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SENTENCE FLOW · CLAUSE STRUCTURE · ENGLISH

2 Timothy 4 — clausal layout

ΠΡΟΣ ΤΙΜΟΘΕΟΝ Β' Δ'

The same clause-by-clause layout, line-aligned with the Greek edition: each line renders one clause or discrete phrase, colored by the *Greek* clause's syntactic type, with indentation marking levels of subordination.

independent

participial

relative

purpose

cause

content

phrase modifier

dashed = verbless / suspended

Flush-left = a main (independent) clause. Each dependent line begins directly beneath the word it attaches to in the line above — the anchor word is dotted-underlined, and lights up when you hover its dependent clause; each tag also names the attachment. A dashed border marks verbless, elliptical, or suspended lines. Where a long sentence's staircase runs wider than the page, the diagram scrolls sideways. (In print, or without JavaScript, lines fall back to stepped indent columns.)

The adjuration — preach the word 4:1–2

- 1 I solemnly charge you before God and Christ Jesus, independent — performative present — the charge enacted in the saying; the witnesses named as in a courtroom
- who is about to judge the living and the dead, participial — attributive — the second witness is the imminent Judge; ζῶντας καὶ νεκρούς the merism for all humanity (Acts 10:42)

and by his appearing and his kingdom:

ἐπιφάνεια the advent-word that returns in v. 8

phrase modifier — accusatives of adjuration — 'I charge you by...' — not further objects of ἐνώπιον;

V. 2 — THE CHARGE PROPER: FIVE AORIST IMPERATIVES IN A VOLLEY

- 2
- preach the word; content — the content of the adjuration — the herald's task named first; ὁ λόγος the Scripture-word just commended (3:15–16)
- be at your post in season, out of season; content — the herald's posture — the asyndetic pair a merism: whether the moment favors or not
- reprove, rebuke, exhort, content — the range of pastoral speech — conviction, censure, encouragement
- with all patience and teaching. phrase modifier — manner over the whole triad — long-temperedness, and the doctrine that gives correction its substance

The coming season — and Timothy's sobriety 4:3–5

- 3
- For a time will come independent — γάρ — the ground of the charge's urgency (v. 2): a season answering εὐκαίρως ἀκαίρως
- when they will not endure sound teaching, relative — ὅτε on καιρός — ἀνέχομαι with the genitive: they will not bear up under healthy doctrine
- but according to their own desires they will heap up teachers for themselves, relative — the ὅτε-clause continued — ἐπισωρεύω a vivid hapax; desire become the canon of doctrine
- having itching ears, participial — causal — the itch explains the heaping; accusative of the part affected
- 4
- and they will turn their ears away from the truth, relative — the ὅτε-futures continue — μέν opens the balanced swerve; the same ἀκοή now actively averted
- and turn aside to myths. relative — δέ answers μέν — off the road onto μῦθοι, the Pastorals' word for empty tales (1 Tim 1:4; Tit 1:14)

V. 5 — ΣΥ ΔΕ: THE SOBER COUNTER-COLUMN

- 5
- But you — be sober in all things, independent — the emphatic συ δέ sets Timothy against the drift; νῆφε the one present imperative — a settled habit
- endure suffering, independent — the letter's refrain (1:8; 2:3, 9) pressed once more
- do the work of an evangelist, independent — εὐαγγελιστής — one of only three NT uses (Acts 21:8; Eph 4:11)

fulfill your ministry. independent — πληροφορώ — bring to full measure; the verb returns of Paul's own κήρυγμα (v. 17)

The libation, the race, the crown 4:6–8

6 For I am already being poured out as a libation, independent — γάρ — the hand-off: emphatic Εγώ answers the σύ of v. 5; σπένδομαι, the drink-offering already underway (Phil 2:17)

and the time of my departure is at hand. independent — ανάλυσις — weighing anchor, striking camp; ἐφέστηκεν echoes ἐπίστηθι (v. 2): the word for Timothy's post now names Paul's departure

V. 7 — THE THREE PERFECTS: THE SETTLED VERDICT

7 I have fought the good fight, independent — cognate object fronted — the noble contest contended to its end (1 Tim 6:12)

I have finished the race, independent — the appointed course run to the goal (Acts 20:24)

I have kept the faith. independent — the deposit guarded intact (1:14) — also the idiom of an oath honored

V. 8 — THE CROWN LAID UP, AND FOR ALL WHO HAVE LOVED HIS APPEARING

8 Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, independent — λοιπόν turns from retrospect to prospect; the genitive read as the crown that consists in righteousness — the victor's wreath after the δρόμος

which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that Day — relative — ἀποδίδωμι — rendered as due, not gratuity; the Judge of v. 1 now the awarder

and not only to me but also to all who have loved his appearing. phrase modifier — the dative widened — the perfect ἡγάπηκόσι a settled love for the ἐπιφάνεια of v. 1; Demas will be its foil (v. 10)

