

Sunday, October 25, 2020—2020 West Michigan Grace Bible Conference—Preach the Word & the Spirit of Fear

Conference Overview

- Message 1: *Rightly Dividing the Last Days* (Steve Ross)
 - Explain the difference between the last days of the prophetic program & the dispensation of grace.
- Message 2: *Seducing Spirits & Doctrines of Devils* (Russell Shepard)
 - Expound upon I Timothy 4:1-3
- Message 3: *Perilous Times Shall Come* (Matt Hawley)
 - Expound upon II Timothy 3:1-13
- Message 4: *The Falling Away & The Mystery of Iniquity* (David Reid)
 - Identify what “the falling away” is in II Thessalonians 2:3.
 - Identify what “the mystery of iniquity” is in II Thessalonians 2:7. Explain how it “doth already work.”
 - Can believers hold back (“let”) “the mystery of iniquity” through political activism?

My Assignment

- Expound upon II Timothy 4:2-5.
- Explain why the preaching of the word is the only recourse that believers have during the last days of the dispensation of grace.
- Connect the issue of “enduring afflictions” in II Tim. 4:5 with Paul’s admonition in II Tim. 1:7 about fear.
- Touch upon the “power of God” in II Tim. 1:8. Explain how our courage does not/will not come from the flesh but for the “power of God” in our inner man.

II Timothy 4:2-5

- This passage contains Paul’s final “charge” to the young Pastor Timothy before he dies.
 - I Timothy 4:6-8

II Timothy 4:2

- **Preach the word**—the verb “preach” is the imperative mood. Paul’s final “charge” or command to Timothy is to “preach the word.”
- **Instant in season and out of season**—in preaching the word Timothy is to be “instant” regardless of the “season.” The English adjective “instant” carries the following meanings according to Noah Webster’s *American Dictionary of the English Language*:
 - Pressing; urgent; importunate; earnest.
 - Romans 12:12
 - Immediate; without intervening time; present.
 - Quick; making no delay.
 - Present; current.
- Preaching the word is to be Timothy’s most pressing and urgent business. Paul wants Timothy to give immediate attention to this “charge.”
- **Reprove, exhort, exhort**—preaching the word in an instant manner Timothy is to give attention to these three things.
 - Reprove—means to blame, to charge with a fault to the face; to chide; to reprehend, To convince of a fault.
 - II Timothy 3:16-17
 - Psalms 50:7-8
 - John 16:7-8
 - Ephesians 5:11-13
 - Rebuke—to chide; to reprove; to reprehend for a fault; to check by reproof; to check or restrain;
 - I Timothy 5:20
 - Titus 1:13
 - Titus 2:15
 - Exhort—to incite by words or advice; to animate or urge by arguments to a good deed or to any laudable conduct or course of action.

- I Thessalonians 2:11
 - I Thessalonians 4:1
 - I Thessalonians 5:14
 - II Thessalonians 3:14
 - I Timothy 2:1
 - I Timothy 6:2
 - Titus 2:6, 15
 - 16 times in Paul’s epistles the Greek word rendered “exhort” in II Tim. 4:2 is translated “beseech” in the King James Bible
- **With all longsuffering and doctrine**—the reproving, rebuking, and exhorting that is the comprise Timothy’s preaching is to be done with all “longsuffering and doctrine.”
 - II Timothy 2:24-25
 - II Timothy 3:10
 - I Timothy 1:3
 - Titus 1:9
 - Paul’s final “charge” to Timothy is to do the hard task of telling the people the truth. In order to do this Timothy is going to need to be willing to confront sin and false doctrine and call it what it is. Why? Because of verses 3 and 4.
 - II Timothy 3:13-14

II Timothy 4:5

- But watch thou in all things, endure afflictions—if Timothy seriously endeavors to full Paul’s “charge” he is not going to be a popular guy. In fact, evil men and seducers and their “itching ear” audiences/followers aren’t going to like Timothy very much and will seek to afflict him.
- The phrase “endure afflictions” is in the imperative mood. Paul is basically telling Timothy that is going to be afflicted as a matter of fact. According to Paul, Timothy needs to “endure” these things.
 - Acts 20:23

- II Corinthians 6:4
- I Thessalonians 3:3
- II Timothy 3:11
- Now if I told you that you need to do something for which you were most assuredly going to be afflicted what do you suppose your reaction would be? Do you think that fear would be a natural reaction?

II Timothy 1:7-8

- I Timothy 1:4—when Paul writes this epistle to Timothy, he is in a weakened emotional state.
- I Timothy 1:7—the fear that Timothy was experiencing wasn't from God. It was coming through a fleshly evaluation of his circumstances.
- God has equipped the believer to deal with afflictions through the presence of the indwelling Holy Spirit.
 - Romans 5:5—the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost.
 - I Corinthians 2:4—the Holy Spirit empowers us to do hard things.
 - Ephesians 1:18-20
 - I Corinthians 2:16
 - Through the written word of God and the indwelling Holy Spirit, God has truly equipped us to deal with fear.
- II Timothy 1:8—we can partake in the afflictions of the gospel according to the power of God.
 - Romans 1:16
 - I Corinthians 1:18, 24
 - Christ and his gospel are not only the power of God unto salvation but also the power of God to endure afflictions.
 - Romans 8:35-39