

Tidings From Timothy

What Should I Think About? That is the topic for today's lesson. This is one of the first sermons I preached at Mt. Gilead. It is based on Philippians 4:4-9. Tonight, we will study some more on Evangelism.

In Need of Prayer: Your prayers are requested for Jennifer Shaefer (daughter to the Goodes). **Lucille Abney** is in Central Baptist Hospital in Lexington. **Robert Howard** is still trying to recover at home from a weakness that has been hard to diagnose.

Food Pantry: The contributions were a great help and we are caught up for the time being. Thanks so much!!

Nursing Home Service: Today at 2pm. Come and help brighten the day of someone in the home.

Meetings: There will be a Gospel Meeting at the Clementsville church of Christ next week, June 1-5. I will be preaching in this Meeting.

“How Can I Tell If He’s Preaching The Truth?”

Of course, there are those who think that “truth” is only relative and ethereal (celestial, heavenly, gmr) and who, consequently, deny that anything can be “the truth.” Then there are those who think that it is all just a matter of interpretation, so that one man’s idea is just as good as another’s. And, there are not a few who think, naively, that all preachers are preaching the truth.

Unfortunately, many conclude that a preacher is preaching the truth for such reasons as the following:

1. He looks like an honest man, one you can trust.
2. He sounds so sincere and earnest.
3. He sounds like he knows what he is talking about.
4. He speaks so forcefully and convincingly.
5. He is such a personable and such a likable man.
6. He is so good and kind.
7. He insists that he is preaching only the truth and uses a lot of Scripture.
8. He declares with so much conviction that he has received his message from God by the Holy Spirit.

Some will find it hard to believe, but a man may possess every one of these “qualifications” and still not be preaching the truth. In fact, in view of (1) the all-sufficiency of the Scriptures that God has given us (II Timothy 3:14-17), (2) the finality of “the faith” that was “once for all delivered to the saints (Jude 3), and (3) the cessation of the miraculous process of divine revelation upon the completion of that revelation (1 Corinthians 12:27-13:13), it is certain that any preacher today who claims to receive his message, not through his own study of the Scriptures, but through direct revelation or through some miraculous guidance from the Holy Spirit IS NOT, for that reason, preaching the truth.

How, then, can you tell when a preacher is preaching the truth? Here are some guidelines from God’s own book:

1. When he speaks as the oracles of God (I Peter 4:11).
2. When he does not go beyond what is written (I Corinthians 4:6).
3. When he speaks the things that befit sound doctrine (Titus 2:1).
4. When his preaching stands the test of examination in the light of Scripture (Acts 17:11).
5. When he does not preach another gospel (other than that preached by the inspired writers of the New Testament) (Galatians 1:6-9).
6. When he does not teach a different doctrine from that taught by the apostles (I Timothy 1:3-4; 6:3ff).
7. When he does not go beyond, but abides within the doctrine of Christ (II John 9)
8. When he goes “to the law and the testimony” (Isaiah 8:20), or to the Scriptures to establish all that he teaches.

You can be sure, then, that he is preaching the truth. Remember, *if a preacher does not give you Bible* (used clearly and properly, not twisted or out of context) for what he preaches, *he does not give you the word of God*. Many sermons of today are void of Scripture, and the preacher is aware of it, while the listeners don’t care. What a tragedy!

As a hearer you are called upon to take heed *what* you hear (Mark 4:24), and *how* you hear (Luke 8:18), to prove all things and to hold fast only that which is good (I Thessalonians 5:21), and to prove those who profess to be teaching from God (I John 4:1), and to examine the Scriptures to see whether or not the things we preach are so (Acts 17:11). Be sure the preaching you accept as the word of God is in fact the word of God! --Bill Crews, edited for this bulletin

What Must I do to be saved?

- **Hear the Gospel - Acts 15:7**
- **Believe the Gospel - Mark 16:15,16**
- **Repent of Sins - Acts 17:30**
- **Confess Christ - Rom. 10:9,10**
- **Be Baptized for the Forgiveness of Sins - Acts 2:38**

Then, as a Christian we must:

- **LIVE FAITHFUL UNTO DEATH - REV. 2:10**

Study the Bible?

God speaks to us today through the Holy Word of God - The Bible (Hebrews 1:1-2). The Scriptures instruct us in the way God requires His people to live (2 Timothy 3:16,17). The Bible is powerful and able to save us (Romans 1:16; James 1:21-25), if we will hear, learn and obey it.

⇒ **Yes!** I want to learn more about the Holy Bible. Please enroll me in the eight lesson FREE Bible Correspondence Course (we even pay for the postage).

Call 487-5342, or mail this form to us:

Name: _____

Address: _____

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Mail to: PO Box 266, Tompkinsville, KY 42167

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Mt. Gilead church of Christ

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Romans 3:23 - 26 ²³for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, ²⁴being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵whom God set forth *as* a propitiation by His blood, through faith, to demonstrate His righteousness, because in His forbearance God had passed over the sins that were previously committed, ²⁶to demonstrate at the present time His righteousness, that He might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

Elders:

Keith Dyer.....427-4105

Veachel Harlan.....487-5727

Deacons:

Steve Carter, Larry Copas, Ray C. Lyon, Cass Thomas Froedge, Bobby D. Gerald, Bobby Harlan, Jimmy High, Gary Rowland, Kevin Deckard

Evangelist:

Tim McHenry, 931-258-3494
12955 Clay Co. HWY Moss, TN 38575

Schedule of Services:

Sunday:

Bible Study...	9:30am
Morning Worship...	10:05am
Evening Worship...	6pm

Wednesday:

Bible Study...	7pm
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Listen to our Sunday Morning Radio Sermon on WTKY 1370 AM & 92.1, 102.7, 101.5 FM at 8:30am each week, and to our weekday 10min program after the Noonday news and reports.