

The Extinction of Truth

Pastor Anthony J. Shetley
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2 Timothy 4:1–8 (NASB)

¹ I solemnly charge *you* in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and by His appearing and His kingdom: ² preach the word; be ready in season *and* out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort, with great patience and instruction. ³ For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but *wanting* to have their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers in accordance to their own desires, ⁴ and will turn away their ears from the truth and will turn aside to myths. ⁵ But you, be sober in all things, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry. ⁶ For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure has come. ⁷ I have fought the good fight, I have finished the course, I have kept the faith; ⁸ in the future there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day; and not only to me, but also to all who have loved His appearing.

I solemnly charge *you*.

- A charge / A commission in keeping with His calling.

Romans 1:14 I am under obligation both to Greeks and to barbarians, both to the wise and to the foolish.

In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead.

- The charge / call is of God; the authority of the preacher is from Christ.
- A reminder as to Who he must give an account to.

The Charge itself:

Preach the word.

- The word which is to be preached is God's word.
- God's word is the power of salvation to those who are being saved.
- The Word here is the pure word of God – sound doctrine.

Reprove, rebuke, exhort.

- Reprove – to convict of wrong; expose the wrong; it will bring shame; injurious chastisement for the purpose of render correction.

Hebrews 12:12–13 Therefore, strengthen the hands that are weak and the knees that are feeble, 13 and make straight paths for your feet, so that the limb which is lame may not be put out of joint, but rather be healed.

- Rebuke – to bring a charge against
- Exhort – to aid along; to encourage; to admonish.

Be ready in season *and* out of season.

- A sense of urgency as to always be ready.
- Regardless of convenience.
- Regardless of acceptance.

With great patience and instruction.

- Continue until fruit is produced.

The Purpose of the Charge.

For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine;

- They will not “put up with” sound (as in healthy; hygienically pure teaching)
- “Not endure” **they will not want to bear the burdens of sound doctrine.**
- When it comes to sound doctrine, one will be changed by it or eventually be done with it.
- Sound doctrine doesn’t allow for complacency.

But *wanting* to have their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers in accordance to their own desires.

- They will search out as teachers those who agree with them and say what they want to hear them say.
- **They do not first listen and then decide whether what they have heard is true; they first decide what they want to hear and then select their teachers.**
- The church has progressed away from burdensome teaching of a holy and righteous life; a life of self-denial and complete surrender to the Lord.
- Accumulate – tour churches; books; podcast; television; ect. A wealth of teachings.

They will turn away their ears from the truth and will turn aside to myths.

- Myths – spiritual fiction.
- Things fabricated by man.

But you, be sober in all things, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.

- **Be sober** – stay alert; don’t stagger around under the cultural influences.
- Don’t drink the wine of deception.
- The mixed drink of the world and religion.

2 Timothy 3:10 (NLT) ¹⁰ But you, Timothy, certainly know what I teach, and how I live, and what my purpose in life is. You know my faith, my patience, my love, and my endurance.

2 Timothy 3:14 (NLT)

¹⁴ But you must remain faithful to the things you have been taught. You know they are true, for you know you can trust those who taught you.

- **Endure hardships** – not an easy task; be able to remain standing.
- **Do the work of an evangelist** – the church has become the mission field.
- Fulfill your ministry – carry out the charge; the calling; all the way to the end!

The Reward for keeping the charge.

there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day; and not only to me, but also to all who have loved His appearing.