

# THE EASTSIDE EXAMINER

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## SCHEDULE OF ASSEMBLIES

Sunday morning worship (Bible Study) ..... 9:30 AM  
Sunday morning worship (Preaching) ..... 10:30 AM  
Sunday evening worship (Preaching) ..... 4:00 PM  
Wednesday evening worship (Bible Study) .. 7:00 PM

## PREACHING THE WORD

By Jerry L. Henderson

The Bible in 2Timothy 4:1-4 says: *I charge thee therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom; 2 Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine. 3 For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; 4 And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables.*(KJV).

In these verses there is recorded a solemn charge that Paul gave to Timothy to "**Preach the Word....**". Paul told Timothy to be ready at all times to fulfil this charge. This would involve reproof, rebuking and exhortations. This means he would be chastising as well as encouraging individuals as he "**preached the word**".

Now, think with me about some of the aspects of preaching the Word and hopefully we can draw some lessons from this that will help you to better understand what it means to "**preach the Word**" as Paul told Timothy to do and thereby understand what we do on a regular basis in our assemblies on each first day of the week (Sunday) as well as at various other scheduled times when we meet together. We also provide preaching on our website: **eastsidechurchredbay.com** as well as on radio at 10 AM Sunday at 95.5 FM.

First think with me about the **PURPOSE OF PREACHING**. The Bible in Rom 10:13-17 says: *For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. 14 How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher? 15 And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things! 16 But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Esaias saith, Lord, who hath believed our report? 17 So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.*(KJV). Preaching the Word (gospel), according to this passage, gives a basis for our faith. Preaching is designed to convict sinners of their sins and produce repentance as the Bible Acts 2:37,38 says: *Now when they heard this, they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do? 38 Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the*

*remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.(KJV).* You will notice that this Scripture says the people **"HEARD"** what Peter and the other apostles had been preaching. God chose preaching the Word as His means of saving the lost 1Corinthians 1:21. Preaching the Word also accomplishes the purpose of reproving the erring and strengthening (exhorting) the weak as was noted from 2Timothy 4:2.

This shows us the **SERIOUSNESS OF PREACHING**. Paul said **"necessity is laid upon us"** 1Corinthians 9:16, in other words preaching is something that must be done. The Gospel (the Word) is God's power to save. The Bible in Romans 1:16 records Paul saying: *For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.(KJV).* Therefore, the world is lost without the Gospel. And in Mark 16:15,16 the Bible says: *And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. 16 He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.(KJV).* These verses makes it clear that the Gospel is for every person. Then from Galatians 1:6-9 we learn that there are many perversions, yet there is one and only, one Gospel. Those who would pervert the Gospel must be stopped according to Titus 1:9-11.

The fact that those who would pervert the Gospel must be stopped demonstrates to us the **RESPONSIBILITY OF THE PREACHER AND THE HEARER**. The preacher has the responsibility of preaching the Word 2Timothy 4:2. He must make sure that he does not go beyond the doctrine of Christ because to go beyond is spiritually fatal. Because the Bible in 2John 1:9 says: *Whosoever transgresseth, and abideth not in the doctrine of Christ, hath not God. He that abideth in the doctrine of Christ, he hath both the Father and the Son.(KJV).* In fact in Galatians 1:6-9 which we mentioned above, there is a curse pronounced on one who would pervert the Gospel. The faith (the Gospel or the Word) must be contended for earnestly or with great fervor and intensity according to Jude 1:3. Certainly in fulfilling this responsibility the preacher must have the right attitude. Paul said he did this with tears Acts 20:31; with heaviness and sorrow Rom 9:2,3 and with longsuffering 2Timothy 4:1.

Along with the preacher having a very serious responsibility in preaching the Gospel, the hearer also has a very serious responsibility. The hearer has the responsibility of searching the scriptures daily to see if what is being taught is, in fact, the truth of the Gospel Acts 17:11. John, in 1John 4:1 said we must "try the spirits" and in that context he shows the "spirits" he is talking about are "prophets" (teachers) and he says many of them are false and must be refused by the hearer. Paul, in Romans 16:17 says that false teachers must be marked and avoided. These passages show that the hearer has a very serious responsibility to make sure what he hears is the truth and the hearer must be willing according to 2Timothy 4:3,4 to "endure sound doctrine". The word "endure" means to "hold oneself up against" and the word "sound" means "to be uncorrupt." So, hearers must hold themselves up against "doctrine" (teaching) that is uncorrupted. In order to do that the hearer must examine what is being taught by what is revealed in the Scriptures.

There are numerous examples, in the Scriptures, of **PREACHING AND ITS EFFECT**. On Pentecost in Acts 2:22-41 the Word was preached, people heard it, they believed what was preached and as a result of their belief they did that which the Word told them to do and that was: "Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. (v.38). When they did this, they were then added to the church Acts 2:47. In Samaria the same thing was taught with the same result Acts 8:12,13.

In Acts 8:26-39 when Philip preached to the Eunuch, he preached unto him Jesus (the Word John 1:1-14), the Eunuch then confessed his faith (he believed) and was baptized. In every example of preaching the Word, there was one of two responses. Some rejected the Word and refused to believe it while some received and obeyed the Word. What has been your response to the Word of God?