

COMBATING FAKE GODLINESS

2 Timothy 3:10-17

Introduction

1 With examples of godly conduct in Christ Jesus, 3:10-13

- a We live out godly virtues that match the gospel we proclaimed, vs 10
- b We continue to live out godly virtues even in times of opposition, vv 11-13
 - i Because God will keep us safe to the end, vs 11 (cf. 4:18)
 - ii Because the outcome for godless people is far worse than for godly people:
 - * Godly people will suffer from expected persecution, vs 12
 - * Godless people will spiral downward to their ruin, vs 13

2 With the authoritative Scriptures from God, 3:14-17

- a Learning from reliable people, vs 14b
- b Being informed by the gospel through faith in Christ Jesus, vs 15
- c Shaping our beliefs and our behaviors, vs 16
- d Preparing us for every good work, vs 17

Conclusion

Reflections:

1. The example of Paul in persecutions and sufferings was most needed in his days. And this is still true wherever there are persecutions. Other than examples in facing opposition, what kinds of example do we need most today? And how can we be such example?
2. To what extent is Scriptures the foundation of what you believe in your daily conversations? To what extent is Scriptures shaping your conduct, conduct that matches what you believe?
3. What kinds of good work is Scriptures preparing you for at home, among friends, in school, or in ministry?