**Psalter**: 164:2,3 - 168:2,3 - 134:1,2,3 - 147:4,5 - 439:2,3,4

**Scripture**: 2 Timothy 4:1-8 & 1 Peter 5:1-5.

**PAUL’S TESTAMENT**

**1. The charge to Timothy**

* We need to watch in all things (cf. Eze. 3:17; Jer. 6:16-17; Mk. 13:21-22, 32,37).
  + Is what you are watching for the welfare of your precious soul? (cf. Mat. 18:9)
  + Cannot be done without prayer (Mat. 26:41)
* The most dangerous enemy resides within (1 Pet. 2:11).
  + Greedy gain;
  + The belly (Isa. 22:13; 1 Cor. 15:32-34);
  + Honour (cf. Gal. 1:10);
  + *Etc.*
* The only remedy: regenerating and sanctifying power of the Holy (Eph. 5:14-18).

**2. The course of Paul’s life**

* Paul commissions Timothy to take over Paul’s work.
* He speaks about his departure.
  + Implies the Christian hope (cf.1:8-12).
* Uses metaphor of drink offering (cf. Ex. 29:40-41; Lev. 23:13, 18, 37; Num. 15:5, 7,10, 24).
* Paul’s life was a struggle indeed (Rom. 7:14-15, 18-19; 2 Cor. 11:26-27).
* But like a runner in the race he finished his course.
* His eye of faith remained firmly upon the great Object of his faith (Gal. 6:14).
  + He did not achieve it in his own strength (cf. HC Answer 127).

**3. The crown of righteousness**

* The Christian who has been faithful to the end shall forget all the difficulties and sufferings of his race here on earth and rejoice forever in the crown of righteousness.
* It will all be of grace. Christ is not only the righteous Judge, but also their righteous Advocate (1 Jn 2:1).
* Paul wants to comfort, strengthen and encourage all believers through this glorious prospect.
* Do you love His appearing? (cf. Belgic Confession of Faith, 37; Rom. 8:18; Phil. 3:13-21).