

Tidings From Timothy

This morning I will be preaching on “Forsaken”. It is a sermon about how Jesus sticks with us **IF** we will stick with Him. Tonight, we will examine in depth the subject of “THE DEVIL.” You won’t want to miss that.

In Need of Prayer: Ethel Lawrence, grandmother to Lisa Warren, passed on and is at Strodes’ chapel in Gamaliel. The funeral will be tomorrow. Others are doing fairly well or are recovering apace. See the prayer list out front.

Potter Commodities Outreach: Each year the Mt. Gilead church collects private donations for the families

Mtgileadchurch.net We hit a milestone a few weeks ago with over 1000 page hits for our church website. If you have not logged on and checked it out now is the time to do so. Also, see our advertisement about the website on the latest House To House that was sent out in the community. If you don’t get one of these in the mail, there are plenty of extras out front for you to pick up.

Pantry: We still could use some potato mix or canned potatoes.

HOW CAN I TELL IF HE’S ‘PREACHING THE TRUTH?’

Many people are asking, “How can I tell when a preacher is preaching the truth?” This is a brief effort to give a definite answer to this extremely important question.

Of course, there are those who think that “truth” is only relative and ethereal (celestial, heavenly, gmr) and who, consequently, deny that anything can be “the truth.” Then there are those who think that it is all just a matter of interpretation, so that one man’s idea is just as good as another’s. And, there are not a few who think, naively, that all preachers are preaching the truth.

But this article is for those who believe, rightly, that the Bible is the word of God and, therefore, “the truth;” who understand that interpretations

of any Bible Scripture are either right or wrong; who have listened closely enough to know that many contradictory teachings are found among the various preachers and cannot all be right; and who sincerely want to know how they can tell when a preacher is preaching the truth.

Unfortunately, many conclude that a preacher is preaching the truth for such reasons as the following:

1. He looks like an honest man, one you can trust.
2. He sounds so sincere and earnest.
3. He sounds like he knows what he is talking about.
4. He speaks so forcefully and convincingly.
5. He is such a personable and such a likeable man.
6. He is so good and kind.
7. He insists that he is preaching only the truth and uses a lot of Scripture.
8. He declares with so much conviction that he has received his message from God by the Holy Spirit.

Some will find it hard to believe, but a man may possess every one of these “qualifications” and still not be preaching the truth. In fact, in view of (1) the all-sufficiency of the Scriptures that God has given us (II Timothy 3:14-17), (2) the finality of “the faith” that was “once for all delivered to the saints (Jude 3), and (3) the cessation of the miraculous process of divine revelation upon the completion of that revelation (1 Corinthians 12:27-13:13), it is certain that any preacher today who claims to receive his message, not through his own study of the Scriptures, but through direct revelation or through some miraculous guidance from the Holy Spirit IS NOT, for that reason, preaching the truth.

How, then, can you tell when a preacher is preaching the truth? Here are some guidelines from God’s own book:

1. When he speaks as the oracles of God (I Peter 4:11).
2. When he does not go beyond what is written (I Corinthians 4:6).
3. When he speaks the things that befit sound doctrine (Titus 2:1).
4. When his preaching stands the test of examination in the light of Scripture (Acts 17:11).
5. When he does not preach another gospel (other than that preached by the inspired writers of the New Testament) (Galatians 1:6-9).
6. When he does not teach a different doctrine from that taught by the apostles (I Timothy 1:3-4; 6:3ff).
7. When he does not go beyond, but abides within the doctrine of Christ (II John 9)
8. When he goes “to the law and the testimony” (Isaiah 8:20), or to the Scriptures to establish all that he teaches. --Bill Crews, edited--

What must I do?

- **Hear the Gospel - Acts 15:7**
- **Believe the Gospel - Mark 16:15,16**
- **Repent of Sins - Acts 17:30**
- **Confess Christ - Rom. 10:9,10**
- **Be Baptized for the Forgiveness of Sins - Acts 2:38**

Then, as a Christian we must:

- **LIVE FAITHFUL UNTO DEATH - REV. 2:10**

Study the Bible?

God speaks to us today through the Holy Word of God - The Bible (Hebrews 1:1-2). The Scriptures instruct us in the way God requires His people to live (2 Timothy 3:16,17). The Bible is powerful and able to save us (Romans 1:16; James 1:21-25), if we will hear, learn and obey it.

⇒ **Yes!** I want to learn more about the Holy Bible. Please enroll me in the eight lesson FREE Bible Correspondence Course (we even pay for the postage).

Call 487-5342, or mail this form to us:

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Mt. Gilead church of Christ

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Verses for the Lord's Supper: **Philippians 2:5 - 11** ⁵Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: ⁶Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: ⁷But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: ⁸And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross. ⁹Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: ¹⁰That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of *things* in heaven, and *things* in earth, and *things* under the earth; ¹¹And *that* every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ *is* Lord, to the glory of God the Father

Elders:

Keith Dyer
Veachel Harlan
Steve Carter
Roger Deckard

Deacons:

Larry Copas, Ray C. Lyon, Cass Thomas Froedge, Bobby D. Geraldts, Bobby Harlan, Kevin Deckard, Jimmy High, Gary Rowland

Evangelist:

Tim McHenry, 931-258-3494 or 270-407-1598
12955 Clay Co. HWY Moss, TN 38575

Schedule of Services:

Sunday:

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| Bible Study... | 9:30am |
| Morning Worship... | 10:05am |
| Evening Worship... | 6pm |

Wednesday:

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| Bible Study... | 7pm |
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Listen to our Sunday Morning Radio Sermon on WTKY 1370 AM & 92.1, 102.7, 101.5 FM at 8:30am each week, and to our weekday 10min program after the Noonday news and reports.