

Projection from the Sunday Morning Meeting - 12.22.2019
"Preach the Word" - Quinton Cools

Message Bible Passage:

2 Timothy 4:1-4, "I charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and by his appearing and his kingdom: preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, and exhort, with complete patience and teaching. 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, and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander off into myths."

Pastors have a holy responsibility to preach the Word because we are all prone to wander from the truth.

1. Pastors have a holy responsibility to preach the Word.

Question 1: Who gives the charge to preach?

Question 2: Who is charged to preach?

Galatians 1:11-12, "For I would have you know, brothers, that the gospel that was preached by me is not man's gospel. For I did not receive it from any man, nor was I taught it, but I received it through a revelation of Jesus Christ."

Acts 10:42-43, "He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one appointed by God to be judge of the living and the dead. To him all the prophets bear witness that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

"The baton of preaching is passed on from one generation to the next... the charge to 'preach the word' applies not only to Timothy but to all those who will follow as pastor-teachers down through the ages, until the return of Christ" (Jonathan Griffiths, *Preaching in the New Testament*).

Question 3: What are we charged to preach?

“God’s Word is an extension of God himself. To hear His words that comprise the whole Bible is to hear Him. To obey His words is to obey Him. To ignore His words is to ignore Him. God “invests” himself in his words, as Timothy Ward puts it. He so identifies Himself with His words that our response to his words is our response to him” (Jonathan Leeman, *Word Centered Church*).

2 Timothy 3:16-17, “All Scripture is breathed out [literally expired] by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.”

“Without the authority of the Word, preaching becomes an endless search for topics, therapies, and techniques that will win approval, promote acceptance, advance a cause, or soothe worry” (Bryan Chapell, *Christ-Centered Preaching*).

“The Bible as a whole--get this!--says that you’re not who you think you are. And God is not who you think He is. And then it calls us to exchange the story we’ve been telling ourselves with God’s version of our story. It redefines reality, or gives us new eyes. As Moses put it, the words of the Bible ‘are not just idle words for you--they are your life’ (Deut. 32:47 NIV).” (Jonathan Leeman, *Word Centered Church*)

2. We are all prone to wander from the truth.

“If it is the Word of God that preachers preach, then insofar as they are saying what the Bible passage is saying, it follows that God is speaking and his voice is heard” (Jonathan Griffiths, *Preaching in the New Testament*).

“Christianity begins not with what we do, but with the announcement of what God has done. Furthermore, it’s only words that can challenge our self-rule. Melodies or visual images can inspire us, encourage us, or cause us to grieve. But only words can command us to surrender control of our lives and yield them to Christ... One thing is necessary in our churches--hearing God’s Word through preaching, reading, singing, and praying.” (Jonathan Leeman, *Word Centered Church*)