLEE… and PURSUE! |  |
| 3 December | 2 Tim 3:1 – 4:22 SUFFER AND FULFIL! |  |
| 10 December | The Pastorals: Détente was never an option! |  |

**ASSIGNMENT**

**Moses, Isaiah, Jesus and Paul were all agreed about the value of the Law! (cf. Isaiah 8:20; Matthew 23:1-3; Romans 7:12; 1 Timothy 1:8)**

Imagine you are Timothy, visiting Paul in Rome before his execution. The reunion is ‘sweet sorrow’ but Paul’s preoccupation is not with the end of his life but the continuity of his mission – and yours. You have a short window of opportunity to reassure him that his wise counsel (in both letters) was both ‘received’ and ‘understood.’ In 750 words, imagine that conversation and demonstrate a) how you understand the key issues for your ministry, b) how you would protect Ephesian believers from those who use the law ‘unlawfully’ – and that you understand its ‘lawful’ use! (1 Timothy 1:8).

**NB:**

Since your principal ‘commentary’ (apart from Guthrie) is the 66 books of the Bible, your completed assignment will be well supported by relevant references from your Bible – all of it! **Please remember…Paul’s ‘Bible’ was, principally, what we call the Old Testament. Marks can be improved by supporting OT references! Marks are needlessly lost for lack of Biblical citations**.

**Word Limit: 1200 words**