

A Reading from the Second Letter of St. Paul to the Timothy

Beloved:

**Remember Jesus Christ, raised from the dead,
a descendant of David: such is my gospel,
for which I am suffering, even to the point of chains,
like a criminal.**

But the word of God is not chained.

**Therefore, I bear with everything
for the sake of those who are chosen,
so that they too may obtain the salvation
that is in Christ Jesus, together with eternal glory.**

This saying is trustworthy:

**if we have died with him
we shall also live with him;
if we persevere
we shall also reign with him.**

But if we deny him

he will deny us.

If we are unfaithful

**he remains faithful,
for he cannot deny himself.**

The Word of the Lord