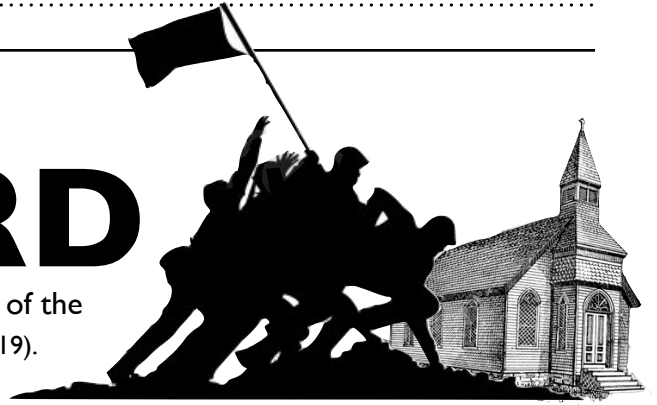


“How Thou Oughtest To Behave Thyself”

(First Timothy 3:14,15)

Lifting Up The STANDARD

“When the enemy shall come in like a flood, the Spirit of the LORD shall lift up a standard against him” (Isaiah 59:19).



Challenging And Encouraging God's Remnant To Remain Faithful

Issue 23 - June 16, 2014

“These things write I unto thee, hoping to come unto thee shortly: But if I tarry long, that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth.” (First Timothy 3:14,15)

Still Preaching The Word

The picture below was taken during a live radio program at C.H.O.O Radio in Ajax Ontario, about forty years ago. Pictured at the left is Pastor Bob Kirkland and at the right is Pastor David Atkinson.

This Can't Wait!

Paul wrote to Timothy telling him that he hoped he would be able to come to him shortly. He continued, “But if I tarry long, that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth.” (First Timothy 3:14,15) Paul had an urgent message that he needed to get through this young pastor.



“These Things”

What was so important? The answer is found in the phrase “these things” which occurred eight times in First Timothy.

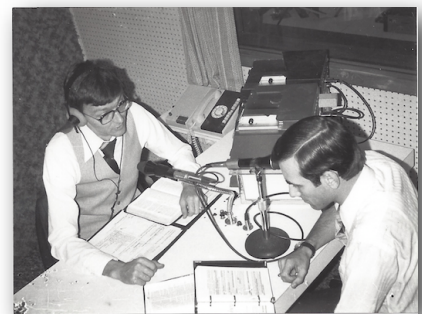
First Timothy 3:14,

“**These things** write I unto thee, hoping to come unto thee shortly.”

First Timothy 4:6,

“If thou put the brethren in remembrance of **these things**, thou shalt be a good minister of Jesus Christ, nourished up in the words of faith and of good doctrine, whereunto thou hast attained.”

“This Can't Wait”...continued on page two



You can hear our daily broadcast on our website and you can hear messages by Brother Atkinson at...

The Grace And Glory Hour

[\(Click Here For This Broadcast\)](#)



“This Can’t Wait” ...continued from page one

First Timothy 4:11,

“**These things** command and teach.”

First Timothy 4:15,

“Meditate upon **these things**; give thyself wholly to them; that thy profiting may appear to all.”

First Timothy 5:7,

And **these things**, give in charge, that they may be blameless.”

First Timothy 5:21,

“I charge thee before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, and the elect angels, that thou observe **these things** without preferring one before another, doing nothing by partiality.”

First Timothy 6:2,

“And they that have believing masters, let them not despise them, because they are brethren; but rather do them service, because they are faithful and beloved, partakers of the benefit. **These things** teach and exhort.”

First Timothy 6:11,

“But thou, O man of God, flee **these things**; and follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, meekness.”

“Know How”

Paul was concerned that the pastor would, “**know how**” he needed to behave himself in the local church in an age of apostasy. If we are going to know how to do something we will need to be instructed concerning the undertaking of the project.

How To Be A Good Pastor

First Timothy 4:6,

“If thou put the brethren in remembrance of **these things**, thou shalt be a good minister of Jesus Christ, nourished up in the words of faith and of good doctrine, whereunto thou hast attained.”

The Bible does not say we would be good pastors if we managed to get a crowd of people sitting in the building to listen to us preach. God’s concern is the spiritual condition and spiritual health of His people. The Bible says we would be good ministers if our people would be “nourished up in the words of faith and of good doctrine.”

Faithful Men Who Can Teach

The pastor is responsible to teach “faithful men, who shall **be able** to teach others also” (Second Timothy 2:2). We are commanded to bring Christians to a spiritual maturity so that they “may **be able** by sound doctrine both to exhort and to convince the gainsayers” (Titus 1:9). A gainsayer is one who denies and even contradicts the facts. We read in Second Peter 1:15 that Peter was concerned that his church members “**be able** to have these things in remembrance.”

“This Can’t Wait” ...continued on page three

“My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge”

(Hosea 4:6).

Paul publicly exposed...

Peter

Galatians 2:13

Demas

Second Timothy 4:10

Hymenaeus

First Timothy 1:18-20

Alexander

First Timothy 1:18-20

Philetus

Second Timothy 2:15-18

Hymenaeus again

Second Timothy 2:15-18

Alexander again

Second Timothy 4:14-15

John publicly exposed...

Diotrephes

Third John 9

Balaam

Revelation 2:14

Moses publicly exposed...

