

2 Timothy 2:10

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Therefore I endure all things for the elect's sakes, that they may also obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory.

Analysis

Therefore I endure all things for the elect's sakes, that they may also obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory. This verse explains Paul's motivation for endurance. "Therefore" (dia touto, διὰ τοῦτο) connects to v. 9—because God's word isn't bound, Paul willingly endures. "I endure all things" (panta hypomenō, πάντα ὑπομένω) emphasizes comprehensive suffering: imprisonment, abandonment, hardship, impending execution.

Paul's motivation is "for the elect's sakes" (dia tous eklektous, διὰ τοὺς ἐκλεκτούς). The "elect" are God's chosen people whom He predestined for salvation (Romans 8:29-30, Ephesians 1:4-5). Paul's suffering serves their salvation—his preaching brings gospel to those God is calling. This doesn't contradict sovereign grace; rather, God ordains both ends (salvation of elect) and means (gospel proclamation).

The purpose is "that they may also obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory" (hina kai autoi sōtērias tychōsin tēs en Christō Iēsou meta doxēs aiōniou, ἵνα καὶ αὐτοὶ σωτηρίας τύχωσιν τῆς ἐν Χριστῷ Ἰησοῦ μετὰ δόξης αἰωνίου). Salvation exists exclusively "in Christ Jesus"—no salvation apart from union with Him. This salvation includes "eternal glory"—final glorification when believers receive resurrection bodies and eternal inheritance (Romans 8:17-18).

Historical Context

The doctrine of election was foundational to Paul's theology and missionary strategy. God has chosen people from every nation whom He will effectually call through gospel proclamation. This motivated rather than discouraged missionary effort—Paul knew God had elect people in every city he entered (Acts 18:9-10). The concept wasn't innovation but rooted in Old Testament (Deuteronomy 7:6-8, Isaiah 43:20-21).

Related Passages

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Psalms 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Study Questions

1. How does believing in God's sovereign election encourage rather than discourage your evangelistic efforts?
2. What sacrifices are you willing to endure so that others might hear the gospel and obtain salvation?
3. How does keeping 'eternal glory' in view help you persevere through present sufferings and discouragements in ministry?

Interlinear Text

διὰ	τοῦτο	πάντα	ὑπομένω	διὰ	τῆς	ἐκλεκτούς	
Therefore	G5124	all things	I endure	Therefore	which	G1588	
G1223		G3956	G5278	G1223	G3588		
ἵνα	καὶ	αὐτοὶ	σωτηρίας	τύχωσιν	τῆς	ἐν	Χριστῷ
that	also	they	the salvation	may	which	is in	Christ
G2443	G2532	G846	G4991	G5177	G3588	G1722	G5547
Ἰησοῦ	μετὰ	δόξης	αἰωνίου				
Jesus	with	glory	eternal				
G2424	G3326	G1391	G166				

Additional Cross-References

Colossians 1:24 (References Christ): Who now rejoice in my sufferings for you, and fill up that which is behind of the afflictions of Christ in my flesh for his body's sake, which is the church:

1 Peter 5:10 (Glory): But the God of all grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered a while, make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle you.

2 Corinthians 1:6 (Salvation): And whether we be afflicted, it is for your consolation and salvation, which is effectual in the enduring of the same sufferings which we also suffer: or whether we be comforted, it is for your consolation and salvation.

2 Timothy 2:3 (References Jesus): Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ.

2 Corinthians 4:17 (Glory): For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory;

Colossians 1:27 (Glory): To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory:

Ephesians 3:13 (Glory): Wherefore I desire that ye faint not at my tribulations for you, which is your glory.

Romans 2:7 (Glory): To them who by patient continuance in well doing seek for glory and honour and immortality, eternal life:

Romans 9:23 (Glory): And that he might make known the riches of his glory on the vessels of mercy, which he had afore prepared unto glory,

1 Corinthians 9:22 (Salvation): To the weak became I as weak, that I might gain the weak: I am made all things to all men, that I might by all means save some.

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