

A reading from 2 Timothy 3 verses 12 through 17. You can find this reading on page 996 of your pew Bible.

Indeed, all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted, while evil people and impostors will go on from bad to worse, deceiving and being deceived. But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please join me in praying Psalm 119.

Leader: Oh how I love your law!
It is my meditation all the day.

**People: Your commandment makes me wiser than my enemies,
for it is ever with me.**

Leader: I have more understanding than all my teachers,
for your testimonies are my meditation.

**People: I understand more than the aged,
for I keep your precepts.**

Leader: I hold back my feet from every evil way,
in order to keep your word.

**People: I do not turn aside from your rules,
for you have taught me.**

Leader: How sweet are your words to my taste,
sweeter than honey to my mouth!

**People: Through your precepts I get understanding;
therefore I hate every false way.**

**All: Your word is a lamp to my feet
and a light to my path.**

**Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit: as
it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

**Leader: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to Matthew.**

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

“Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished. Therefore whoever relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

Leader: The Gospel of the Lord

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.