

## PREACH THE WORD

### Int.

1. Aim: To show what Paul wanted us to do in preaching the word.
2. Text. 2 Tim. 4:1-4 "I charge thee therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom; 2. Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine. 3. For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; 4. And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables."
  - a. Paul the aged was talking to Timothy the younger man - his son in the faith
  - b. I charge thee - adjure thee
  - c. It was a very solemn charge because it was Before God and Jesus Christ
  - d. Judge all - living and dead
3. Five Charges he makes to Timothy:
  - (1) Preach the word
  - (2) Be instant in season out of season
  - (3) Reprove
  - (4) Rebuke
  - (5) Exhort
4. Then he tells about the future - The Time Will Come

## Discussion

### I. **PREACH THE WORD**

#### A. **Preach**

1. "To herald (as a public crier), espec. divine truth (the gospel): - preach (-er), proclaim, publish"
2. Charge is to preach, proclaim, publish the truth
3. Announce - the message is from God and the preacher is merely announcing that to the hearers.
4. The preacher is an official proclaimer of the good news from the King of Kings.
5. He is of course to preach the truth in Love. Eph. 4:15a "But speaking the truth in love,..."

#### B. **The word**

1. Not to preach politics, socialism, agriculture, history, philosophy, or self.
2. The word of God = (3056) [lo/gos] log' -os; from [le/gw]; something said (including the thought); by impl. a topic (subject of discourse), also reasoning (the mental faculty) or motive; by extens. a computation
3. That means we are to preach:
  - a. "The will of god" 2 Tim. 1:1
  - b. "The gospel" 2 Tim. 1:8
  - c. "The word of God" 2 Tim. 2:9
  - d. "The word of Truth" 2 Tim. 2:15
  - e. "The truth" 2 Tim. 2:18
  - f. "Sound Doctrine" 2 Tim. 4:3

4. This message is inspired - 2 Tim. 3:16-17
  - a. It has no mistakes or errors
  - b. The preacher is not to tamper with the message or change it in any way.
  - c. In Gal. 1:6-9 Paul warns about changing the message.
  - d. We dare not change the word of God for it is exactly what we need. It is the power of God to salvation
  - e. Rom. 1:16 "For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek."

## **II. BE INSTANT IN SEASON OUT OF SEASON**

### A. Instant

1. Translated "Be urgent" in the ASV - "prepared" NIV
2. It means to stand by, be present, be at hand
3. Be ready to preach this truth at all times

### B. In season - out of season

1. No closed season for preaching the word
2. Even if the listeners don't like the gospel, they need it.
3. We are to preach the truth whether men appreciate it or they do not appreciate it.
4. Preach it when they like it and when they don't like it.
5. The preacher is to preach to please God
6. Not preaching to draw people to ourselves but to the Gospel which will be able to save.

**III. REPROVE**

## A. Reprove

1. (1651) [e]le/gxw] el-eng' -kho; of uncert. affin.; to confute, admonish: - convict, convince, tell a fault, rebuke, reprove
2. Conviction, for convicting one of his sinfulness
3. Convince one of his sins with the idea of correction
4. Peter reprovved in Acts 2 and the people were pricked in their hearts and asked what to do.

## B. The Bible is able to reprove

1. Heb. 4:12 "For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart."
2. The word of God can show us our mistakes and wrongs. It does not cover-up sin.

**IV. REBUKE**

## A. Rebuke

1. (2008) [e]pitima/w] ep-ee-tee-mah' -o; from [e]pi/] and [tima/w]; to tax upon, i.e. censure or admonish; by impl. forbid: - (straitly) charge, rebuke
2. Tell them that they are wrong and that they need to get right.
3. Warn them that they will be lost unless they repent.
4. This is a sharper and more severe word than reprove

## B. Demand is for positive preaching

1. Many claim today that we should do all positive preaching and forget about the negative preaching.
2. According to some experts we should never preaching against: dancing, smoking, immodest apparel, social drinking, instrumental music in worship, or denominationalism.
3. That is "hard preaching" and it will run people away; or so we are told.
4. Some members of the church would like to live like the world and never be told that they are wrong.
5. They would like to come to the assembly and go away "feeling good" about themselves.
6. People in olden days felt the same way. I sa. 30:10b "...Prophesy not unto us right things, speak unto us smooth things, prophesy deceits:"
7. Paul was a faithful servant, a godly preacher and he denounced sin and error. He taught the truth. He said: "Am I therefore become your enemy because I tell you the truth?" Gal. 4:16 A gospel preacher must preach against sin of all kinds!

