

## 2 Timothy 3:1-9

### Avoid Unsavory Fools

*Perilous days ...*

#### I. Anticipate Depravity

A. A Damnable Litany

B. With a New Intensity

#### II. Wrapped in Piety

A. Pious Faces

B. Lying Tongues

#### III. Avoid Bad Company

A. Their Influence

B. Their Fate

*... dutiful churches.*

### **Children, Listen ...**

1. There is a long list of bad things and things corrupt people love in our passage. What two things does Paul say they do NOT love?

2. What is so disturbing about the people mentioned in v. 5?

3. We are sinners, surrounded by sinners all the time, but why should we avoid really bad people who pretend to love God?

## Same Sun More Heat

When it comes to sin, there is nothing new under the sun. Each one of the corruptions Paul mentions obviously existed BC. But that is not to say that there are not times and cultures that are especially plagued by a heightened presence of depravity. In the last days, understood as the period between Jesus' ascension and His return, there will be times when evil in the hearts of men will flourish. The most disturbing is that it is all somehow couched in 'godliness.' Timothy needed to be prepared to minister in such an atmosphere in his day, and so do we. Tragically, while it would be a long one, this list could easily be a national news headline. Surely things could and probably will get worse, but things are already pretty bad. How are the church and individual believers to respond to such a scenario? We certainly want to avoid embracing anything that smacks of what is described and repent if any evidence of it is detected. But we don't want to retreat into a little isolated cloister either. The church needs to be the church, Christians need to be Christians, no matter what moral climate we find ourselves in. We may even find that such a setting provides an opportune time to declare the fact that there is deliverance the bondages of sin through the Lord Jesus Christ.