

Why I Preach the Word of God

Well, the longer we live for the Lord the more we understand that it is a good life, serving and living for the Lord. Today, we're going to look at several different Scriptures. We're going to start out in the book of II Timothy chapter 4. And some have asked me, "Why do you preach the Word of God?" Why does any minister, pastor, evangelist? Why does anyone preach the Word of God? Well, today, I'd like to go over that and give you some reasons why I preach the Word of God.

Let me invite you to look at our website, www.LRWM.org. I'd like for you to go there and leave us a prayer request. If you have a need today, share that with us, and we'll be glad to pray with you about that need that you have. You can also go on there and download a transcript of this program and other programs of "It's a Good Life." It's absolutely free to do that, and if you don't have a computer, you can write to me, Lewis Woodard, 497 Judith Avenue, Fruitland Park, Florida 34731, and I'll be glad to send you free of charge a transcript of this program and other programs of "It's a Good Life." Thank you for listening today, and let me bow just for a moment and look to the Lord in prayer.

Now, Father, I ask You that You would lead and guide today. Open Your Word to us. Help us, Lord, to know what You have for us. Father, I pray for anyone who's listening today who does not know You as Savior. I pray that person would come to a saving knowledge and receive Jesus today as Lord and Savior. Help us now, Lord, to understand what You have for us. In Jesus' name, amen.

Well, why I preach the Gospel. In II Timothy chapter 4 and verse 2, it says, *Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine.* I preach the Word of God, first, because I

understand that God has given me that command as a minister of the Gospel. I am to preach the Word. I'm not to preach some fantasy. I'm not to preach something that *I* think is right. I need to be preaching what God says. Thus saith the Lord in His Word.

Well, I see that I preach the Word because it is profitable. In II Timothy chapter 3 and verse 16, it says, *All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness.* I preach the Word of God because it's worth something. It's profitable for doctrine. The world doesn't tell you everything. In fact, the world will keep things hidden from you, but in the Word of God, the doctrine, or the things that God wants us to know, is right there. The doctrines that are found in the Word of God are for reproof, for correction. In other words, God says something is wrong in our lives, He doesn't just say it's wrong; He helps us by correcting us. He gives us instruction in righteousness. He doesn't leave us to ourselves. He gives us the instruction as to how to live for Him. It's profitable.

And then I see the Word of God is powerful. Do you know that, if I could just say this, that Patrick Henry near his death... He was one of those people... now you'll probably remember him saying, "Give me liberty or give me death." He was a great man, but as he was dying, he said, "Here is a book," speaking of the Bible, "worth more than all others that were ever printed. Yet, it is my misfortune never to have found time to read it." What a sad commentary that is for such a great man that we look to him and we say that he stood up and he's one of the people that helped us gain our freedom, that helped this country to grow, that here's a man who did not have time to read the Word of God. The Bible says faith comes by hearing and hearing by the Word of

God. We're saved by looking into the Word of God as God leads us and helps us to understand that we need to have His Son as our Savior.

Well, I preach the Word because it's profitable and I preach it because it is powerful. In Romans chapter 1 and verse 16, the Bible tells us there, *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.* The Bible tells me there that the Word of God is powerful. The Word of God is not only given to a select few, but the Word of God is given to every man, woman, boy, and girl in this world. That Word of God goes forth. It is powerful. It is able to save that sinner that is closest to hell. And someone said, "Well, who is that sinner that's closest to hell?" That person who is ready to drop off, that person who is ready to leave this world without Jesus Christ. Right now, that person is the one closest to hell, the person who has never trusted Jesus as their Savior. And I pray that you have trusted Him today as your Lord and Savior.

Well, the Word of God is powerful, and then, I preach the Word because it is piercing. In Hebrews chapter 4 and verse 12, it says, *For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.*

The Word of God is piercing. The Word of God is able to look into our deepest innermost being and help us to understand who we really are. We need to come face to face with reality. And in God's Word we find that reality that, without Jesus Christ, we're all lost. The Bible says, *For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God* [Romans 3:23]. That means you; that means me. But the Bible says, *The gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord* [Romans 6:23]. *But God commendeth his love toward us...[and]*

while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us [Romans 5:8]. Christ died for you. He died for me. And the way I know that is because the Word of God tells me that. The Word of God is piercing. It helps us to see who we really are.

