PREACH THE WORD!

Oluwatobi S. Adewuyi

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God bless you,

Oluwatobi S. Adewuyi
Coordinator

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God bless you!

Topic:
PREACH THE WORD!
Key Text: 2 Timothy 4:1-2

Prayer
Father we say thank You, for another wonderful time in Your presence, thank You because we know that You will open our understanding today, and fill us with your word, Holy Spirit divine, I request that you shall have Your way in our midst, transform our lives, teach us, guide us, and let all the glory be yours and the blessings be ours in Jesus Christ's name I pray. Amen

Keyword: 2 Timothy 4:1-2
2Tim.4.1 - 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;
2Tim.4.2 - Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine.

Study
It should not be something new or strange to us that the Lord Jesus Christ is the one who has been ordained by God to judge both the living and the dead. If this is the case, that there is a judgment coming, then what kind of preachers are we to be? Should we be indifferent to our duties or carry them out in fear and trembling, lest we fall short and then be judged by the Lord as an offender? We must understand that as God's ministers, this instruction given to Timothy also applies to us today. We are charged before God and the Lord Jesus Christ, who knows all things and sees all things and would bring every work into judgment. If the eyes of God are upon us, then we must work as those who would give account over our stewardship on the last

day. And because this will be, we must be careful to discharge our duties as expected, fearing that God is the one to reward us. Since we cannot deceive Him, our eyes must be on Him as we go about our work and not on men, who will not stand for us on that great day. As ministers of God in our preaching, we must put it to heart that we have Someone to whom we will give account. He is the righteous judge. He does not pervert justice. He will give everyone their just reward.

- Whether we preached for our own personal gains or His.
- Whether our motives for preaching were to become popular or to save souls.
- Maybe we are only preachers of the word and not doers of the same word.
- Maybe our preaching is only motivational words rooted in men's wisdom and not God's power.
- Maybe they are fables or scriptural truths.
- Maybe we sought to glorify ourselves instead of Christ.
- Or we increased for Christ to decrease.
- Or we chose to misrepresent Christ in order to gain the world.
- Or we chose the crowd over Christ.

All these will be laid bare before the righteous judge with whom there is no unrighteousness. We may give and take bribes here on earth, but this judge will not be corrupted by any. If we then must stand before such a God, who will not pervert justice because of favoritism, then are we not supposed to watch our steps and ways as we do His work? He has given us a command, "preach the word," He says.

2 Timothy 4:2 KJV: Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all long suffering and doctrine. Preach the word! Paul tells Timothy, who is meant to be a faithful preacher. He said this with an exclamation mark,

signifying the importance of it. It is the minister's duty to preach the word undiluted. It is something we must give ourselves to and not neglect to serve tables.

Is someone following this?

Acts 6:1-4 KJV And in those days, when the number of the disciples was multiplied, there arose a murmuring of the Grecians against the Hebrews, because their widows were neglected in the daily ministration. [2] Then the twelve called the multitude of the disciples unto them, and said, It is not reason that we should leave the word of God, and serve tables. [3] Wherefore, brethren, look ye out among you seven men of honest report, full of the Holy Ghost and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business. [4] But we will give ourselves continually to prayer, and to the ministry of the word.

The apostles gave themselves continually to prayer and to the ministry of the word. This is the instruction given to all ministers of God; we must preach the word because this dispensation is committed into our hands. We are not to preach our own theology or personal beliefs, but we must preach the wholesome word, not our fancies but the pure, plain word of God. We must not corrupt it, but as of sincerity, as of God, in the sight of God, we must speak.

2 Corinthians 2:17 KJV For we are not as many, which corrupt the word of God: but as of sincerity, but as of God, in the sight of God speak we in Christ. He was charged to be ready. This means that he must always be ready to declare the words of Christ; it must not meet him unprepared or unexpectedly. This can only happen if he is always ready. A minister of God should be a walking Bible. You must be ready during the work with all fervency of spirit; he should call upon all those who hear him to

repent and believe and live a holy life. This he must do in season and out of season. This means that in times when people are ready to hear and times they are not ready to hear, because you do not know when the Spirit of God would minister to them. You must not stop at that but must also:

Convince: To convince means to bring to belief concerning a cause of action; it means to persuade.We must persuade those who hear us to believe the gospel. Wicked people are to be persuaded to depart from their evils, and they must be made to realize the dangers of their wicked courses. They must be dealt with plainly to bring them to repentance.

- **Rebuke**: To rebuke means to criticize sharply; it is to show a strong expression of disapproval. **Titus 1:13 KJV** This witness is true. Wherefore rebuke them sharply, that they may be sound in the faith. Those who err from the faith must be rebuked with gravity and authority in Christ's name. This is for them to see that your strong disapproval of evil is a clear sign of God's displeasure against all evil works. This mostly applies to the erring members of the church. Is it not something to weep about in the body of Christ to see that Christians are no more without rebuke?

