

2nd Timothy

Final Greetings

- Final Greetings [4:19-22]

- Greet Prisca and Aquila, and the household of Onesiphorus.

Ἀσπασαί Πρίσκαν καὶ Ἀκύλαν καὶ τὸν Ὀνησιφόρου οἶκον.

- The word “greet” is from ἀσπάζομαι (aspazomai) which means “greet” or “welcome”.
- The basic idea of this word is to engage in hospitable recognition of another person.
- Prisca is elsewhere known as Prisca [Rom 16:3; 1 Cor 16:19] and Priscilla [Acts 18:2, 18, 26].
- As we can see from these passages, Prisca and Aquila were well-known as supporters of the faith.
- The household of Onesiphorus (mentioned back in 2 Tim 1:16) were also singled out for a greeting from Paul.
- These are special and warm greetings extended to those who have been faithful supporters of Paul.

- Erastus remained at Corinth, but Trophimus I left sick at Miletus.

Ἐραστός ἐμείνεν ἐν Κορίνθῳ, Τρόφιμον δὲ ἀπέλιπον ἐν Μιλήτῳ ἀσθενοῦντα.

- Erastus was an associate of Timothy [Acts 19:22] so his whereabouts would have been of interest.
- The same could be said of Trophimus [Acts 20:4] who was an Ephesian [Acts 21:29].
- The statement “Trophimus I left sick at Miletus” is significant here.
- As an apostle, Paul had many spiritual gifts including the gift of healing [Acts 28:8].
- Given that, Paul could simply have healed Trophimus and would have had no reason to leave him at Miletus.
- However, Paul did not heal Trophimus and decided instead to move on without him.
- This verse gives us a clue that the sign gifts (including healing) were already being phased out as the Canon of Scripture was nearing completion – once complete, the sign gifts were no longer needed for attestation.

- Make a diligent effort to come before winter.

Σπούδασον πρὸ χειμῶνος ἐλθεῖν.

- The phrase “Make every effort” is from σπουδάζω (spoudazō) which means “hurry”, “hasten”, “take pains” or “be zealous”.
- This is the same word we saw back in verse 9 and we will translate it the same way here.
- Here Paul uses the phrase “before winter” rather than “as soon as possible”, setting a definite timeline for Timothy to come to see him.
- This might give us a clue why Paul was asking Timothy to bring the cloak he left with Carpus at Troas [v. 13].

- Eubulus greets you, also Pudens and Linus and Claudia and all the brethren.
Ἀσπάζεται σε Εὐβουλος καὶ Πούδης καὶ Λίνος καὶ Κλαυδία καὶ οἱ ἀδελφοὶ πάντες.
 - Nothing is known about the four individuals named here in this verse.
 - However, Paul extended greetings for these four along with “all the brethren” in Rome.
 - This echoes the spirit of forgiveness we saw Paul demonstrate back in verse 16.
 - Even though “everyone” had deserted Paul, he had not cut off the Roman believers.
- The Lord be with your spirit. Grace be with you.
Ὁ κύριος μετὰ τοῦ πνεύματός σου. ἡ χάρις μεθ’ ὑμῶν.
 - In the phrase “The Lord be with your spirit.” the word “your” is singular, so Paul is directly addressing Timothy.
 - In the phrase “Grace be with you.” the word “you” is plural, so Paul is addressing a broader audience, indicating that this letter was intended to be read widely.
 - The phrase “The Lord be with your spirit.” is a bit of an unusual benediction for Paul.
 - Elsewhere, he says, “The grace of the/our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit.” [Gal 6:18; Phil 4:23; Phlm 25].
 - The final recorded words of the Apostle Paul are “Grace be with you.”
 - There could not be a better ending from the man who understood grace better than almost anyone and taught us to extend grace to others [Col 4:18; Titus 3:15, ...].