

Preach

The WORD

8-28-22

2 Timothy 4:2 (ESV)

Preach the WORD; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, and exhort, with complete patience and teaching.

As mature disciples of Jesus, we have received the Holy Spirit and sound teaching. Therefore, we have the responsibility to Preach the WORD. This means, “Preach, be a herald, announce in an official capacity the WORD, logos.” **The preacher or herald is not to air his own opinions but to proclaim God’s eternal, authoritative WORD of truth. We are, therefore, to “Be Prepared” for that divine appointment! We must be on duty constantly, ready for any situation “In season and out of season” to speak God’s truth.**

Don’t ever think, “I don’t know what to say.” God does not allow us such an excuse!

Matthew 10:19–20 (ESV)

¹⁹ When they deliver you over, do not be anxious how you are to speak or what you are to say, for what you are to say will be given to you in that hour. ²⁰ For it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you.

This means that in any divine appointment, the Holy Spirit will be Immediate and Direct giving us HIS WORDS to speak.

Just Words! What can Words do? God’s Word is powerful!

Isaiah 55:11 (ESV)

MY WORD that goes out from MY MOUTH;
it shall not return to ME empty,
but it shall accomplish that which I purpose,
and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

The also means the Word of God that comes out of our mouth does not come back empty and accomplishes its purpose.

Preaching the Word covers a wide range of responsibilities. This involves reproof which means to **expose**; to show one's fault or error. Also, we must rebuke. This word also means to **honor, to give out due measure**. This communicates that when we rebuke the one in error, we are giving them the honor they earned, which is a rebuke in due measure to their error. At the same time, we exhort or encourage which means to comfort and literally **"to call to one's side"**. We are trying to restore those in error in love. Therefore, do these things with great "patience" literally **"longsuffering"**. We also approach anything with careful teaching which brings understanding. **"Rebuke and exhortation must be accompanied with teaching, or preaching will be totally unprofitable!"** We saw in 2 Timothy 1:20 that we are to guard the deposit entrusted to us. **This deposit to be guarded is the sound teaching of the WORD of God.** We the church, believers are responsible to guard the Word. We can never do this without the ministry of the Holy Spirit. In 2 Timothy 1:14, we see that this Preaching of the WORD only comes by the Holy Spirit.

Preach the Word! Why is this such a big deal? Because the church will be the only place of truth!

2 Timothy 4:3–4 (ESV)

³ For the time is coming when people will not endure sound teaching but having itching ears they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own passions, ⁴ and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander off into myths.

This is the picture of today! Therefore, we should not be surprised about anything that is happening. We are being warned that the time will come when men will not endure or listen to sound teaching. Our major responsibility is to stand strong and proclaim sound teaching. People, “to suit their own evil desires” will gather around them, literally “heap together” teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear. These are ears which are always leaning towards the desire to gratify the taste of their carnal, self-willed heart. These are people who will say, “Hath God really said?” People like this “turn away” their ears from the truth and “turn aside” to myths. **The carnal heart prefers senseless myths rather than solid truth.**

The book of Judges describes these people.

Judges 21:25 (ESV)

Everyone did what was right in his own eyes.

This is why we have moral chaos and why all our institutions are breaking down.

This is why our normal life has ceased to be the wholesome, good thing God intended. This is why society has become so chaotic and cruel. So brothers and sisters, when we are dismayed at the state of society and the church, especially its departure from the Word of God and its moral confusion, take heart. **God understands and declared it in the book of Judges over 3000 years ago. God was present then and is still present. The church still exists and will continue to do so, because it is *God's* church, and he has not abandoned it and never will. Therefore, be encouraged cooperating with God.**

2 Timothy 4:5 (ESV)

As for you, always be sober-minded, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.

In this crazy world we are to be clear headed and endure hardship, because when things get tough, it is a sign that God is going to move with supernatural power. Therefore, when things get tough, we do the work of an evangelist and Preach the Word. As disciples of Christ, we called to “discharge all the duties of our ministry.” Thus, we are fulfilling what God purposed us to do. Now is the time do the work! It is a time for miracles.

Be encouraged! Preach the Breathed-out Word of God. It will not come back void, but it will accomplish its purpose!

2 Timothy 3:16 (ESV)

All Scripture is breathed out by God!