Balaam

Numbers 22-25

Peter publicly exposed...

Balaam

Second Peter 2:15

Jude publicly exposed...

Balaam

Jude 11

Nathan publicly exposed...

David

Second Samuel 12:7

Jesus publicly exposed...

Peter

Matthew 16:23

“This Can’t Wait”...continued from page two

Dealing With The Issues

First Timothy 5:21,

“I charge thee before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, and the elect angels, that thou observe these things without preferring one before another, doing nothing by partiality.”

Exposing The Compromisers

Verses 19-20,

“Holding faith, and a good conscience; which some having put away concerning faith have made shipwreck: Of whom is Hymenaeus and Alexander; whom I have delivered unto Satan, that they may learn not to blaspheme.”

Hymenaeus and Alexander had been members of the local church at Ephesus when God was blessing it in a marvelous way. They were not doing what they did in ignorance. They made a conscious decision to fight against the leadership God had sent, and God never takes that wicked sin lightly. Therefore, concerning Hymenaeus and Alexander, Paul said, *“I have delivered unto Satan, that they may learn not to blaspheme.”*

The pastor is commanded to expose the characteristics of apostasy and the apostates who promote it. He is to guard against God’s people being influenced by the promoters of error and publicly expose those who are influencing people against the doctrine they had learned.

Romans 16:17,

“Now I beseech you, brethren, mark them which cause divisions and offences contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned; and avoid them.”

Silence Gives Consent

I remember hearing Jerry Falwell say he was not going to major on doctrine anymore because it was too divisive. You don’t have to be too bright to see where that decision took them. Liberty University recently had a Mormon speak at their graduation service. Students who did not attend were fined.

Falling Into The Swamp of Apostasy

The Book of Jude deals with living in the age of apostasy. In Jude 1:24 Jude said, *“Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy.”* He was not talking about losing our salvation. He was talking about being saved from the swamp of apostasy that is flooding into our churches today.

“This Can’t Wait”...continued on page four

Learning To Discern



A Five Part Series From The FairHavens Baptist Pulpit

“LEARNING TO DISCERN”

Learning is...

simply the accumulation of information.

Discerning is...

knowing if the information is Scriptural.

[\(Click Here For This Series\)](#)



A.W. Tozer

“The Old Cross And The New”

[Click Here For This Article](#)



“This Can’t Wait”...continued from page three

In First Timothy 4:16 when Paul told the pastor to take heed to himself and continue in the doctrine that he would “both save thyself, and them that hear thee,” he was also talking about being saved from the apostasy that prevailed.

Seven Charges

To “charge” someone is to entrust them with a serious responsibility. As pastors we are charged to fulfill our God-given responsibilities, and to be bold concerning charging other Christians concerning their responsibilities.

- **First Timothy 1:3,**
 - “Charge some that they teach no other doctrine.”
- **First Timothy 1:18,**
 - “This charge I commit unto thee, son Timothy...war a good warfare.”
- **First Timothy 5:7,**
 - “Charge, that they may be blameless.”
- **First Timothy 5:21,**
 - “I charge thee...that thou observe these things without preferring one before another, doing nothing by partiality.”
- **First Timothy 6:13,**
 - “I give thee charge in the sight of God...That thou keep this commandment without spot.”
- **First Timothy 6:17,**
 - “Charge them...that they be not highminded.”
- **First Timothy 4:1,2,**
 - “I charge thee therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ...Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine.”

Beginning And Ending Remembering “These Things”

It is noteworthy that Paul begins his instructions to the pastor saying, “Put the brethren in remembrance of these things” (First Timothy 4:6), and he ends his instructions saying, “Of these things put them in remembrance” (Second Timothy 2:14).

In 1950 A.W. Tozer was elected editor of the Alliance Weekly now called Alliance Life. The circulation doubled almost immediately. In the first editorial dated June 3, 1950, he wrote,

“It will cost something to walk slow in the parade of the ages while excited men of time rush about confusing motion with progress. But it will pay in the long run and the true Christian is not much interested in anything short of that.”

John Wesley’s Letter To A Fellow-Preacher

John Wesley writing to John Trembath (August 17, 1760), a young minister who was a poor preacher, arguing that better reading is not a sufficient condition for better preaching, but it is a necessary one.

Wesley Wrote,

“What has exceedingly hurt you in time past, nay, and I fear, to this day, is lack of reading.

I scarce ever knew a preacher who read so little. And perhaps, by neglecting it, you have lost the taste for it.

Hence your talent in preaching does not increase. It is just the same as it was seven years ago. It is lively, but not deep; there is little variety; there is no compass of thought.

Reading only can supply this, with meditation and daily prayer. You wrong yourself greatly by omitting this.

You can never be a deep preacher without it, any more than a thorough Christian. Oh begin! Fix some part of every day for private exercise. You may acquire the taste which you have not; what is tedious at first will afterward be pleasant. Whether you like it or not, read and pray daily.

It is for your life; there is no other way; else you will be a trifler all your days, and a pretty, superficial preacher.

Do justice to your own soul; give it time and means to grow. Do not starve yourself any longer.

Take up your cross and be a Christian altogether. Then will all the children of God rejoice (not grieve) over you, and in particular yours.”

In the 1700s, when land travel was by walking, horseback or carriage, Wesley logged more than 4,000 miles a year. During his lifetime he preached about 40,000 sermons.