

# THE POTENTIAL "FAMINE" THAT DERAILS A CHURCH

## II Thessalonians 3:1-5

### I. INTRODUCTION:

- A. The reality of a "famine" in our land: **(See Amos 8:11)**
  - 1. Troubling pastors: (*Jer. 23:1-2; Ezek. 34:1-10; Zech. 11:17 vs. II Tim. 4:2, 5*)
  - 2. Troubling congregations: (*II Tim. 4:3-4 vs. Neh. 8:2-3, 5, 9b*)
  - 3. Troubling resources and misplaced priorities: (*II Tim. 3:1-5, 13 vs. 14-25*)
  
- B. The problems associated with pastors:
  - 1. Premature departures: (*I Tim. 4:11-16*)
  - 2. Insufficient time with God: (*Acts 6:4; II Tim. 2:15*)
  - 3. Unresolved authority issues: (*Tit. 3:9-11; Acts 15:19; I Tim. 4:1-11*)
  - 4. Limited personal vision: (*Pro. 29:18*)
  - 5. Confidence deficiency: (*II Tim. 4:2-5*)
  
- C. The problems associated with congregations:
  - 1. Premature departures:
  - 2. Insufficient time with God and His Word: (*Ps. 42:1; 119*)
  - 3. Unresolved authority issues: (*I Thes. 5:12-13; Heb. 13:17*)
  - 4. Limited personal (temporal) vision:
  - 5. Confidence deficiency: (*Jn. 20:21*)

### II. PASTORS AND CONGREGATIONS GETTING IT RIGHT:

- A. Instructions for the pastor: **vv. 1-3a**
  - 1.
  - 2.
  - 3.
  - 4.
  
- B. Instructions for the congregation: **vv. 3b-5**
  - 1.
  - 2.
  - 3.
  - 4.

### III. PRINCIPLES TO PERSONALLY APPLY:

(Together becoming "people of the Word" in principle AND in practice)

- A.
  
- B.
  
- C.