## C. Felix was rebuked by Paul -

1. Acts 24:25 "And as he reasoned of righteousness, temperance, and judgment to come, Felix trembled, and answered, Go thy way for this time; when I have a convenient season, I will call for thee." Reasoned = discuss, dispute
2. One of the purposes of preaching is to rebuke people and show them the error of their sinful life.
3. Some people will not repent and forsake their sins. But the preacher has obeyed God when he rebukes the sinner.
4. The responsibility for making the changes is upon the hearer not the preacher.

**V. EXHORT**

## A. Exhort

1. (3870) [parakale/w] par-ak-al-eh'-o; from [para/] and [kale/w]; to call near, i.e. invite, invoke (by imploration, hortation or consolation): - beseech, call for, (be of good) comfort, desire, (give) exhort (-ation), intreat, pray
2. The idea is: "Please, I beg of you, I urge you."
3. Intreat

## B. Encourage

1. Appeal to one to do what he knows he should do.
2. This is a positive part of our preaching along with the negative - this is the balance that we must have.

## C. With Longsuffering and Doctrine

1. Patience
2. Forbearance - long temper

**VI. THE TIME WILL COME**

## A. Not endure SOUND doctrine

1. Sound = healthy, wholesome - opposite of diseased
2. They cannot stand the truth, they do not love the church
3. Some who cannot stand for strong preaching have even decided that it is wrong to preach where you rebuke and call sin by name.
4. They get them someone who will teach it to suit themselves
5. Look for a church that preaches to suit themselves and their lifestyle.

## B. Teachers with itching ears

1. They teach what the people like to hear
2. It pleases the people and it makes the preacher happy.
3. They are tired of the gospel, they want something new.
4. Illustration: New Bible with portions cut out of text
5. Illustration: Poem - "Preacher, My Ear Itches!"

## C. Turn to fables

1. Something different from the truth
2. Doctrines of men in contrast to the Sound Doctrine of the Bible.
3. Myths, fictions, or fables
4. Some Preach like the denominations. Practice the things they have been doing for years.
5. When a preacher, member, or congregation turns to fables they are turning away from the truth.
6. John 8:32 "And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free."

## Conclusion

1. Paul charged Timothy to:
  - a. Preach the Word
  - b. Be instant in Season out of Season
  - c. Reprove
  - d. Rebuke
  - e. Exhort
2. That is the charge for all preachers today.

3. Men who preach are not to be hirelings - John 10:12-13
  - a. A true preacher of the word will teach the truth even if it costs him his life. - Paul's life was in danger many times for preaching the truth.
  - b. But a hireling - one who is not true to the word - will not care if the truth is preached. He wants to protect himself.
4. Faithful preachers will preach the truth !
5. Those who love the truth want the truth to be preached !
6. 2 Tim. 4:1-2 "I charge thee therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom; 2. Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine. 3. For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; 4 And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables."

## "Preacher, My Ear Itches!"

Neal Pollard

Preacher, preacher--give me something  
 Something I can really use  
 On "getting along" or "Bible humor"  
 Something I will not refuse!  
 Last month you preached, "Love One Another"  
 Tonight you're to preach on grace  
 Why can't you always preach such subjects  
 Which get not in my face?  
 I don't want one on "hell" at all  
 Nor (gasp!) the sin of dancing  
 If you preach against denominations  
 I t'll set my ire to prancing!  
 Lay off us, brother, won't you please  
 do not ever lay guilt upon us  
 The love of Jesus doth escape you  
 Must you stir up such a fuss?  
 Psychology, not hermeneutics  
 Jokes, not expositions  
 No scripture quoting or moral stances  
 Give up those old traditions!  
 We want love (grow!!) and forgiveness  
 As we yet stay in our sin  
 My ear has long itched and you ain't scratched it  
 Say now, 'tis time that you begin!

Sermon by Arthur Pigman - Oct. 22, 2006 - Sunday Morning  
Evans Church of Christ  
515 Gibbs Road  
Evans, Ga. 30809  
706-855-1249  
[arthurpigman@cybrtyme.com](mailto:arthurpigman@cybrtyme.com)