

WHEN GRACE APPEARED



Salvation in the Pastoral Letters

2 Timothy 1:8-12

**Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony about our Lord, nor of me his prisoner, but share in suffering for the gospel by the power of God,
9 who saved us and called us to a holy calling, not because of our works but because of his own purpose and grace, which he gave us in Christ Jesus before the ages began, 10 and which now has been manifested through the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and**



2 Timothy 1:8-12

immortality to light through the gospel, ¹¹ for which I was appointed a preacher and apostle and teacher, ¹² which is why I suffer as I do. But I am not ashamed, for I know whom I have believed, and I am convinced that he is able to guard until that day what has been entrusted to me.



2 Timothy 4:6-8

For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure has come. ⁷ I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. ⁸ Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved his appearing.



Outline

A vision of the Christian life shaped by three realities:

1. Confidence in God's grace
2. Perseverance in faithfulness
3. Love for Christ's appearing



1. Confidence in God's grace

2 Timothy 1:8-12



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not because of our works

but because of his own purpose and grace,

which he gave us in Christ Jesus before the ages

began,

¹⁰ and which now has been manifested through the
appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus,

who abolished death

and brought life and immortality to light through the

gospel



1. Confidence in God's grace

Main Point

- Salvation is by grace, through Christ, from death, to life



1. Confidence in God's grace

Main Application

- The basis of our confidence for living faithful Christian lives is not found in ourselves, but in God's gracious purpose, planned in eternity, realized in Christ, and proclaimed in the gospel



2. Perseverance in faithfulness

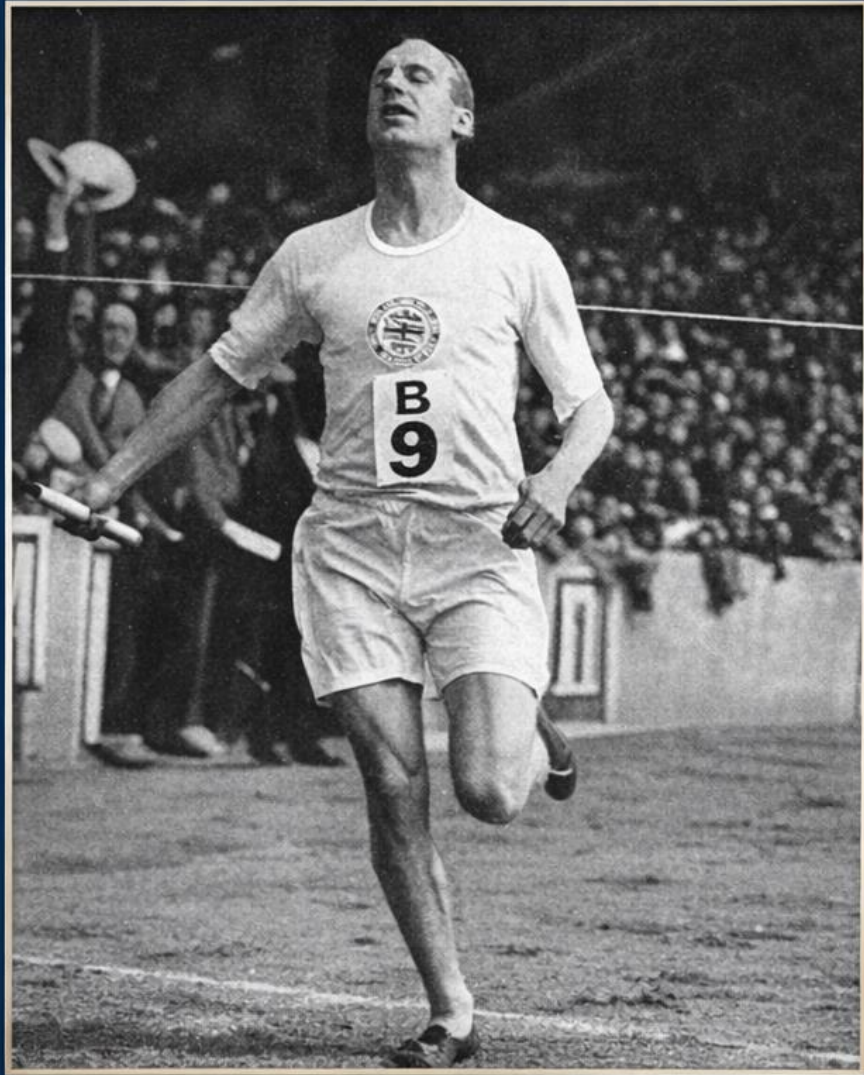
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Eric Liddell (1902 – 1945)

Olympic gold medalist. Missionary. Prisoner of war. Faithful runner to the end.

