

Hold Fast
2 Timothy 1:6-10

Amidst a similar backdrop of the prison epistles Paul writes to his associate and friend in ministry. In previous letters written from prison Paul was in house arrest in Rome for preaching the Gospel of Jesus Christ. This time it is a little bit different we have the Apostle to the Gentiles bound in what some believe to be the Mamertine Prison. In 2 Timothy 1:17 he says that he was hard to find probably because that prison had only two cells one was a cistern underground and the other was below that! Most scholars believe these were the places that Paul and Peter were imprisoned before their executions! The only access to the lower cell was through a hole in the floor above. Prisoners were thrown or lowered there and sometimes died from the conditions. I paint this picture because the beauty of Paul's heart and words comes into full view when you more fully understand his circumstances. He is in the worst prison in the world a place where people go to die or be killed and he is writing to his apprentice to encourage Him to stay the course! As a pastor once told me "Pain and trials diminish when we magnify the beauties of Jesus and His Gospel."

Hold Fast

To Your Gifting
vs. 6,7

Through Your Trials
vs. 8

Because of your Calling
vs. 9,10