

The Purpose and Power of the Word of God

2 Timothy 4:1-5

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: ² preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, and exhort, with complete patience and teaching. 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. ⁵ As for you, always be sober-minded, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.

The Last Words of Paul, The Apostle: "Fulfill your ministry."

... as I fulfilled _____ ...

⁶ For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure has come. ⁷ I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.

⁸ Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved his appearing.

The *fight*, the *finish*, the *faith* ... _____ ... you will see!

_____ is the pathway to _____.

The Preacher's Solemn Responsibility: "Preach the Word."

The weightiness of Biblical preaching ...

Preaching is by God's _____ and at God's _____. (See: 1 Cor 1:18-25)

God (the _____), and Jesus (the _____) *attend* every sermon!

The "why" of Biblical preaching ...

The _____ is _____ to _____ and to establish His _____!

What then is the primary, God-given purpose of preaching?

To prepare all people to _____ and to face _____.

(Communicated with _____ and _____)

Therefore, Biblical preaching is *not* primarily about ...

The "what" of Biblical preaching ...

The Word of God, that sometimes ...

a) _____ (telling people they are wrong),

b) _____ (telling people to stop thinking or doing what is wrong), and

c) _____ (telling them to keep it up and don't quit because you are doing what's right)

(Communicated with _____)

The Listener's Responsibility: "Endure sound teaching."

Note that the passage says "endure", not "_____".

Be careful not to seek:

1) Teaching that only _____ what I already _____ or _____.

2) Teaching that is _____ instead of _____.

3) Teaching that leaves me _____ in _____ or _____ in _____.

4) Teaching that fuels my craving for what's _____ or _____.

5) Teaching that is not _____ and _____ from Scripture.

The most important question I can ask when hearing is this: _____?

(1 Tim. 6:20; 2 Tim. 1:13-14; Rom. 6:17; Acts 20:26-27; 1 Cor 2:7,13; 2 Tim. 3:16)

The most important response I can give to the Word is _____.

Scripture is to be _____, not merely heard or known. (See: 2 Tim 3:17)