

## **"It's in There"**

**2 Timothy 1:5-9** - When I call to remembrance the unfeigned faith that is in thee, which dwelt first in thy grandmother Lois, and thy mother Eunice; and I am persuaded that in thee also.

<sup>6</sup>Wherefore I put thee in remembrance that thou stir up the gift of God, which is in thee by the putting on of my hands.<sup>7</sup> For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind. <sup>8</sup> Be not thou therefore ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, nor of me his prisoner: but be thou partaker of the afflictions of the gospel according to the power of God; <sup>9</sup> Who hath saved us, and called us with an holy calling, not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began.

Giving Honor to God the Father, Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit. To All of God's Sons, Daughters, and Children. Today, our scripture lesson comes from 2 Timothy, Chapter 1, verses 5-9, as we lift up the name of the Lord. Our topic is "It's in There."

Several years ago, Prego launched a commercial to promote their famous spaghetti sauce to viewers nationwide. Historically, families, individuals, and cooks took great pride in ensuring that the key to quality spaghetti sauce consisted of fresh vegetables, herbs, spices, and time spent slow cooking the sauce. Prego challenged the traditional method of acquiring the sauce by providing the ready-to-eat sauce in a jar. At the time, this was a new concept. In the commercial, the son, recently married, is warming up the sauce (taken from the jar) as his parents arrive for a visit. His mom is talking with his wife joyfully, and the dad leans over to talk with the son, who is stirring up the sauce while preparing dinner. In an effort to help, dad leans over to reiterate to the son the necessity of the ingredients (garlic, herbs, onions, etc.) of a quality to obtain success. The son provides dad with a sample of the sauce and after tasting the delicious sauce dad says, "It's in There."

I'd simply like to encourage you today by reminding you of the same thing that the Apostle Paul was sharing with Timothy. It's time to stir up the gift of God, which is in you, through the laying on of hands. O' Yes. "It's in There." Timothy's grandmother Lois and his mother Eunice were strong believers of the faith. The fruit doesn't fall far from the tree and Timothy was of the same faith in the Lord. You also have a strong faith and witness for the Lord. Many of the songs that we sang were songs that momma's, grandmothers, fathers, and grandfathers sang in times past. Many of the prayers that we pray are enhanced due to the powerful prayers that were heard and experienced in times past. Still, the fruit doesn't fall far from the tree, and yes, yes, yes... "It's in There." There are a few things that will help you as you grasp this concept.

- You are the Righteousness of God.

Sometimes life gets tough, and the journey may have obstacles and bumps in the road, but you hang on in there because God has blessed you through the connection of being a member of the family. Don't you know that you are the righteousness of God. You see, God made Jesus to be sin for us, who knew no sin. (2 Cor. 5:21) You have an ancestral connection with God through Jesus Christ, who washed the sins of humanity away. You're joint heir with Christ my brothers and sisters, so that means that greater is he that is in you than he that is in the world. The reason why you haven't given up and thrown in the towel is because the spirit of the lord is upon you. Something on the inside is working on the outside... Tell somebody, it's in there.

- God has plans to prosper us and give us hope.

My brothers and sisters there are times when we need to be reminded of Gods promises to us. Jeremiah 29:11-13 says "For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the Lord, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end. Then shall ye call upon me, and ye shall go and pray unto me, and I will hearken unto you. And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart. It was important for Timothy to know that God had a plan for him to prosper. This encouraged him to focus on the mission. Don't be afraid because the Spirit God gave us doesn't make us timid, but gives us power, love, and self-discipline. God has a plan for you to prosper. You may not be able to see it, but the Lord is still working on your situation. You may not be able to feel it, but the Lord is still working on your circumstances. You may not be able to understand it, but the Lord is still working it out for your good. Because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world. God said I'll bless you in your going in and going out and in your coming in. Point to your heart and tell somebody, "It's in There."

- The message of the Cross

Paul encourages Timothy not to be ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, nor of him (Paul), but to be partaker of the gospel according to the power of God. It's our calling to share the testimony of the Lord and to be an active part of sharing with others the message of the Cross. Have you witnessed to someone this week about the love of Christ? God saved us and called us to a holy life because of His grace and divine purpose before the world began. Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, they are a new creation, the old things have passed away, and all things have become new. All this is from God, who reconciled us to Himself through

Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: that God was reconciling the world to Himself in Christ, not counting people's sins against them. And He has committed to us the message of reconciliation. We are therefore ambassadors of Christ. (1 Cor.5:17-20) That's right, you guessed it. "It's in There."

In closing, For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. (John 3:16) Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us, unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Praise the Lord. "It's in There – in Jesus Name." Amen.