

## Deacon's Beacons

August 18, 2021

So do not be ashamed of your testimony to our Lord, nor of me, a prisoner for his sake; but bear your share of hardship for the gospel with the strength that comes from God. He saved us and called us to a holy life, not according to our works but according to his own design and the grace bestowed on us in Christ Jesus before time began, but now made manifest through the appearance of our savior Christ Jesus, who destroyed death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel, for which I was appointed preacher and apostle and teacher. 2 Timothy 1:8–11

The random Scripture generator that I use for this sometimes truncates passages, leaving sentences unfinished. I amended this to show the full passage. There are several important elements found here. First is that we should expect to suffer for the Gospel. When Christianity became the “state religion” of the Roman Empire, it spread quickly. But the lack of tension with the culture removed some of the evangelical element that enlivened it. Maybe the tension we see today is good for us. The passage continues, saying that our works do not save us but only the grace of God. Finally it presents that the very mission of Jesus was to bring eternal life through the Gospels that have been entrusted to us. The Gospel is how we lead people to salvation, not anything that we can do.

Go raibh síocháin Chríost a bheith in éineacht leat.

Deacon Mike