COMMITTED TO CHRIST

Scripture Reading: 2 Timothy 4:6-8

Introduction:
1. Commitment has lost some of its meaning over the years. I.e. contracts are broken, marriages dissolved.
2. Christians are to be committed to Christ for life.

Proposition: Our commitment to Christ will be challenged.
Interrogative: What commitment challenges are we faced with?
Transition: Our commitment to Christ will be challenged by...

I. TIMES OF YOUTH
   A. YOUTH SEEMS TO LAST FOREVER
      1. E.g. one’s first twenty years compared to the next twenty.
      2. Life is short; time is fleeting –Ja 4:14, Ep 5:16
   
   B. REMEMBERING GOD WHILE WE ARE YOUNG
      1. Remember your Creator –Ec 12:1
      2. Parents are to teach their children to know and love God
         a. Fathers –Ep 6:4
         b. The danger is being one generation away from apostasy –Ju 2:10

II. TIMES OF TRIBULATION
    A. TRYING TIMES WILL TEST THE SOUL
       1. It will draw some closer to God – E.g. World Trade Center
       2. It will cause some to rebel – i.e. some blame God for tragedy
   
    B. EXAMPLE OF PAUL
       1. Paul was committed to Christ first. This is why he endured -2Co 11:22-33
       2. How can we be as committed? –First commit to Christ –Ph 1:21

III. TIMES OF CHOICE
    A. JOSEPH IN EGYPT –Ge 39:8-9
       1. He had temptation to stray
       2. He resisted because he was committed to God first
    
    B. WE CAN RESIST TEMPTATION
       1. When we are fully committed to Christ –Mk 8:34-38
       2. The old man of sin is dead; the new is alive unto God –Ro 6:11

Conclusion:
1. God holds no one against their will.
2. We must choose to follow Him and stay the course if heaven is to be ours.