2. Perseverance in faithfulness

Application

- Wear the gospel armor for the daily battle



2. Perseverance in faithfulness

Application

- Wear the gospel armor for the daily battle
- Set a sustainable pace for the race of faith



2. Perseverance in faithfulness

Application

- Wear the gospel armor for the daily battle
- Set a sustainable pace for the race of faith
- Train through injury – don't let suffering or sin pull you out of the race



2. Perseverance in faithfulness

2 Timothy 4:6-7





"The Grey Havens"
Painting by Matt Stewart

3. Love for Christ's appearing

2 Timothy 4:8



2 Timothy 4:6-8

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Come, Lord Jesus

MEDITATIONS ON
THE SECOND COMING OF CHRIST

JOHN PIPER

“Loving the Lord Jesus, and its extension in loving his coming, is an essential mark of a true Christian... no one is a Christian – no one is saved – who does not love the Lord Jesus.”

—John Piper

3. Love for Christ's appearing

2 Timothy 4:8





*Jesus, the very thought of thee
With sweetness fills the breast;
But sweeter far thy face to see
And in thy presence rest.*



O hope of every contrite heart

O joy of all the meek,

To those who fall, how kind thou art!

How good to those who seek!



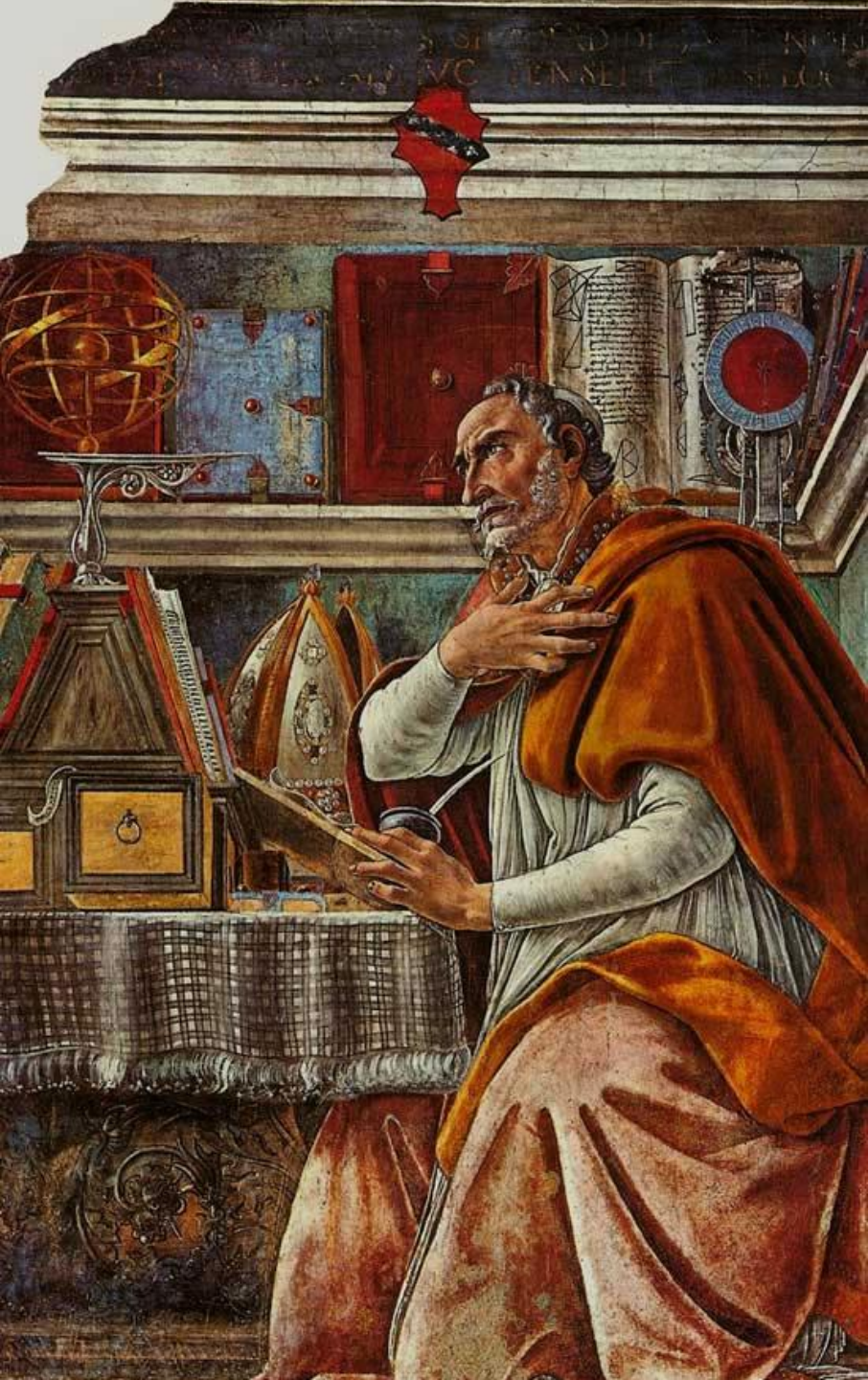
But what to those who find? Ah, this

Nor tongue nor pen can show;