Come quickly — the scattered circle, the cloak 4:9–13

9 Hasten to come to me soon; independent — the summons that frames the close — renewed with a deadline in v. 21

VV. 10–12 — THE SCATTERED CIRCLE: ONE DEFECTION, THE REST DISPATCHED

- 10 | **for Demas has deserted me,** cause — γάρ grounds the summons in loneliness — ἐγκαταλείπω, the forsaking-verb that returns of all in v. 16
- | **having loved the present age,** participial — causal — the pointed foil to τοῖς ἡγαπηκόσι τὴν ἐπιφάνειαν (v. 8): Demas loved the wrong appearing
- | **and went off to Thessalonica;** cause — coordinate with ἐγκατέλιπεν — the desertion made visible in a departure
- | **Crescens to Galatia,** phrase modifier — the verb elided — read as a dispatch on mission, not a second defection
- | **Titus to Dalmatia.** phrase modifier — likewise — the trusted delegate posted; the circle thins either way
- 11 | **Luke alone is with me.** independent — the bleak census — of all the circle, one remains (Col 4:14)
- | **Pick up Mark and bring him with you,** independent — attendant-circumstance ἀναλαβὼν kept inline — the once-rejected companion (Acts 15:37–39)
now sent for
- | **for he is useful to me for ministry.** cause — εὐχρηστος — the restored vessel's word (2:21): Mark's rehabilitation complete
- 12 | **And Tychicus I have sent to Ephesus.** independent — possibly an epistolary aorist — the letter's own bearer, perhaps relieving Timothy to travel

V. 13 — THE CLOAK, THE BOOKS, ABOVE ALL THE PARCHMENTS

- 13 | **The cloak —** independent — the object fronted and suspended until φέρε — a prisoner's need with winter coming (v. 21)
- | **which I left at Troas with Carpus —** relative — the deposit located — παρά, in the keeping of an otherwise unknown host
- | **bring it as you come,** independent — the suspended φαιλόνην resumed as object; temporal ἐρχόμενος kept inline — collect it en route
- | **and the books,** phrase modifier — the papyrus rolls — the apostle's working library
- | **especially the parchments.** phrase modifier — μεμβράνα, a Latin loanword and NT hapax — the prized vellum, perhaps Scriptures or his own notes

Alexander, the first defense, the lion 4:14–18

- 14 | **Alexander the coppersmith did me much harm;** independent — the named adversary — perhaps the Alexander of 1 Tim 1:20; ἐνδείκνυμι, malice exhibited in deeds

the Lord will repay him according to his works.

independent — not a curse but a committal (Rom 12:19; Ps 62:12) — the same ἀποδώσει that awards the crown (v. 8)

15

Guard yourself against him too;

relative — ὃν resumes Alexander (v. 14, tracked by αὐτῷ) — the relative sliding into direct command; σύ emphatic

for he fiercely opposed our message.

cause — the ground — ἀντίστημι as of Jannes and Jambres (3:8); 'our words,' the shared apostolic preaching

VV. 16–18 — THE FIRST DEFENSE: DESERTED BY ALL, STOOD BY THE LORD

16

At my first defense no one came to my side,

independent — the prima actio of the Roman trial — παραγίνομαι the legal supporter's verb: no advocate appeared

but all deserted me;

independent — ἐγκαταλείπω again (v. 10) — Demas's verb become everyone's; the echo of Ps 22:1 close behind

may it not be reckoned against them.

independent — optative of wish — the prayer of Lk 23:34 and Acts 7:60, pardon in the accounting-word λογίζομαι

17

But the Lord stood by me

independent — the great δέ — παρέστη supplies exactly what παρεγένετο lacked: the Advocate no human was

and strengthened me,

independent — ἐνδυναμώ — the letter's empowering verb (2:1)

so that through me the proclamation might be brought to the full

purpose — the dock a pulpit — πληροφορέω, the very verb given to Timothy in v. 5

and all the nations might hear;

purpose — the apostle to the Gentiles heard at the empire's center — the commission completed in the courtroom

and I was rescued from the lion's mouth.

independent — divine passive — the lion read as a figure for mortal, imperial peril (Ps 22:21; Dan 6), not the arena

18

The Lord will rescue me from every evil deed

independent — ἐρρύσθην becomes ῥύσεται — past rescue grounds final rescue; deliverance now through death, not from it

and will bring me safely into his heavenly kingdom.

