

## 6. Lessons from Timothy: the Word

*All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness.... 2 Timothy 3.16*

*Then Jesus told them a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart. Luke 18.1*

In our text this morning, Paul encouraged Timothy to ground his \_\_\_\_\_ in scripture, which for Paul and the early church was the 39 books of the Old Testament.

Today all scripture is comprised of the 39 books of the Old Testament \_\_\_\_\_ the 27 books of the New Testament.

*All scripture is inspired by God....* Through the centuries these words have played an important role in the churches doctrine of the inspiration of scripture, so we cannot be \_\_\_\_\_ in understanding what Paul intended.

The translation, *all scripture is God-breathed and useful*, focuses on God as The \_\_\_\_\_ of scripture, and is more accurate for our understanding. The message of this text is simple: because God is the source of scripture it is true, because it is true, it is, as Paul wrote, useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness.

*Useful for \_\_\_\_\_? ...We can all profit from all scripture....*

Paul was concerned that Timothy not lose heart as he faced false teachers in Ephesus, and Jesus encourages us to pray always and not lose heart as \_\_\_\_\_ face injustice in the world.

Jesus has a strong message for people suffering injustice in whatever form it may take: pray, persevere, hang in there, don't give up! It may take awhile, but God \_\_\_\_\_ and God answers, and God vindicates..... Using a poor widow who would not give up even though she was utterly powerless in the face of an unjust judge, highlights even more His encouragement to the rest of us to pray, persevere, hang in there, don't give up!

How do we \_\_\_\_\_ persevering in pray day and night for justice with Jesus teaching that God will quickly grant justice? If God quickly grants justice then what need is there for perseverance!

In some ways, we can expect justice as we live our lives on this earth, in other ways, justice will not be fully known until Christ's comes \_\_\_\_\_. When He does return, justice will be quickly granted. Keep praying, persevere, hang in there, don't give up, for in the Kingdom of God, justice delayed is not justice denied! Jesus is Lord, ultimately justice prevails!