And then, I preach the Word because it is perfect. There is nothing lacking in the Word of God. I Corinthians chapter 13 and verse 10 says, *But when that which is perfect is come, then that which is in part shall be done away.* Well, I look at two things here, two ways of looking at this verse. First, I know that Jesus was perfect. He came into the world. He was perfect. He was the One who came to seek and to save those who were lost. He was the Word. The Bible tells us that, *In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God* [John 1:1]. And that same Word became flesh and dwelt among us. You know who that was? That was Jesus. He was perfect, the Word of God.

Well, He hasn't left us completely in the dark, you see. When He went back to glory, He left us His Word, the Bible. The Bible is perfect, *But when that which is perfect is come, then that which is in part shall be done away* [I Corinthians 13:10]. There is no more guessing as to what God wants for us and has for us, because it is found in His Word, the Bible.

And then, not only is it perfect, it is personalized. In John chapter 1 and verse 12, the Bible says, *But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on His name.* It's a personal book that I read today, the Word of God. It's personal. It's to me, and the Word of God is to you. It's personalized. It's not for anyone else. It's for you. It's for me. It's personal, and it's something that each one of us needs to understand, that God has written to us. He's not left us groping in the dark, but He's given us His Word and it's personalized to you, to me.

Well, the Word of God is also prevailing. In Acts chapter 17 and verse 6, the Bible says there, *And when they found them not—Now, something's going on here. Let's read on—they drew Jason and certain brethren unto the rulers of the city, crying, These that have turned the world upside down are come hither also.* Now, we're reading here in this section of Scripture, Acts chapter 17 and verse 6, the early church, what was going on there, how that the people were going about preaching the Word of God. And then these people who saw these men preaching the Word of God, they say, *These—these men who are preaching—that have turned the world upside down are come hither also.*

I see that the Word of God is prevailing, because in Acts chapter 19 and verse 20, it says, *So mightily grew the word of God and prevailed.* No matter how much the devil or man tries to stop the Word of God, no matter how much the devil and man try to pervert the Word of God, the Word of God will stand true. The Word of God will do what God has intended for it to do, and that is to lead us into all righteousness and understanding. That righteousness is found in His Son, Jesus.

And then I see that the Word of God is permanent. In I Peter chapter 1, verse 25, it says, *But the word of the Lord endureth forever. And this is the word which by the gospel is preached unto you.* I preach the Gospel because it's going to endure. This Book that I'm holding right now is a deathless book. The deathless book has survived three great dangers: negligence of friends—people don't read it; false systems built upon it—people pervert the Word; and warfare of those who have hated it—people hate the Word of God. Hitler tried to destroy it. Men have tried to destroy the Word of God, but God says His Word is permanent. Nothing is going to destroy it.

And then, finally, I see the Word of God. I preach it because it is purifying. Titus 2:14 says, *Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from*

all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works.

How about you today? Do you know Christ as your Savior? Have you trusted Him to come into your heart? This is not something that is going to pass away. This is something that you're going to have to face. Have you trusted Him as your Savior? One of these days, you're going to come face to face with reality and understand that you need a savior. It may be too late one day. Today, it is not too late. The Bible says, *[To] as many as received him, to them gave he the power to become the sons of God...* [John 1:12]. That you, it's personal. God wants to come into your heart today and save you for His Son Jesus' sake.

Why not bow your head where you're at and trust Jesus right now. This is serious. God wants you to be saved. He wants you to come and live with him forever. And you can do that by coming through the blood of the Lord Jesus. "Lord, I trust You as my Savior right now. Please come into my heart and save me." If you'll pray a prayer like that, God will save you today.

Well, it's been good being with you once again, and I trust that you will tune in at this same time next week when you'll hear me say, "It is a good life serving the Lord." May the Lord bless you richly is my prayer.