

MARANATHA BAPTIST CHURCH · COLUMBUS, OH

Don't Forget to Remember

2 Timothy 2:8

Memorial Day Weekend · May 24, 2026

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WHAT IS MEMORIAL DAY?

A National Day of Remembrance

Honors men and women who DIED while serving in the U.S. Armed Forces

Roots trace to Decoration Day after the Civil War

In 1971, Congress established it as a federal holiday

"A moment to pause and reflect on the cost of freedom."

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AMERICAN HISTORY · CALLS TO REMEMBRANCE

When Nations Remember, They Rise to Act

TEXAS REVOLUTION · 1836

"Remember the Alamo!"

The Battle of San Jacinto

Sacrifice and the fight for independence — a rallying cry born from courage and loss.

SPANISH-AMERICAN WAR · 1898

"Remember the Maine!"

USS Maine Explosion, Havana Harbor

The destruction of a battleship sparked outrage and propelled a nation into war.

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AMERICAN HISTORY · CALLS TO REMEMBRANCE

When Nations Remember, They Rise to Act

WORLD WAR II · DECEMBER 7, 1941

"Remember Pearl Harbor!"

Day of Infamy — National Unity & Resolve

A surprise attack united America and became a defining rally cry for an entire generation.

SEPTEMBER 11, 2001

"Never Forget"

America's Defining Memorial Phrase

A solemn vow to honor nearly 3,000 lives — and to carry the weight of that day forward.

These calls to remembrance were also calls to respond.

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Scripture Is Filled with Calls to Remember

Deuteronomy 8:18

"Remember the LORD your God"

Exodus 20:8

"Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy"

1 Chronicles 16:12

"Remember the wondrous works that he has done"

1 Chronicles 16:15

"Remember his covenant forever"

Ecclesiastes 12:1

"Remember your Creator in the days of your youth"

Luke 22:19

"Do this in remembrance of Me"

Why so many? Because we are so prone to forget.

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"Therefore, I intend always to remind you of these qualities, though you know them and are established in the truth that you have. I think it right, as long as I am in this body, to stir you up by way of reminder,"

2 Peter 1:12-13

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"Remember Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, the offspring of David, as preached in my gospel." (ESV)

2 Timothy 2:8

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A. The Context

Three Images of Enduring Faith

2 Timothy 2:1-7



The Soldier

The Athlete

The Farmer

*"Think over what I say, for the Lord will give you understanding in everything."
— v. 7*

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vv. 3–4

1. The Soldier — Remember Your Commander

“Share in suffering as a good soldier of Christ Jesus. No soldier gets entangled in civilian pursuits, since his aim is to please the one who enlisted him.”

— 2 Timothy 2:3–4

The Christian life requires single-minded devotion.

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The Soldier — vv. 3-4

- **Endures hardship without complaint**
A soldier accepts suffering as part of the mission — not an interruption to it.
- **Stays focused — no civilian entanglements**
Eyes fixed on the mission — not divided by the distractions of ordinary life.
- **Lives to please the One who enlisted him**
The soldier’s ultimate loyalty is not to comfort, but to his Commander.

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v. 5

2. The Athlete — Remember the Rules

“An athlete is not crowned unless he competes according to the rules.”

— 2 Timothy 2:5

The Christian life is not just about effort — it is about faithfulness to God’s playbook, the Word.

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The Athlete — v. 5

- **Competes (Gr. “athleo”) with discipline and integrity**
Faithful effort — unrelenting pursuit.
- **Follows the plan to win the prize**
Directed by the playbook, not personal preference.
- **Effort alone is not enough — must be skillfully directed v. 15**
Zeal without obeying the rules can get you disqualified.

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v. 6

3. The Farmer — Remember the Reward

“It is the hard-working farmer who ought to have the first share of the crops.”

— 2 Timothy 2:6

Patient labor produces an abundant reward.

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The Farmer — v. 6

- **Works early, works late, works unseen**
No applause, no crowd — faithfulness in the field, day after day, laboring to the point of exhaustion.
- **Trusts and prays that an abundant harvest will come**
Seeds are planted — faith that the soil will bear the harvest.
- **Patiently labors to produce an abundant reward**
He who sows in tears shall reap in joy — the yield is worth the wait. Wait on the Lord!

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B. The Command

“Remember Jesus Christ”

2 Timothy 2:8

μνημόνευε

Greek: mnēmoneue

Gives us “mnemonic”

- To continually remember
- To let this recalling shape identity, decisions, and actions

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C. The Conduct that Comes from Remembering Jesus

1. Remember His Person

“Remember Jesus Christ...”

- His compassion — He bore our sorrows and griefs
- His authority — All power in heaven and earth is His
- His nearness — “I am with you always, to the end of the age”
- His sacrifice — He gave Himself fully, holding nothing back
- His lordship — Jesus Christ is Lord over every name

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Remember His Person

We honor fallen soldiers by remembering who they were. We honor Christ by remembering who He is.

Conduct yourself with Loyalty

Loyalty — Stay faithful. Stand with Him when culture pushes you to compromise. Lovingly obey with humility.

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v. 8b

2. Remember His Power

"...risen from the dead..."

- You serve a risen King
- Death is defeated
- Fear has lost its grip
- Hardship is not the end of the story

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Remember His Power

We remember the cost of freedom — but also the hope their sacrifice secured.

Conduct yourself with Confidence

Confidence — Walk in courage. Face trials with resurrection hope. Don't shrink back.

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v. 8C

3. Remember His Promise

"...the offspring of David..."

- God's covenant faithfulness
- The promised Messiah has come
- The unbreakable plan of redemption
- The certainty of Christ's eternal reign

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Remember His Promise

Jesus is the fulfillment of every promise God ever made.

Conduct yourself with Endurance

Endurance — Keep going. Don't quit. God keeps His promises — so keep trusting Him.

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D. The Consequences - What Remembering Produces

1. Courage in Suffering (v. 9)

"I am suffering, bound with chains as a criminal. But the word of God is not bound!" — 2 Timothy 2:9

- Paul is chained — the gospel is not
- External chains cannot silence eternal truth
- Suffering does not signal divine abandonment

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D. The Consequences - What Remembering Produces

2. Purpose in Pain (v. 10)

"Therefore, I endure everything for the sake of the elect, that they also may obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus..."
— 2 Timothy 2:10

- Pain becomes purposeful when tied to God's mission
- Every hardship is an opportunity to showcase God's sufficient grace
2 Corinthians 12:9
- Sacrifice that blesses others is never wasted

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Don't Forget to Remember

Remembering is not passive — it is a call to respond.

ON MEMORIAL DAY, WE REMEMBER:

- Sacrifice
- Freedom
- Responsibility

IN 2 TIMOTHY 2, PAUL CALLS US TO REMEMBER:

- Christ's Person — respond with Loyalty
- Christ's Power — respond with Confidence
- Christ's Promise — respond with Endurance

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