

## I. The Charge To Our Generation (1-2)

- A. It is a serious charge (1) - “I 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.”
- B. It is a specific assignment (2a) - “Preach the word; be ready in season, out of season...”
- C. It is a standing expectation (2b) - “...reprove, rebuke, and exhort, with complete patience and teaching {doctrine}.”

## II. The Changes In Our Generation (3-4)

- A. There will be a definite shift (3a) - “For the time is coming when they will not endure sound teaching...”
- B. There will be a dreadful substitute (3c) - “...but having itching ears they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own passions.”

“They refused to pay attention and turned a stubborn shoulder and stopped their ears that they might not hear. They made their hearts diamond-hard lest they should hear the law and the words that the LORD of hosts had sent by His Spirit through the former prophets. Therefore great anger came from the LORD of hosts. As I called, and they would not hear, so they called, and I would not hear,” says the LORD of hosts. ” - Zechariah 7:11-13

- C. There will be a deadly straying (4) - “And will turn away from listening to the truth and wander off into myths.”

This prophecy has definitely come to pass in our generation. Therefore, we must stress our commitment to God’s Word all the more vigorously.

## III. The Need In Our Generation (5-8)

- A. Understand there is a cost to pay (5a) - “As for you, always be sober-minded, endure suffering ...”
- B. Ensure God’s Word is never hidden in the church (5b) - “...do the work of an evangelist...” **There has never been more ways to share the truth!**
- C. Individuals taking ownership of their part (5c) - “...fulfill {bring in full measure} your ministry.”
- D. Prioritize this principle for the next generation (6-7) - “For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure has come. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept {to watch over, to guard} the faith.”

### **The Strength of God's Word**

**"Forever, O LORD, Your word is settled in heaven."** - Psalm 119:89

**"But it is easier for heaven and earth to pass away than for one stroke of a letter of the Law to fail."** - Luke 16:17

**"The grass withers, the flower fades, But the word of our God stands forever."** - Isaiah 40:8

### **The Benefits of God's Word**

**"The unfolding of your words gives light; it imparts understanding to the simple."** - Psalm 119:130

**"This book of the law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it; for then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have success."** - Joshua 1:8

### **The Uniqueness of God's Word**

**"For this reason we also constantly thank God that when you received the word of God which you heard from us, you accepted it not as the word of men, but for what it really is, the word of God, which also performs its work in you who believe."** - 1 Thessalonians 2:13

### **The Preciousness of God's Word**

**"Do not think that I came to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I did not come to abolish but to fulfill. "For truly I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not the smallest letter or stroke shall pass from the Law until all is accomplished. Whoever then annuls one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, shall be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever keeps and teaches them, he shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven."** - Matthew 5:17-19