

AN URGENT APPEAL TO PREACH 2 Timothy 4:1-5

I. **The Seriousness of Preaching (1a).**

1 Timothy 5:21: **I charge you before God and the Lord Jesus Christ** and the elect angels that you observe these things without prejudice, doing nothing with partiality.

II. **The Motivation of Preaching (1b).**

Acts 17:30-31: Truly, these times of ignorance God overlooked, but now commands all men everywhere to repent, because **He has appointed a day on which He will judge the world** in righteousness by the Man whom He has ordained. He has given assurance of this to all by raising Him from the dead.

III. **The Content of Preaching (2).**

Romans 10:17: So then faith *comes* by hearing, and hearing by the **word of God**.

Hebrews 4:12: For the **word of God** *is* living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

IV. **The Rejection of Preaching (3-4).**

Ezekiel 33:31-32: So they come to you as people do, they sit before you as My people, and they hear your words, **but they do not do them; for with their mouth they show much love, but their hearts pursue their own gain**. Indeed you *are* to them as a very lovely song of one who has a pleasant voice and can play well on an instrument; **for they hear your words, but they do not do them**.

V. **The Strategy of Preaching (5).**

1 Thessalonians 2:4-5: But as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the gospel, even so we speak, **not as pleasing men, but God who tests our hearts**. For neither at any time did we use flattering words, as you know, nor a cloak for covetousness—God *is* witness.