Every part of the body is doing what they want and believe to be right in their own eyes and not in Christ's eyes. The youth are left to do as they like without having the fear of God at heart. Those who are meant to caution them are already carried away too by different kinds of misconduct, and there's no one qualified to rebuke those who err, as all are found guilty in one way or the other. That is the period the church is in—no more messages that rebuke sinners for them to change their ways. They are now pampered and spoon-fed junk to prevent them from leaving our churches. We must rise up and preach the truth, not minding

those who would be offended. We must rebuke with all authority and let the goats get angry and leave our midst. When believers are not rebuked, they can never be sound in faith!

- **Exhort**: To exhort means to give warning or advice, to make urgent appeals. Through this, the church must be directed, encouraged, and quickened. Those who began well must be persuaded to hold on and endure to the end. All these are to be done with all long suffering and teaching. Those who turn others to righteousness must be patient people, willing to suffer long for the sake of souls. Even when the results of one's labor are not yet seen, we must not be weary but must continue teaching them the words of truth and not the words of men, for it is the word of truth that can build a man.This will aim at making them have a firm belief in Christ, and by this, they can be reclaimed from evil and brought to do good. Therefore, a minister's work is a serious one that he must give himself to and be diligent in it. For his work has various parts: to preach the word, to reprove, rebuke, and exhort.

It is the duty of ministers to sound constant warnings to those whom the Lord has placed in their care, warning them of the dangers of sin, and that they must live up to righteousness. For if a man falls short, he is bound to be doomed alongside sinners who do not even know God at all. Why has Satan taken such warning messages away from the mouths of many preachers today? We must pay close attention to our messages to know when we begin to find it hard to warn sinners of their sins, mostly because we ourselves are entangled in such sins. **2 Timothy 4:5 KJV** But watch thou in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, make full proof of thy ministry. Paul continued by telling Timothy to be watchful; that is, he must take carefulness to teach the right things. He must take a proper watch on his doctrines. He must be careful of temptations

by which Satan can draw him away from his duties. The easiest way Satan uses to stop ministers from preaching is by making them victims of what they preach. Again, this is why Timothy must be careful.

Interestingly, we are also to be watchful in all things and not be ignorant of the devices of the devil. He must watch over the souls of men who have been committed to his charge. It is one of the responsibilities of those who minister to take a careful watch over whom the Lord has placed them over, watching over their souls so that Satan would not gain them. Of a truth, afflictions would come in different ways, but they must be endured patiently. Most times, afflictions come with discouragement, but we must bear them with an evenness of spirit. As a good soldier of Christ, one must endure hardness. **2 Timothy 2:3 KJV** Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. In our ministerial journey, it is certain that the journey will not be smooth, as every stage we reach has its own challenges, but we must overcome them. Then the instruction comes in: do the work of an evangelist; fulfill your ministry.

Looking into the life of Timothy, we can see a faithful soldier of Christ who, at the same time, pastored the church. The work of an evangelist is to preach the gospel to a dying world. Everyone under the five-fold ministry must do the work of an evangelist because evangelism is a general call. Those who are not called into the five-fold ministry must also do the same. From what Paul told Timothy, it means that preaching the gospel is not meant for those who are called into the office of evangelism alone. Paul was making it clear that for anyone to fulfill their ministry, they must do the work of an evangelist, which is to preach the gospel. Sadly today, we have many pastors, prophets, and teachers who do not preach the gospel outside the walls of the church. The work of an evangelist is outside the walls of the church; it is not within. If

anyone would then do the work, such must go out. The Lord said, "Go into all the world." **Mark 16:15 KJV** And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.

Some have handed over the work of evangelism to those whom they believe to be their juniors in ministry. So they sit at a point to say, "Those days that we used to go for evangelism", what a pity! Yet they see nothing wrong with this. Many have stationed themselves inside the church like an immovable object, neglecting evangelism, yet they keep complaining that souls are not coming to church. How will they come to church when they do not see the need for it? It is pathetic that many will even come and not be saved because they were not confronted with the gospel before they joined the church; they entered through the window.
Ministers of God, no matter their calling, must do the work of an evangelist. Your concern must be to win souls. It is unfortunate for some that they have never gone out for evangelism. When talking about preaching in the church, this is an error. You don't necessarily need a book to preach; all you need to do is to convert anywhere you find yourself to an altar, and the people there will be your congregation.

You must find a way to fulfill your ministry at all costs, as those who would give account to God on the last day. This is why you must take it upon yourself to preach at all times, for the time left is short. Some believe that they are graduates already in evangelism, even when the Lord Jesus Christ evangelized until death. May we not become a useless wonder in the kingdom of God in Jesus Christ's name.

Invitation

If you know that you are still living in sin and you are ready to repent and begin to live your life in strict obedience to God so that you can overcome every sin in your life to make heaven, please place your right hand on your chest and say this prayer with your mouth.

Say,

"Lord Jesus, I accept You as my personal Lord and Savior. I believe that You died for me and took away my sins so that I will not face the penalty of them. I surrender my life to You today, and I make a decision to obey and follow You. Come into my life now and accept me as Your child. Thank You for saving me, in Jesus Christ's name I pray, Amen."

Congratulations, now you are saved. If you prayed this short prayer, please WhatsApp +2347067511039 and let me know that you have just been saved. I want to have a word with you. God bless you!

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Contacts:
+2347067511039
+2349028350180

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Edited & Compiled by
Joanna O. Obalana
Goodness O. Wande-Oloro
Media Team

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