

A dramatic, high-angle view of the RMS Titanic sinking into the dark, icy waters of the North Atlantic at night. The ship's white hull and red funnels are illuminated by its own lights and the moonlight, creating a stark contrast against the dark sea and sky. The ship is tilted at a steep angle, with its bow pointing towards the viewer and its stern sinking into the water. The water is dark and choppy, with white foam from the ship's wake visible. The sky is a deep, dark blue, and the overall atmosphere is one of tragedy and historical significance.

How to Avoid a “Shipwrecked” Faith

1 Timothy 1:18-20

Timely Word of **WARNING!!**

*“So, we **must** listen very carefully to the truth we have heard, or we may drift away from it.” Hebrews 2:1, NLT*

How to Avoid a “Shipwrecked” Faith

The Reality of a “Shipwrecked” Faith

Hymenaeus (1 Tim. 1:20)

- 2 Timothy 2:16-19 *“Avoid worthless, foolish talk that only leads to...left the path of truth, ... turned some people away from the faith”* (NLT)

Alexander (1 Tim. 1:20)

- 2 Timothy 4:14 *“... did me much harm...”* (NLT)

How to Avoid a “Shipwrecked” Faith

The Reality of a “Shipwrecked” Faith

“Shipwrecked” Faith doesn’t JUST happen. The drifting often begins *subtly* and *imperceptibly* but soon you find yourself *far* from where you began and on a collision course for trouble.

How to Avoid a “Shipwrecked” Faith

What Causes a “Shipwrecked” Faith

- Loving the World! (1 John 2:15)

“Do not love this world nor the things it offers you, for when you love the world, you do not have the love of the Father in you.”

- Neglecting God’s Word! (Matthew 13:22)

“The seed that fell among the thorns represents those who hear God’s word, but all too quickly the message is crowded out by the worries of this life and the lure of wealth, so no fruit is produced.”

How to Avoid a “Shipwrecked” Faith

What Causes a “Shipwrecked” Faith

- Trusting your Feelings! (Jeremiah 17:9)

“The human heart is the most deceitful of all things, and desperately wicked. Who really knows how bad it is?”

- Relying on Self! (Jeremiah 17:5)

“This is what the Lord says: “Cursed are those who put their trust in mere humans, who rely on human strength and turn their hearts away from the Lord.”

How to Avoid a “Shipwrecked” Faith

How Do I Avoid a “Shipwrecked” Faith?

1. Don't be DISTRACTED.(18a) *“Timothy, my son, here are the **instructions** for you...”* (NLT)
 - 1 Timothy 1:3-4 – Don't **waste** your breath!
 - 1 Timothy 1:5-7 – Don't **miss** the point.
 - 1 Timothy 1:8-11 – Don't **be distracted** from the Gospel.

How Do I Avoid a “Shipwrecked” Faith?

2. Do remember your CALLING.(18b) “...*based on the prophetic words spoken about you earlier.*”

(NLT)

- 1 Timothy 4:14

“Do not neglect the spiritual gift you received through the prophecy spoken over you when the elders of the church laid their hands on you.”

- 2 Timothy 2:2

“You have heard me teach things that have been confirmed by many reliable witnesses. Now teach these truths to other trustworthy people who will be able to pass them on to others.”

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How Do I Avoid a “Shipwrecked” Faith?

3. Be ready for a FIGHT. (18c) *“May they help you fight well in the Lord’s battles.”* (NLT)
- 1 Timothy 1:3-7
 - 1 Timothy 4:1-8
 - Ephesians 6:10-18

How Do I Avoid a “Shipwrecked” Faith?

4. Cling to your FAITH. (19a) *“Cling to your faith in Christ...”* (NLT)

- 1 Timothy 4:6

*“If you explain these things to the brothers and sisters, Timothy, you will be a worthy servant of Christ Jesus, one who is nourished by **the message of faith** and **the good teaching** you have followed.”* (NLT)

- 1 Timothy 6:20

*“Timothy, **guard** what God has entrusted to you. **Avoid** godless, foolish discussions with those who oppose you with their so-called knowledge.”* (NLT)

How Do I Avoid a “Shipwrecked” Faith?

5. Pay attention to your CONSCIENCE. (19b) “... *and keep your conscience **clear**.*” (NLT)

- **συνείδησις** denotes the internal faculty by which a person discerns **moral right and wrong**. It is the God-implanted awareness that both **accuses and excuses**, bearing witness to the law of God within.
- *Conscience is not autonomous; it functions under God’s sovereignty and must be informed and purified by revealed truth.*

How Do I Avoid a “Shipwrecked” Faith?

