Psalter: 295:1,4 - 446:2,4 - 233:1,2,4,6 - 388:1,2,3 - 398:1,2,3

Scripture: 2 Timothy 4:1-22. Text: 2 Timothy 4:9-22

**GOD’S GRACE UNTO PAUL**

**1. Paul left by man and opposed by man**

* Four factors causing depression in prisoners.
* Paul feels lonely because friends left him and others opposed him*.*
	+ Demas
		- Close friend (cf. 1 Col. 4:14; Phil. 24).
		- Is not prepared to give up his life; forsakes Paul.
		- This was a double trial and double disappointment to Paul.
			* Demas rather continues in this sinful world than to go the next world in sinless glory.
		- Appl:
			* Did you previously look down on Demas (cf. 2 Pet. 2:22)?
			* The only thing that can save us from losing our faith is the prayer of the great High Priest.
	+ Crescens and Titus
	+ Alexander
		- Did damage to the cause of the gospel.
	+ Tychicus
* God’s grace evident in Paul:
	+ No bitterness.
	+ Not revengeful.
	+ Ensures the ongoing care for the church.
	+ Share his need with his dear son in the faith.

**2. Paul strengthened by the Lord**

* During first hearing Paul received no assistance from anybody.
	+ No one dared to do it.
* The heavenly Advocate stood by him.
	+ He strengthened Paul with faith in His promises and enabled him to proclaim with boldness Jesus (cf. Acts 24:25).
	+ Delivered him from immediate execution (cf. Ps. 22:22).
	+ Shall deliver him out of the mouth of that hellish lion and bring him into heavenly glory (cf. 1 Cor. 13:12; BCoF 37; HC Q58).
* Note why Paul is so assured.
* Appl:
	+ Our unworthiness does not hinder us from being accepted with God if we but come to Him in the Son of His good pleasure.
	+ Trace the Christ Paul has set before us in this letter (1:1,9,12; 2:1,8,19; 4:1).
	+ Paul and Timothy found this divine grace for life and death in the Son of God’s good pleasure.
	+ How is it with you?
		- If you do not know Him, then do written as in Jer. 3:13.
		- If you do know Him it is all of grace (Rom. 3:24; Eph. 2:8).
		- Be encouraged in His grace (2 Tim. 2:1; 1 Pet. 1:13).