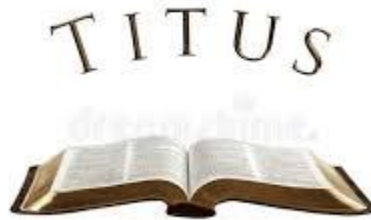




## THE POWER OF PREACHING



***“Paul, a bondservant of God and an apostle of Jesus Christ, according to the faith of God’s elect and the acknowledgment of the truth which accords with godliness, in hope of eternal life which God, who cannot lie, promised before time began, but has in due time manifested His word through preaching, which was committed to me according to the commandment of God our Savior; To Titus, a true son in our common faith: Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ our Savior.”***

**We are always becoming.**

**Becoming someone and something.**

### **The Importance of the church and Biblical preaching**

**III.** My life has been radically changed as the result of receiving the preaching of the Word of God.

Driving home from RBC after the message- Pastor Johnson

Multiple times at a Super Conference we attended annually for years in Virginia.

BF84- Washington DC- Truman Dollar

Bill Mills- Alton Bay

Charismatic preacher- Rod Parsley- hardest time in my life

***1 Paul, a bond servant of God and an apostle (a special messenger) of Jesus Christ (the Messiah) to***

*stimulate and promote the faith of God's chosen ones and to lead them on to accurate discernment and recognition of and acquaintance with the Truth which belongs to and harmonizes with and tends to godliness,*

*<sup>2</sup> [Resting] in the hope of eternal life, [life] which the ever truthful God Who cannot deceive promised before the world or the ages of time began.*

*<sup>3</sup> And [now] in His own appointed time He has made manifest (made known) His Word and revealed it as His message through the preaching entrusted to me by command of God our Savior;*

*<sup>4</sup> To Titus, my true child according to a common (general) faith: Grace (favor and spiritual blessing) and [heart] peace from God the Father and the Lord Christ Jesus our Savior.*

1 I, Paul, am writing this letter. I serve God, and I am an apostle of Jesus Christ. God sent me to help his chosen people believe in Christ more and more. God sent me to help them understand even more the truth that leads to godly living. <sup>2</sup> That belief and understanding lead to the hope of eternal life. Before time began, God promised to give that life. And he does not lie. <sup>3</sup> Now, at just the right time, he has made his promise clear. He did this through the preaching that he trusted me with. God our Savior has commanded all these things.

<sup>4</sup> Titus, I am sending you this letter. You are my true son in the faith we share.

May God the Father and Christ Jesus our Savior give you grace and peace.

## ➤ THE MESSENGER

- **Bondservant-** Humility

Acts 20:10; 1 Peter 5:5, 6; Matthew 23:12

- **Apostle-** Confidence

2 Timothy 1:9; 2 Peter 1:10-11

## ➤ THE MOTIVATION

### 1 Peter 5:1-4

**For** - This is the preposition "kata" which can mean according to but can also be used to express the goal or purpose ("for the purpose of", "to further") and finally can be translated in the sense of "with reference to, with respect to." Scholars differ on their interpretation of Paul's intended meaning but most favor the idea that Paul's apostolic mission was for the purpose of or the furtherance of Christian faith and knowledge

- **1. To impact their faith** Romans 10:17 *to stimulate and promote*

The just shall live by faith

Hebrews 11:6

The idea is to trust God more through the trials of life.

- ✓ **Watching others walk by faith stimulates and promotes faith.**
- ✓ **Giving examples of others who have walked in faith is a stimulant.**
- ✓ **Knowing God and His faithfulness promotes faith.**

- **2. To present the truth that would lead to godliness**

*lead them on to accurate discernment and recognition of and acquaintance with the Truth*

The Greek scholar A T Robertson translates the phrase as "**The (truth) with a view to godliness.**"

**Puritan Richard Baxter in The Reformed Pastor: emphasizes this intimate association of truth with godliness exhorting pastors to "Take heed to yourselves, lest your example contradict your**

**doctrine, ... lest you unsay with your lives what you say with your tongues; and be the greatest hinderers of the success of your own labors.... One proud, surly, lordly word, one needless contention, one covetous action, may cut the throat of many a sermon, and blast the fruit of all that you have been doing.... Let your lives condemn sin and persuade men to duty."**

