



## ***“Continuing in the Word”***

Sermon Date: January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2023

### **Reflections on Sunday’s Sermon**

*Below is a reference to the section of the New City Catechism that we went over on Sunday:*

#### **Catechism—Lord’s Day 2**

##### **What is God?**

God is the creator and sustainer of everyone and everything. He is eternal, infinite, and unchangeable in his power and perfection, goodness and glory, wisdom, justice, and truth. Nothing happens except through him and by his will. (Psalm 86:8-10, 15)

### **Scripture**

#### **2 Timothy 3:1-4:5**

*But understand this, that in the last days there will come times of difficulty. 2 For people will be lovers of self, lovers of money, proud, arrogant, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, 3 heartless, unappeasable, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not loving good, 4 treacherous, reckless, swollen with conceit, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, 5 having the appearance of godliness, but denying its power. Avoid such people. 6 For among them are those who creep into households and capture weak women, burdened with sins and led astray by various passions, 7 always learning and never able to arrive at a knowledge of the truth. 8 Just as Jannes and Jambres opposed Moses, so these men also oppose the truth, men corrupted in mind and disqualified regarding the faith. 9 But they will not get very far, for their folly will be plain to all, as was that of those two men. 10 You, however, have followed my teaching, my conduct, my aim in life, my faith, my patience, my love, my steadfastness, 11 my persecutions and sufferings that happened to me at Antioch, at Iconium, and at Lystra—which persecutions I endured; yet from them all the Lord rescued me. 12 Indeed, all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted, 13 while evil people and impostors will go on from bad to worse, deceiving and being deceived. 14 But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it 15 and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. 16 All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, 17 that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.*

*I charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and by his appearing and his kingdom: 2 preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, and exhort, with complete patience and teaching. 3 For the time is coming when people will not endure sound teaching, but having itching ears they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own passions, 4 and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander off into myths. 5 As for you, always be sober-minded, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.*

## **Understanding and Applying**

1. **Theme:** What is the overarching message that Paul is trying to communicate to Timothy in the passage?
  
2. **Context:** Why does Paul urge Timothy in the way he does (consider: Timothy's role, the problem at Ephesus or in the last days)?
  
3. **Jesus:** How does Paul's admonition ultimately center on Jesus Christ (vv. 3:12, 15; 4:1)?
  
4. **Implications:** How might Paul's exhortations to Timothy impact:
  - a. The work of your minister
  
  - b. The purpose and content of the worship service
  
  - c. How you interpret and present the Scriptures (the narratives, the promises, the commands, etc.)
  
5. **Personal:** How has this passage challenged or affirmed your convictions regarding the Scriptures?
  
6. **Prayer:** To close, how might the passage shape your prayers for your church?