

Undoubtedly this is the meaning of the word. We believe God does give real help with the total mental picture but the stress here is not one one's emotional composure but on his ability to control self. We do not have to be subject (victims) to rashness and self-will, pettiness and sulking. The gift of God is the ability to control self--through the use of the Word and the dedication of life, to be sure. But it is part of the Gift of God.

### 3. Conclusion.

Now just crudely remembering these things as in a list is not the intended purpose or ghe best result. But to be able to think on the gift of God, that is important and if we keep it close to our hearts and minds it is likely to enable us to deliver ourselves from many thorny problems that otherwise would be ruinous. To some extent, the best possessions, if forgotten, lose something of their practicality. So we are urged to remember the gift of God as one big step towards solid spiritual living in the academic family.

#### B. Don't Be Ashamed of the Gospel!

##### 2 Timothy 1, emphasis on vs. 8

#### 1. Introductory comments

It is not job to get the emphasis on the wrong point. We sometimes want to "grow up" to such a degree that we would like to forget parents, home, background and the like. In a desire for more sophistication some Christians feel embarassed by other Christians whose culture level is "inferior." But one of the clues to a vital spiritual life is a willingness to be openly identified with the cause of truth...and with those who preach it. Paul will note that he has suffered great loss for this and Timothy, if his own ministry is to be helpful, cannot afford to be ashamed of the message or of the messengers. An open association and profession with the truth and its witnesses is what will help the most.