

# “A Faithful Saying”\*

2 Timothy 2:11-13

## Introduction

1. *“This is a faithful saying: For if we died with Him, we shall also live with Him. If we endure, we shall also reign with Him. If we deny Him, He also will deny us. If we are faithless, He remains faithful; He cannot deny Himself.”*
2. We can put our confidence in the truthfulness of this saying.
3. Therefore, we must learn how to apply it in our lives.

## Discussion

### I. Dying to the World, Living with Christ (vs. 11)

#### A. Dying with Christ: Rom. 6:2-3

1. While in the world we are dead to God because of sin.
2. We die with Christ in baptism.
3. In so doing, we die to the world and its influence—it no longer has a hold on us.
  - a. Death means separation.
  - b. Though we were a part of the world, in Christ we become severed from the world.
  - c. Separated from its character, its nature, and its condemnation (2 Cor. 6:17-18).

#### B. The consequence of dying with Christ is being made to live with Him.

1. Jesus died to the world on the cross, but He rose from the dead to eternal life.
2. When we die with Him in baptism, as a consequence we are also made alive with Him (Rom. 6:8-9).
3. This is spiritual life.
  - a. While in the world we were dead (separated) from God because of sin (Isa. 59:2). Thus we were condemned.
  - b. In Christ, because we are separated from the world, we are freed from the condemnation of sin, and brought back into a right relationship with God (Eph. 2:4-7).
  - c. We are made alive to God, the source of eternal life (1 Jn. 5:20).
4. In order to continue to live with Christ, we must remain dead to the world.

### II. Enduring the World, Reigning with Christ (vs. 12)

#### A. The world places pressure on Christians to conform.

1. 1 Pet. 4:4: They think it strange we do not run with them.
2. 2 Tim. 3:12: Therefore, those who live godly will suffer persecution.

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\* This outline was derived from a sermon by David Padfield, *Adorning the Word, Vol. 5*, [www.padfield.com](http://www.padfield.com)

- B. Endurance is necessary to resist the world's influence.
  - 1. The temptation to give in to pressure is constant.
  - 2. Only with patience can we avoid giving in to that temptation. We must believe that if we only wait for a short time, we will have our reward.
  - 3. But if we given in and choose not to remain dead to the world, we can no longer live with Christ. (Heb. 10:26).
  - 4. Therefore, we must have endurance.
    - a. Runners endure pain for the prize (1 Cor. 9:24-25).
    - b. Our prize is eternal life. The suffering does not even compare to the prize (Rom. 8:18).
  - 5. James 1:12: blessed is the man who endures.
  - 6. Matt. 5:10-11: Those who endure can expect a great reward.
  - 7. Heb. 12:3-4; 1 Pet. 2:21-24: Jesus lives because He endured. He helps us to do the same.
  
- C. If we endure as Jesus did, we will also reign with Him.
  - 1. Rom. 5:17: When we live by His righteous standard, we reign in life.
  - 2. 1 Cor. 6:2-3: By living righteous lives, we judge the world in that we accomplish in Christ what the world was not willing to do.
  - 3. Rev. 2:25-26: In eternal life we will be seated with Christ to reign in God's presence in heaven.
  - 4. 1 Pet. 2:9-10: Even now, we are a part of the royal priesthood, for we offer worship to God which no one who is of the world offer (Heb. 13:15).

### III. The Consequences of Denial (vs. 12)

- A. Those who are not willing to endure deny Christ.
  - 1. Through their words and/or actions, they proclaim that Christ is not worth it.
  - 2. 2 Tim. 4:3: Some deny Christ because they give in to the pressures of the world.
  - 3. Tit. 1:16: Some do not deny Christ verbally, but do so through their actions by living in sin.
  - 4. Does your life show that you are denying Christ or confessing Him?
  
- B. If we deny Christ, He will deny us.
  - 1. Jesus Himself said He would (Matt. 10:23-33)
  - 2. He will deny us at the judgment (Matt. 7:21-23).
  - 3. Notice: those who were rejected called Him Lord, but they denied Him by failing to do the will of the Father.

### IV. The Faithfulness of God (vs. 13)

- A. No matter what we do, Christ will remain faithful.
  - 1. He will keep His promises to the faithful.
  - 2. He will keep His promises to the unfaithful.

3. Though men deny Him, though men deny His existence and His authority, it does not change the fact that He will judge them in the end.
- B. If we want Christ to fulfill His promises toward us, we must show faithfulness by fulfilling our promise to Him: Gal. 2:20.

### **Conclusion**

1. There is great reward for our faithfulness.
2. God has shown throughout History that He fulfills His promises.
3. Just as Jesus endured the cross for a short time, we too much endure suffering in the world if we want to be with Him.
4. He is worth it, but do you believe it?

*By David Phillips  
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