5. Pay attention to your CONSCIENCE. (19b) “... *and keep your conscience **clear**.” (NLT)*

- 2 Corinthians 1:12

*“We can say with confidence and a clear conscience that **we have lived with a God-given holiness**^[a] and sincerity in all our dealings. We have depended on God’s grace, not on our own human wisdom. That is how we **have conducted ourselves** before the world, and especially toward you.”*

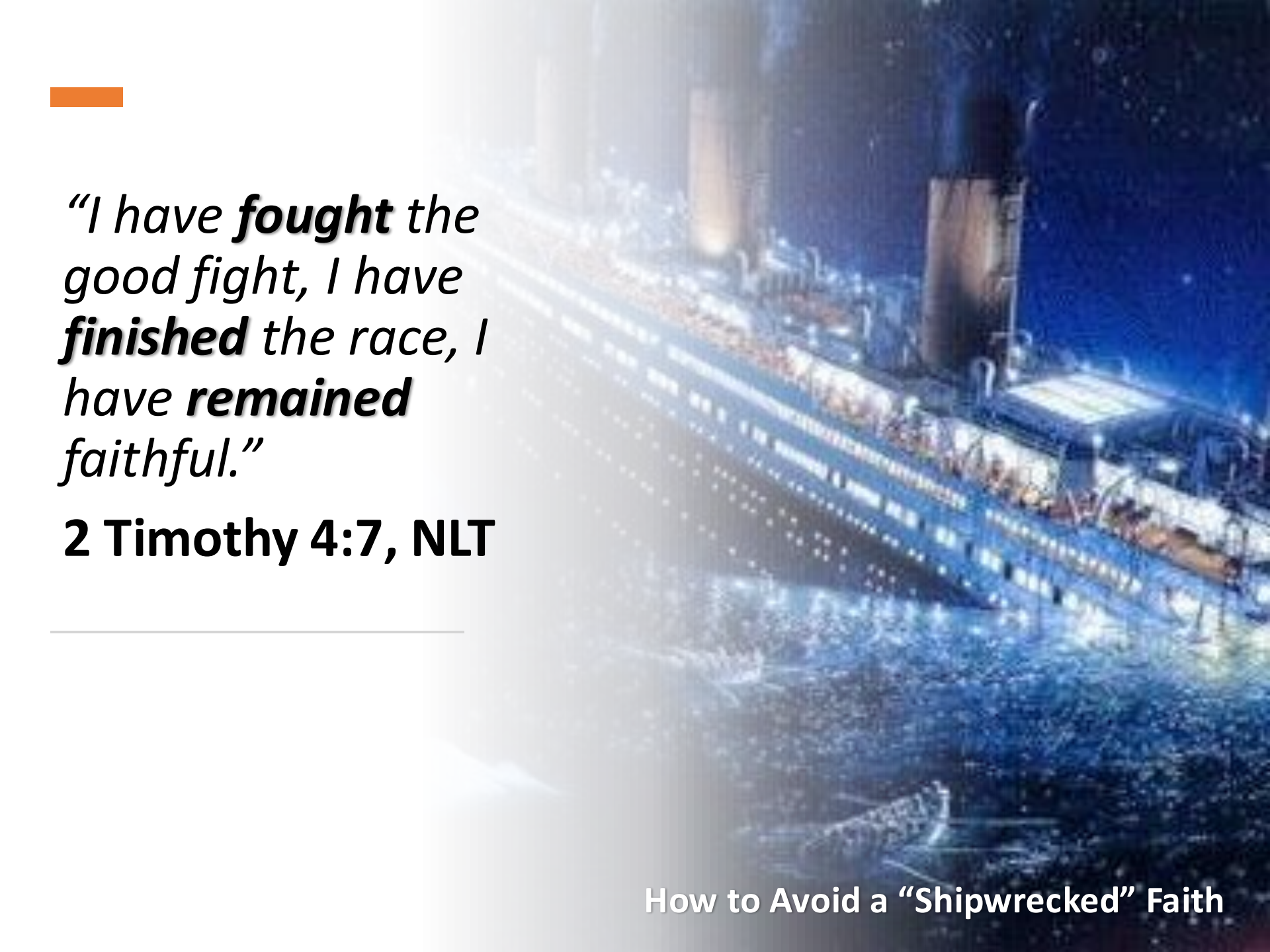
How Do I Avoid a “Shipwrecked” Faith?

“In other words, a good conscience is a synonym for an obedient heart which wants to do what God says is right.”

Ray Stedman (Wage the Good Warfare)

Action Steps

- **Don't allow** yourself to be distracted.
 - **Remember** your Calling.
 - **Be ready** for a Fight!
 - **Cling** to your Faith!
- **Pay attention** to that still small voice that speaks to you!



*“I have **fought** the
good fight, I have
finished the race, I
have **remained**
faithful.”*

2 Timothy 4:7, NLT

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