

# MOTIVATIONS TO PREACH AND HEAR THE WORD OF GOD

## Introduction

- 1) **Motivation** is a critical factor in accomplishing a task or goal. It describes why we do something and is the driving force behind our activities.
- 2) Good motivation involves 1) *activation* (getting started), 2) *persistence* (staying with it), and 3) *intensity* (sufficient passion)
- 3) Passages that speak of motivation (Deut. 31:6-7; Col. 3:23-24; 2 Cor. 4:16-18; Rev. 2:10)
- 4) Paul told Timothy about what motivates one to **preach the word of God** (2 Tim. 3:1-4:8)
  - a) These things also should motivate us to **hear the word of God**

## I) **PERILOUS TIMES (2 Tim. 3:1-9)**

- A) *Perilous times* = prideful, greedy, blasphemers, disobedient, hypocrites, selfish, worldly, oppressive, ignorant, despise truth, etc.
- B) This is a time when the word of God is desperately needed – preach truth and expose error
  - 1) People need to be motivated to be saved from sin – lost and need God’s forgiveness

## II) **THOSE DEVOTED TO CHRIST (2 Tim. 3:10-13)**

- A) The faithful in Christ need to hear the truth to be edified and strengthened
- B) Those who desire to live godly will endure persecution – trials and temptations
- C) Must continually maintain our trust in God and His ways (1 Tim. 4:10-11)

## III) **SCRIPTURES INSPIRED BY GOD (2 Tim. 3:14-17)**

- A) The Old and New Testaments are “given by the inspiration of God”
  - 1) Great motivation to get the divine messages out – “Thus saith the Lord!” (Jer. 6:16)
- B) The only message that will make us wise to salvation and equip to every good work

## IV) **COMMAND TO PREACH (2 Tim. 4:1-2)**

- A) We do not choose whether to preach or not – the word of God must be preached
  - 1) Paul knew of the necessity to preach (1 Cor. 9:16)
- B) Must be preached whether it is desired or not – ready in season and out of season

## V) **SOME NOT ENDURE SOUND DOCTRINE (2 Tim. 4:3-4)**

- A) Some will not put up with sound doctrine – turn to teachers of error/fables
- B) Solution is not to change truth or stop preaching, but to continue to preach it

## VI) **OLDER PASSING ON (2 Tim. 4:5-8)**

- A) The work of preaching must continue even though some will pass on
  - 1) Though Paul knew he was about to die, Timothy was to “fulfill his ministry”
- B) The work of preaching/teaching must be passed on to coming generations (2:2)

## Conclusion

These **motivations** to be preaching the gospel also serve as the same **motivations** to be hearing the gospel preached. Whether we have opportunity to speak or listen to the word of God, we are motivated to do so for many important spiritual reasons. To fail to do so will result in many lost opportunities and lost souls. Let us hear, learn, and obey the truth of God!