

E S S E N T I A L S C L A S S

Lesson 9, Part 2

Message of the Local Church

2 Timothy 4:1-5 ¹I SOLEMNLY 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: ²preach the word; be ready in season *and* out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort, with great patience and instruction. ³For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but *wanting* to have their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers in accordance to their own desires; ⁴and will turn away their ears from the truth, and will turn aside to myths. ⁵But you, be sober in all things, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.

1. Pastors should be most concerned what God thinks.

2 Timothy 4:1-5 ¹I SOLEMNLY 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. We are to preach the word even when it's unpopular.

²preach the word; be ready in season and out of season;

Nehemiah 8:8 They read from the book, from the law of God, translating to give the sense so that they understood the reading.

Read it, Translated it = Understanding

3. The tone must be balanced with positive and negative exhortations.

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2b. reprove, rebuke, exhort, with great patience and instruction.

Principles regarding the form of preaching.

A. An effective message has very little to do with style, charisma, or personality.

2 Corinthians 10:10 For they say, "His letters are weighty and strong, but his personal presence is unimpressive, and his speech is contemptible."

b. Preaching can become ineffective if the goal is to be entertaining.

1 Corinthians 1:17 For Christ did not send me to baptize, but to preach the gospel not in cleverness of speech, that the cross of Christ should not be made void.

1 Corinthians 2:4-5 ⁴And my message and my preaching were not in persuasive words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, ⁵that your faith should not rest on the wisdom of men, but on the power of God.

4. Never compromise in difficult times

2 Timothy 4: 3 For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but wanting to have their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers in accordance to

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their own desires; ⁴and will turn away their ears from the truth, and will turn aside to myths. ⁵But you, be sober in all things, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.

5. There are severe consequences for rejecting sound preaching.

A. There will be a progression _____ from the truth.

(1) They will not _____ sound doctrine.

³ For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine;

“sound doctrine” [didaskalia] ... Scripture

“ears tickled” A desire to be complemented rather than corrected

What happens under those kinds of demands?

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(2) They will _____ what is taught by attaching themselves to those who promote the errors they hold.

(3b) they will accumulate for themselves teachers in accordance to their own desires;

(3) They will _____ false teaching.

4 and will turn away their ears from the truth

“turn away” - _____

The subject produces the action.

They make a deliberate choice to reject good teaching.

(4) They will be _____ to fictitious teaching.

(4b) and will turn aside to myths.

“and they WILL BE TURNED to myths”

“will turn” - _____

The subject is acted upon by some source.

Once they reject wholesome teaching they will be carried away by the error itself.

6. Additional Observations:

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A. Biblical preaching is sometimes difficult to accept and it will drive some _____.

John 6:60-68 ⁶⁰Many therefore of His disciples, when they heard this said, “This is a difficult statement; who can listen to it?” ⁶¹But Jesus, conscious that His disciples grumbled at this, said to them, “Does this cause you to stumble? ⁶²”What then if you should behold the Son of Man ascending where He was before? ⁶³“It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing; the words that I have spoken to you are spirit and are life. ⁶⁴“But there are some of you who do not believe.” For Jesus knew from the beginning who they were who did not believe, and who it was that would betray Him. ⁶⁵And He was saying, “For this reason I have said to you, that no one can come to Me, unless it has been granted him from the Father.” ⁶⁶As a result of this many of His disciples withdrew, and were not walking with Him anymore. ⁶⁷Jesus said therefore to the twelve, “You do not want to go away also, do you?” ⁶⁸Simon Peter answered Him, “Lord, to whom shall we go? You have words of eternal life.

B. _____ and _____ are not necessarily barometers of success.

Jeremiah 5:30-31 ³⁰“A horrible and shocking thing has happened in the land: ³¹The prophets prophesy lies, the priests rule by their own authority, and my people love it this way. But what will you do in the end?

The church in Sardis was popular.

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Revelation 3:1 ¹”AND to the angel of the church in Sardis write: **He** who has the seven Spirits of God, and the seven stars, says this: ‘I know your deeds, that you have a name that you are alive, but you are dead.

C. True success as defined by God is not happiness,

but _____.

That can only be achieved by God’s Word.

Romans 12:1–2 Therefore I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship. 2 And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.

God’s Word is the instrument of change.

Hebrews 4:12 ¹²For the word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

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D. Pastors are to keep prayer and the ministry of the Word

a _____.

Acts 6:1-4 ¹Now at this time while the disciples were increasing in number, a complaint arose on the part of the Hellenistic Jews against the native Hebrews, because their widows were being overlooked in the daily serving of food. ²And the twelve summoned the congregation of the disciples and said, "It is not desirable for us to neglect the word of God in order to serve tables. ³"But select from among you, brethren, seven men of good reputation, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we may put in charge of this task. ⁴"But we will devote ourselves to prayer, and to the ministry of the word."

E. The preaching of the Word should be geared toward

_____ not unbelievers.

Ephesians 4:11-16 ¹¹And He gave some as apostles, and some as prophets, and some as evangelists, and some as pastors and teachers, ¹²for the equipping of the saints for the work of service, to the building up of the body of Christ; ¹³until we all attain to the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a mature man, to the measure of the stature which belongs to the fulness of Christ.

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What are the benefits to the body?

(1) Solid preaching _____ the congregation from becoming victims to the deception of false teaching.

¹⁴As a result, we are no longer to be children, tossed here and there by waves, and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, by craftiness in deceitful scheming;

Immature congregations are most vulnerable to false teachers.

(2) Solid preaching _____ the church up in love.

¹⁵but speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in all aspects into Him, who is the head, even Christ, ¹⁶from whom the whole body, being fitted and held together by that which every joint supplies, according to the proper working of each individual part, causes the growth of the body for the building up of itself in love.

ANSWERS: away, tolerate, dictate, follow, Active voice, Passive Voice, turned, away, Size, popularity, holiness, priority, Believers, protects, builds