

2 TIMOTHY

Week 5: The Way of the World (3:1-9)

1. Read for context

- a. Paul's reference to "the last day" in this passage refers to the time beginning with Christ's first coming, also known as the Messianic era. We are and have been in the "last days" since Jesus' ascension.
- b. Verse 8 is alluding to the passage in Exodus 7 in which the sorcerers try to duplicate Aaron's miracle of the staff turning into a serpent. Jannes and Jambres aren't specifically mentioned by name in Exodus but are referred to generally as court magicians.

2. Watch Video

3. Discuss

- a. Read 2 Timothy 3:1-9.
 - i. What are your initial impressions from this passage, and how would you describe the overall warning to Timothy?
 - ii. Recall the last two weeks' memory verses (2:15 and 2:22). How would these verses help Timothy navigate the "last days" Paul is describing?
 - iii. Reread the descriptive list in verses 2-4. What examples do you see of this today?
 - iv. Consider the statement, "having the appearance of godliness, but denying its power." What does this mean, and can you identify examples in your experience?
 - v. What's the command in verse 5, and how are we to obey that, while still loving others and sharing the gospel?
 - vi. Reread verse 7. What is the warning in this verse? In your answer, consider the verse Proverbs 1:7.
 - vii. Reread verses 8-9 and then have someone read Exodus 7:8-13. What do you learn from these two passages?
 - viii. One of today's themes has to do with the importance of holding fast to truth amidst godlessness. What is your biggest takeaway?
- b. **Application:** What is your "action item" from this week's study? Write it down and share it with your life group.

4. Preparation for next week (choose one)

- a. Step: Memorize 2 Timothy 3:12-13
- b. Walk
 - i. Memorize 2 Timothy 3:12-13
 - ii. Find an article that illustrates something you learned from this lesson. Share something from Scripture that addresses this in some way.
- c. Climb
 - i. Memorize 2 Timothy 3:12-13
 - ii. In week 2 you were to research and share a story about the persecuted church from opendoorsca.org and commit it to prayer. Have you continued in prayer? Explore more thoroughly your original research or research another country and share an additional story of persecution for the purpose of awareness and prayer.