

November 6, 2023

**The Lord wants you to live in His liberty and freedom.**

**2 Tim. 1:14** *Guard the good deposit that was entrusted to you--guard it with the help of the Holy Spirit Who live in us. (NIV)*

As Paul writes his second letter to his young 'son' in the ministry, he exhorts him to guard the good deposit that was entrusted to you. It is obvious from the scriptures around this that Paul was encouraging Timothy to 'watch over with intent' the precious gift of the Holy Spirit. Now what does that mean to watch over? The Greek word is **phulaxon** which means to be on your guard because of the attacks that will come. It also means to 'set a perimeter' around you mind and heart. Do you have boundaries that the Holy Spirit has encouraged you to have in your life? I've mentioned many times the youth pastor I had as a teenager. He was helpful in exhorting me to set boundaries in my life. These boundaries are so much easier to keep if they are truly set. And as a result, I haven't had to deal with many of the regrets that many others have, and still do. I can then encourage others to do the same. Now I am not saying that I am without failures, because I am not. But the times I have failed, I know I have a Father Who loves me and forgives me when I come to Him in repentance and confession.

Now the deposit of the Holy Spirit into every believer is the Greek word **paratheken** which means *committed to our charge or trust*. This is something that is put in our charge with the with the caveat that we are to guard this new and abundant life with the help of the Holy Spirit. We cannot do this in our own strength. It is the LORD that does His work in us and then through us. We must choose to daily allow Him to have complete control in our lives. He deserves this. He purchased this. We are His alone.

**Dear LORD, what an incredible gift You have given us in Your Holy Spirit. You have chosen to come and dwell in Your children. We, in turn, can then experience the life of Christ continually. Praise You LORD. In Jesus Name, Amen**