## **DOES THE WORD OF GOD BRING CHANGE!**

### **Why are so many Christians bypassing obedience?**

- ✓ **Alcohol- drunkenness**
- ✓ **Morality- sex without marriage**
- ✓ **Marriage conduct**
- ✓ **Entertainment**
- ✓ **Movies**
- ✓ **Language**

**There has to be a disconnect somewhere! FAITH AND TRUTH LEAD TO GODLINESS! WE MUST NOT STAY THE SAME!!!! WE MUST GET OUT OF THE RUT OF WRONG BEHAVIOR.**

#### **1 Corinthians 3:1-3; Hebrews 5:11-14**

- Godliness is the power which brings a man to God, and binds him to Him.
- Godliness is that which creates repentance towards God, and faith in Him.
- Godliness is the result of a great change of heart in reference to God and his character.
- Godliness looks towards God, and mourns its distance from Him; godliness hastens to draw nigh, and rests not till it is at home with God.
- Godliness makes a man like God. Godliness leads a man to love God, and to serve God; it brings the fear of God before his eyes, and the love of God into his heart.
- Godliness leads to consecration, to sanctification, to concentration.
- The godly man seeks first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and expects other things to be added to him.

- Godliness makes a man commune with God, and gives him a partnership with God in his glorious designs; and so it prepares him to dwell with God for ever.

**The combination of faith and full knowledge of the truth is to bring godliness on the basis of [UPON or IN] the hope of life eternal.**

- **3. To give the reason for living- the Hope of eternal life**

***<sup>2</sup> [Resting] in the hope of eternal life, [life] which the ever truthful God Who cannot deceive promised before the world or the ages of time began.***

**THIS HOPE IS NOT HOPE SO  
BUT HOPE SURE!**

**Jeremiah** lamented that his "soul has been rejected from peace... (and) forgotten happiness" until he discovered the "secret" --

This I recall to my mind therefore I have **hope**.  
The LORD'S lovingkindnesses indeed never cease,  
For His compassions never fail.  
They are new every morning  
Great is Thy faithfulness.  
The LORD is my portion," says my soul,  
Therefore I have **hope** in Him.  
([Lamentations 3:21](#), [22](#), [23](#), [24](#))

**2 Corinthians 4:16-18**

**We must never forget the reason we are on this earth! We never know what will happen in the future- we must live a day at a time. Seeking to bring glory to Jesus!**

**We must not lose hope. We must not give up. We must wait and trust and follow God's plan and purpose for our lives! God still has a plan for your life!**

**III.** Pastor Steve

➤ **THE MEANS**

Preaching- *3 And [now] in His own appointed time He has made manifest (made known) His Word and revealed it as His message through the preaching entrusted to me by command of God our Savior;*

κήρυγμα kérygma, kay'-roog-mah; from κ; a proclamation (especially of the gospel; by implication, the gospel itself):—preaching.

**The preacher's responsibility is not to create messages from his own wisdom or cleverness or to manipulate or sway his listeners by means of his own persuasiveness or charisma but to interpret, explain, and apply God's Word as clearly and completely as possible.**

1 Corinthians 1:21- For after that in the wisdom of God the world by wisdom knew not God, it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching – to save them that believe.

1 Corinthians 2:4- And my speech and my preaching – was not with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power:

Matthew 11:1- And it came to pass, when Jesus had made an end of commanding his twelve disciples, he departed thence to teach and to preach – in their cities.

Mark 3:14- And he ordained twelve, that they should be with him, and that he might send them forth to preach,

Mark 16:15- And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach – the gospel to every creature.

Luke 4:18- The Spirit of the Lord *is* upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach – deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised,

Acts 8:5- Then Philip went down to the city of Samaria, and preached – Christ unto them.

Romans 10:14- How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher?

Romans 10:15- And how shall they preach, – except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!

**1 Corinthians 1:23**- But we preach - Christ crucified, unto the Jews a stumblingblock, and unto the Greeks foolishness;

**1 Corinthians 15:11**- Therefore whether *it were* I or they, so we preach, - and so ye believed.

**2 Corinthians 4:5**- For we preach - not ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord; and ourselves your servants for Jesus' sake.

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