

# Apply The Word

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## Message Info

### Title:

Preaching God's Word  
to God's People

### Speaker:

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### Scriptures:

2 Timothy 4:1-8

**Theme:** Christians need the preaching of God's word to remain faithful in the truth.

**Introduction:** This passage is Paul's most passionate appeal in this letter, as he entrusts the gospel to Timothy. The end of this life is at hand. In our day, there are many distortions and competitors to that same gospel. So, in Paul's instructions here, we are shown what we should expect from our pastors with relation to gospel preaching, as well as how we should pray for them in the face of these challenges.

Paul shows us 3 aspects of the importance of preaching:

#### 1. The great call (1-2)

Paul charges Timothy in the presence of God: "Preach the gospel!"

The truth to be preached is not new or clever—it is timeless and proven.

The word is to be preached at all times, regardless of results. It is not a pragmatic solution.

Paul's final words to Timothy and the church were gospel words.

#### 2. The great danger (3-5)

Paul gives a sober warning: people will resist the truth and serve their own appetites and idols, using Scripture to justify themselves.

Preaching is God's ordained means of warning against such selfishness.

Satan hates people and wants to destroy us, and will gladly distort Scripture to accomplish his aim.

Faithfulness comes with endurance—we must persist in the fight for truth and against error. This applies to pastors and to us all.

#### 3. The great promise (7-8)

As death approaches, Paul reflects on the future: he lives for Christ and longs for his return.

Paul spends himself for the sake of the church. He's not anxious or fearful, but upbeat: he has confidence in a better future.

All who "love his appearing" will receive the crown and experience joy in God's presence forever.

### Questions:

1. What is the importance of the preached word? How do you prepare for Sundays?
2. Toward what voices are you drawn? Why do you value them?
3. Are you longing for Jesus' return? What role does it have in your hope?