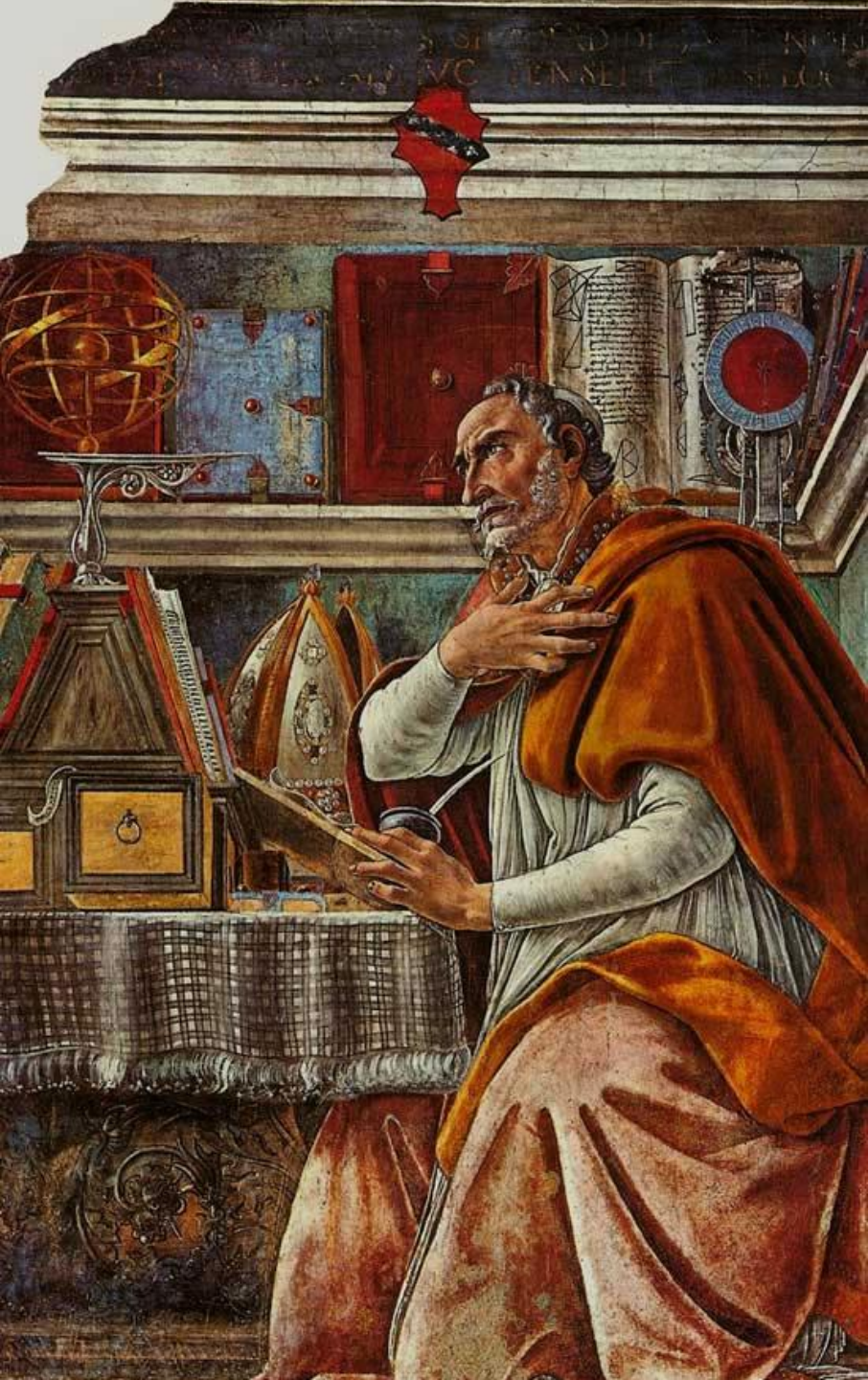
The love of Jesus, what it is,

None but his loved ones know.

— Bernard of Clairvaux



But what do I love when I love my God? . . . Not the sweet melody of harmony and song; not the fragrance of flowers, perfumes, and spices; not manna or honey; not limbs such as the body delights to embrace. It is not these that I love when I love my God. And yet, when I love him, it is true that I love a light of a certain kind, a voice, a perfume, a food, an embrace; but they are of the kind that I love in my inner self,



when my soul is bathed in light that is not bound by space; when it listens to sound that never dies away; when it breathes fragrance that is not borne away on the wind; when it tastes food that is never consumed by the eating; when it clings to an embrace from which it is not severed by fulfillment of desire. This is what I love when I love my God.

—Saint Augustine

3. Love for Christ's Appearing

Application

- How do we get this kind of love for Christ? By seeing his love for us (cf. 1 John 4:19; Gal. 2:20; Eph. 2:4-5)



Summary

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