

2 Timothy Pericopes and Editorial Divisions

NKJV Thomas Nelson 1982	ESV Collins 2002	NIV Zondervan 2011	KJV Thomas Nelson 1989
1.1 Greeting	1.1 Greeting		1.1 Thanksgiving for Timothy's Faith
1.3 Timothy's Faith and Heritage	1.3 Guard the Deposit Entrusted to You	1.3 Thanksgiving 1.6 Appeal for Loyalty to Paul and the Gospel	1.6 Reminder of Timothy's Responsibility
1.8 Not Ashamed of the Gospel 1.13 Be Loyal to the Faith		1.15 Examples of Loyalty and Disloyalty	
2.1 Be Strong in Grace	2.1 A Good Soldier of Jesus Christ	2.1 The Appeal Renewed	2.1 Discipling Teacher 2.3 Single-minded soldier 2.6 Enduring Husbandman
2.14 Approved and Disapproved Workers	2.14 A Worker Approved by God	2.14 Dealing with False Teachers	2.14 Diligent Workman 2.20 Sanctified Vessel 2.24 Gentle Servant
3.1 Perilous Ties and Perilous Men	3.1 Godlessness in the Last Days		3.1 Coming of Apostasy
3.10 The Man of God and the Word of God	3.10 All Scripture is Breathed Out by God	3.10 A Final Charge to Timothy	3.10 Confronting Apostasy
4.1 Preach the Word	4.1 Preach the Word		4.1 Charge to Preach the Word
4.6 Paul's Valedictory			4.6 Paul's Hope in Death
4.9 The Abandoned Apostle	4.9 Personal Instructions	4.9 Personal Remarks	4.9 Paul's Situation in Prison
4.17 The Lord is Faithful			
4.19 Come Before Winter	4.19 Final Greetings	4.19 Final Greetings	4.19 Paul's Closing Greetings
4.22 Farewell			

A coherent segment of the greater whole of a book is a pericope. The word normally refers to a paragraph or a small group of paragraphs, such as a passage for preaching. For responsible exegesis, the crucial thing about pericopes is the proper, fair and text-sensitive identification of their boundaries, their delimitations, both the external and the internal delineations.

Richard J. Erickson, *A Beginners Guide to New Testament Exegesis*, p. 62, adapted

NASU	Cambridge 1995	NLT2	Harper Collins 2012	Rheims	1582	RSV	Ignatius Press 2010
1.1	Timothy Charged to Guard his Trust	1.1	Greetings from Paul	1.1		1.1	Salutation
		1.2					
		1.3	Encouragement to be Faithful	1.3		1.3	Thanksgiving and Encouragement
		1.5					
1.8		1.8				1.8	
		1.12		1.13			
		1.13					
1.15		1.15				1.15	
		1.16		1.16			
2.1	Be Strong	2.1	A Good Soldier of Jesus Christ	2.1		2.1	A Good Soldier of Christ
		2.3					
2.8		2.8				2.8	
		2.11					
2.14	An Unashamed Workman					2.14	A Workman Approved by God
		2.15	An approved Worker	2.15			
		2.19		2.19			
2.20		2.20				2.20	
		2.22		2.22			
		2.23					
2.24							
3.1	Difficult Times Will Come	3.1	Dangers in the Last Days	3.1		3.1	Godlessness in the Last Days
		3.6					
3.10		3.10	Paul's Charge to Timothy	3.10		3.10	Paul's Charge to Timothy
		3.14					
				3.16			
4.1	Preach the Word	4.1		4.1		4.1	
		4.3					
		4.5					
4.6						4.6	

4.9	Personal Concerns	4.9	Paul's Final Words	4.9	Personal Instructions
4.16		4.14			
4.19		4.16		4.19	Final Greetings and Benediction
		4.19			
		4.21			
4.22		4.22			4.22

Context profoundly influences the meaning of anything (62).

The meaning of the whole will help us in deciding what meaning the parts will have. But we need to know what the parts mean before we can know what the whole means. We engage in a process of reviewing text and context simultaneously, always letting the one lead to an improved grasp of the other, back and forth, back and forth, refining and sharpening our understanding.

(Richard J. Erickson, *A Beginners Guide to New Testament Exegesis*, pp. 62, 63, adapted)

We have no guarantee that the later editors of scripture who added the familiar chapter and verse divisions did so in the way the original authors would have done it. In fact, we have many reasons to suspect they did not! As far as you are able, let the book itself tell you where to make appropriate divisions in the run of its 'argument' or its 'plot' (81).

Context eliminates possible meanings (107).

Understanding the text is of paramount importance to those of us who pin our ultimate hopes and expectations on its message (20).

We must be willing to risk what we have believed the biblical text says in order to be sufficiently open to discover more accurately what in fact it does say (23 adapted).

It is essential in exegesis to be able to summarize in a sentence or two the main thrust, the central burden of the message of an entire book (assuming there is one!). For only then can we intelligently guess at how the parts fit into the whole (67).

Each chapter can be reduced to a core sentence summarizing the central point (81).

Our vision is often more obstructed by what we think we know than by our lack of knowledge (118).