

# Apply The Word

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## Message Info

### Title:

Do Not Be Ashamed

### Speaker:

Doug Plank

### Date:

October 15, 2023

### Scriptures:

2 Timothy 1:8-14

**Theme:** Do not be ashamed but guard the gospel to the utmost (our lives depend on it).

**Introduction:** What is the greatest need in the church today? Many answers to that question have been proposed, but the greatest need is for Christians to live out the gospel in faithful obedience. We need to resist the shame that the world tries to place upon us so that we guard and live in the light of the gospel.

In order to guard the gospel, we must take hold of three things:

### 1. Take your share without shame (8)

Paul wrote this epistle to prepare Timothy the challenges of the future, a future Paul would not see.

He specifically addresses the temptation to be ashamed of Christ. This can come in 2 forms: a) shame of the Lord and his doctrine, or b) the costs and discomforts that the gospel brings.

As to a) the world condemns both Christ and his teachings, and try to shame his disciples who remain faithful; as to b) we must be prepared to pay the cost for putting faithfulness to Christ above the world's approval.

### 2. Take power from the gospel (9-10)

Paul demonstrates how the gospel testifies entirely to God's gracious initiative toward his people. He did everything to save us—we contributed nothing. On the cross, Jesus abolished death and canceled its power. The gates of eternity have been flung open and we are welcomed into eternal life.

### 3. Take heart from God's guardianship (11-14)

Paul shares his personal testimony—he is suffering for the gospel in a Roman prison, and he is convinced of God's power to save even there.

By trusting the Lord, even in the midst of great suffering, we obey the Lord and we live for his glory.

By the grace of God we are to strive with all our might to be unashamed and to obey our Lord as we guard the gospel.

### Questions:

1. Are you growing in your knowledge of God's word? Are you being equipped and sharpened?
2. Are you prepared for suffering? Are you bitter against the Lord or others?
3. Are you attempting to minimize the world's disapproval, or are you willing to bear their shame for the sake of Christ?