“The Lord, The Righteous Judge”

Intro: While numerous commentaries and biographies have been written concerning the life of the Apostle ________ we find in II Tim. 4:6-8 his commentary on his own life. In three consecutive verses Paul writes of his ________ addressing the present (v. 6), the past (v. 7) and the future (v. 8).

A. Though Paul faces martyrdom we read not of one who fears and laments but of one who has finished the race and ________ ________ anticipates receiving the victor’s crown!

I. The ________________.

A. Paul so urgently pressed this letter upon Timothy knowing his life was being ___________ ________ as an drink offering.

B. Paul regarded his fast approaching martyrdom as he regarded his life: to be ________ and laid down unto God as a sacrifice of ________________.

C. Paul knew his time on earth was short. To him his coming __________ was the perishable putting on the imperishable, and the mortal putting on the immortal. His martyrdom was no defeat but that means by which he would come into his ________________ in the presence of Christ.

II. The ________.

A. Paul spent his life warring for Christ and against whatever is anti-christ. Such a life is a ________-______________ life of sacrifice. Don’t you waste your life! Fight the good fight!

B. Paul spent his life fulfilling the calling of Christ. As the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable, it is the duty and privilege of every believer to ________ out their days ___ ________________ to God.

C. Paul fought the good fight and finished the course ___ keeping the ________.
1. We faithfully fight the good fight and finish our course only as we ________ the ________. It is by faith in Christ, His promises and by His grace that we endure to the end. We fight the good fight and finish our course ______________ faith in ____________ who strengthens us!

III. The ____________.

A. The promise of an ________________ crown of everlasting righteousness outweighs the momentary hardships of fighting the good fight, finishing the course, and keeping faith. Who would not sacrifice the life they cannot keep to obtain the ________ they cannot lose?

B. The Lord _____________ our Savior and righteous Judge will Himself award His faithful ones on that day! And His ____________ __________ will ring for all eternity: “Well done, my good and faithful servant. Enter into the joy of the Lord!”

C. The promise of heaven and heavenly reward is for all who lovingly ________ in Jesus. Have you surrendered your life to ____________? Do you love Him? Do you long to see Him? His crown of life is for only those who love His appearing.

Closing: What will be the chronicle of your life? Will you waste your life in search of ease and self-gratification? Or as Paul will you by __________ ______________ come to the time of your departure able to say, “I have fought the good fight! I have finished the course! I have kept the faith! And there is my Jesus! My ____________ and Rewarder! Oh! I want to see Him!”

Jesus said, “Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of ________” (Rev 2:10).

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