independent — the βασιλεία of the adjuration (v. 1) now Paul's destination — σῶζω εἰς, saved into

to whom be the glory forever and ever. Amen. relative — doxology — ᾠ on ὁ κύριος (v. 18a, here via αὐτοῦ): glory ascribed to Christ, the verb εἶη implied

Greetings and the double benediction 4:19–22

- 19 Greet Prisca and Aquila, and the household of Onesiphorus. independent — the old co-workers (Acts 18) and the household of 1:16–18 — greeted as a house, perhaps because Onesiphorus had died
- 20 Erastus remained at Corinth, independent — travel news (Acts 19:22; cf. Rom 16:23) — stayed by circumstance or assignment, not defection
but Trophimus I left sick at Miletus. independent — ἀπολείπω as of the cloak (v. 13) — the apostle who could not command healing; circumstantial ἀσθενοῦντα kept inline
- 21 Hasten to come before winter. independent — v. 9 renewed with a deadline — winter closes the sea-lanes, and the time is short (v. 6)
Eubulus greets you, and Pudens and Linus and Claudia, and all the brothers. independent — the Roman circle — the verb singular with a compound subject; Paul not, after all, wholly alone
- 22 The Lord be with your spirit. independent — verbless blessing, εἶη implied — σου singular: the last personal word to Timothy
Grace be with you all. independent — ὑμῶν plural — the close widens from the one to the church; the last line of Paul's last letter

Analysis. The chapter is Paul's last charge and his last will, and the layout shows the hand-off. It opens with a single performative at flush left — Διαμαρτύρομαι, the witnesses heaped behind it — the participle of the coming Judge hanging on Ἰησοῦ, and καὶ τὴν ἐπιφάνειαν αὐτοῦ καὶ τὴν βασιλείαν αὐτοῦ read as accusatives of adjuration ('I charge you by his appearing and his kingdom'), not as further objects of ἐνώπιον; under the adjuration the five aorist imperatives of v. 2 hang as its spoken content — κήρυξον the task, ἐπίστηθι the posture, the ἔλεγον-ἐπιτίμησον-παρακάλεσον triad the range — capped by the manner-phrase ἐν πάσῃ μακροθυμίᾳ καὶ διδαχῇ on the last of them. The prediction of vv. 3–4 sets ἔσται γὰρ καιρὸς at the head with four futures chained in the ὅτε-clause beneath καιρὸς (the itching-ears participle on ἐπισωρεύουσιν), and σὺ δὲ νῆφε answers with four flush-left imperatives. Then the valediction: Ἐγὼ γὰρ ἤδη σπένδομαι — the emphatic Ἐγώ

balancing the σύ of v. 5, ἐφέστηκεν echoing ἐπίστηθι — the three perfects of v. 7 stand as a level column, and the crown-sentence of v. 8 steps down once to the relative (ὃν ἀποδώσει... ὁ δίκαιος κριτής) and once more to the dashed dative widening οὐ μόνον δὲ ἐμοὶ..., an expansion of μοι. In the personal close the γάρ of v. 10 hangs the whole desertion-report on Σπούδασον — Demas's ἀγαπήσας τὸν νῦν αἰῶνα pointedly answering the ἡγαπηκόσι τὴν ἐπιφάνειαν of v. 8 — with Crescens and Titus as verb-sharing fragments under ἐπορεύθη, read as dispatches, not defections; v. 13 suspends τὸν φαιλόνην as a dashed fronted object, its relative beneath it, until ἐρχόμενος φέρει resumes at the left. Verses 14–18 let the two ἀποδώσει stand in one shape — the Lord repays Alexander with the same verb by which he awards the crown — and the first defense sets the desertion lines against ὁ δὲ κύριός μοι παρέστη, the ἵνα pair (the proclamation completed, all the nations hearing) making the dock itself a pulpit; ἐκ στόματος λέοντος is taken as a figure for mortal, imperial peril (Ps 22:21; Dan 6), not the arena, and the doxology's ὦ is read of the κύριος of v. 18 — glory ascribed to Christ. The close narrows and widens in a breath: Σπούδασον returns with a deadline (πρὸ χειμῶνος), and the double benediction moves from τοῦ πνεύματός σου, singular, to μεθ' ὑμῶν, plural — Paul's last letter ending with the whole church listening over Timothy's shoulder.

The clause segmentation, the type assigned to each line, and the indentation are interpretive — one defensible reading of the syntax, chosen to match the analysis in the chapter's interlinear (word-level syntax tier and discourse notes); other analyses divide or attach some lines differently. The Greek text is identical to the chapter data behind the interlinear and follows the standard critical text.