

The Difficulty of Preaching part 3

The propensity for listeners to turn away from the truth **2 Timothy 4:3-4** Chris Mueller 1-27-2019

Introduction:

2 Timothy 4:1 I solemnly charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and by His appearing and His kingdom: **2** preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort, with great patience and instruction. **3** For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but wanting to have their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers in accordance to their own desires, **4** and will turn away their ears from the truth and will turn aside to myths. **5** But you, be sober in all things, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.

3 For the time **WILL come** when they **WILL** not **endure sound** doctrine; but wanting to have their **EARS tickled**, they **WILL accumulate** for themselves teachers in accordance to their own desires, **4** and **WILL turn away** their **EARS** from the truth and **WILL turn aside** to myths.

1 Timothy 1:9-10 lawless and rebellious...ungodly and sinners...unholy and profane...murderers and immoral men and homosexuals and kidnappers and liars and perjurers [living lives that are] contrary to sound teaching.

1 Timothy 6:3-5 If anyone advocates a different doctrine, and does not agree with sound words, those of our Lord Jesus Christ, and with the doctrine conforming to godliness, he is conceited and understands nothing; but he has a morbid interest in controversial questions and disputes about words, out of which arise envy, strife, abusive language, evil suspicions, and constant friction between men of depraved mind and deprived of the truth, who suppose that godliness is a means of gain.

2 Timothy 1:13-14 Retain the standard of sound words which you have heard from me...Guard, through the Holy Spirit who dwells in us, the treasure which has been entrusted to you.

STEP 1 – **E** _____ yourself from the TRUTH **3a** (middle voice)

3 For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine

CALVIN This means that they will not only dislike and despise, but will even hate, sound doctrine.

STEP 2 – **E** _____ your own decisions and desires **3b-4a** (active voice)

3b but wanting to have their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers in accordance to their own desires, **4** and will turn away their ears from the truth

1st Seek to be _____

3b but wanting to have their ears tickled

2nd Collect a new crew of _____

3c they will accumulate for themselves teachers in accordance to their own desires

John Calvin Shall heap up to themselves teachers. It is proper to observe the expression, heap up, by which he means that the madness of men will be so great, that they will not be satisfied with a few deceivers, but will desire to have a vast multitude.

Marvin R. Vincent If people desire a calf to worship, a ministerial calf-maker is readily found.

Ezekiel 33:31 They...sit before you as My people and hear your words, but they do not do them, for they do the lustful desires expressed by their mouth, and their heart goes after their gain. **32** Behold, you are to them like a sensual song by one who has a beautiful voice and plays well on an instrument; for they hear your words but they do not practice them.

Acts 17:21 used to spend their time in nothing other than telling or hearing something new

3rd Turn your hearing off from _____

4a and will turn away their ears from the truth

STEP 3 – E _____ the myths of errant teachers **4b** (passive voice)

4b and will turn aside to myths

1 Timothy 1:4 nor to pay attention to myths

4:7 have nothing to do with worldly fables fit only for old women.

TAKE HOME...

1st Remember the corollaries for acceptance of _____ doctrine

2nd Help those making poor _____ with sound doctrine

3rd Pay the _____ to keep listening to sound doctrine

4th Listening to truth requires first knowing the _____

John 14:6 Jesus said, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me."

Revelation 19:11 I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse, and He who sat on it is called Faithful and True.

John 16:13 when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, He will guide you into all the truth.

John 8:32 and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.

QUESTIONS FOR GROWTH IN CHRIST

1. Why is preaching difficult for the preacher? Why is preaching difficult for the listener?
2. Why would a church-goer choose to not endure sound doctrine?
3. How have you seen others seek to be entertained, seek out new teachers, and turn away from truth?
4. How have you seen your own heart seek to be entertained, seek out new teachers, and turn away from truth at some point?
5. When you embrace unsound doctrine, what kind of consequences come upon you?
6. What steps will you take to continue to desire, listen to, and apply sound doctrine?
7. What do these verses teach you about your heart before the Lord?

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