

GA: The 3 greatest sins of preaching? **1)** lack of truth **2)** lack of content **3)** lack of clarity!

SI: Not hearer's job to discern what the preacher is saying. If the preacher can't explain it—he doesn't understand it. Only thing worse than text not being understood—one being misunderstood.

ORT: You know the difference between boxing & shadow boxing? One connects—one does not.

1 Cor 9:26-27 *So I do not run like one who runs aimlessly or box like one beating the air. AIM!*

SUM: FT would arise amid the general wickedness of the last days **vv1-9**.

CXT: Contrast between FT & false faith & true teachers & true faith. 2x emphatically *but you*.

CIT: Paul had 3 overriding priorities in his life: **1)** To know **X**, **2)** To defend **X**'s truth (Scripture)—the major force of **1&2 Timothy**, & **3)** Minister in **X**'s name.

CIS: You and I are to be defenders of the faith.

PNP: 3 necessary qualifications for a strong and loyal defender of the faith.

Trans: Who are the people who have spiritually impacted your life? **N/R**, Bro. Don, Merv, Terrie.

- Paul's faithful character & ministry contrasted w/the ungodly character/ministry of FT.
- The character of the ministry that leads up to **v14** (imperative).

You will need to follow strong and godly examples vv10-13.

- Possessive pronoun + definite article—9 leadership qualities or characteristics.
- 1) **Ministry duties** – teaching (teaching **2:2**), conduct (life), purpose (motive for service – passion **1 Cor 9:16** *I am compelled to preach & woe to me if I do not preach the gospel!*)
 - 2) **Personal virtues** – faith (faithfulness), patience (*macrothumia* – not just an attitude – a determined way of life – never give up/ give in – difficult people), love (**1 Cor 13:13** – volitional purposeful **1 Jn 4:8**), perseverance (*hypomone* – difficult circumstances).
 - 3) **Difficult experiences** – persecutions, sufferings.

1 Cor 4:16-17 *I urge you to imitate me. This is why I have sent **T** to you. He is my dearly loved & faithful child in the Lord. He will remind you about my ways in **XJ**.*

- **We** are influenced by those we associate, work & serve—those we listen to/read. **Who?**

Trans: Have you ever noticed how some believer's convictions melt w/the 1st cultural heatwave ?

- You are not **3:1-9**—you are **vv10-11**.

You will need to have a spiritual foundation built on strong convictions v14.

- Convictions—built in the lives, families, & churches where Θ 's Word is loved & exalted—in principle & practice (**1:5-6**).
- **Fixed** & non-negotiables of Scripture become the fixed & non-negotiables of your life.
- **HOW?** **L**earning Scripture w/clarity + obeying w/consistency = spiritual conviction.

Trans: **Do** you want to experience Θ 's salvation to its fullest?

You will need to adhere to scriptural authority and sufficiency vv15-17.

- The foremost passage on the nature & work of Θ 's Word in salvation & sanctification.
- Here the transforming power of divine revelation is delineated.
- **v15** instructions for salvation— **v16** instructions for sanctification.

CIS: You and I are to be defenders of the faith.

CEP: Thomas Edison—*Oh, we have lots of results. We know 700 things that won't work.*

G: Bible in shorthand? Addresses 1 problem—Sin. 1 villain—Devil. 1 hero—**J**. 1 purpose—glory of Θ —Do know Him? Bible 2-edged sword. If it doesn't cut to heal you—it will cut to slay you.