

Do the Work of an Evangelist

2 Timothy 4:1-8 (KJV)- I charge thee therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom; ² Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all long suffering and doctrine. ³ For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; ⁴ And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables. ⁵ But watch thou in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, make full proof of thy ministry. ⁶ For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand. ⁷ I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: ⁸ Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing.

Giving Honor to God the Father, the Son (Jesus Christ), and the Holy Spirit. To All of God's Sons, Daughters, and Children. Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow. Let's turn to 2 Timothy 4:1-8, as we lift up the Name of the Lord. The topic of today's didactic sermon is "Do the Work of an Evangelist."

I remember the song ... How to reach the masses, those of every birth, for an answer Jesus gave the key. And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me. Lift Him up, (Lift the precious Savior up), Lift Him up, (Lift the precious Savior up), Still He speaks from eternity; And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me. (Hymn 221;AME Hymnal) As we do the work of an evangelist, the sharing of the message of the Cross is an essential component of our Christian duty. Church is important, but all Church activity is secondary in importance to sharing the love of Jesus Christ and the message of the Cross with others. In sharing the gospel(Jesus' love to others),you share that Christ is the answer to their needs, concerns, and problems. Sharing the love of Jesus blesses those that are saved and opens the opportunity of salvation for those who are lost. Can anybody testify of God's Amazing Grace? Do the work of an Evangelist!

According to the text, the Apostle Paul is helping Timothy to understand that he has a charge to keep, a God to glorify, a never dying soul to save, and fit it for the sky. He must preach the Word!!! He must do the work of an Evangelist. Paul let Timothy know that in the presence of God and Jesus Christ,(who will someday judge the living and the dead), will appear to set

up his Kingdom, and will preach the Word of God urgently at all times. Whenever you get the chance, in season and out, when it is convenient and when it is not. Correct and rebuke people when they need it, encourage them to do right, and always feed them patiently with the Word of God. Why is this vitally important? Well, the time is coming when people won't listen to the truth. They will search for teachers who will tell them just what they want to hear. They won't listen to what the Bible says, but they will follow their own misguided ideas. Stand firm, and don't be afraid of suffering for the Lord. Bring others to Christ. Leave nothing undone that you ought to do. (2 Tim.4:1-5) In other words, do the work of an Evangelist!

The Apostle Paul shares these truths because he realizes that he won't be around to help Timothy much longer. His time of departure was near and soon he would be in the presence of the Lord. The Apostle fought long and hard for the Lord, and through it all he kept the faith. Now the time has come for him to rest from his labors. In heaven a crown is waiting for me, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give me on that great day of His return. And not just to me but to all those whose lives show that they are eagerly looking forward to his coming back again. (2 Tim.4:6-8)

As we embrace the blessings of the divine work the Lord has assigned to our hearts and hands it is a joy to share with one another the Goodness of the Lord. I do believe that it's important to talk about the beauty of the land flowing with milk and honey in the bible. I also feel that it's important to talk about the beauty right here in Spring Hope, Rocky Mount, Raleigh, and the surrounding areas. Can I get a witness? My brothers and sisters, it's important to talk about how Jesus' feed over 5,000 with just two fish and five barley loaves. There is a witness in my spirit that we should also talk about how the Lord has fed us all and has kept food on our tables and clothes on our backs. It's very necessary to talk about how Jesus healed the sick in the bible days. But when we reflect in our theological minds, we ought to give the Lord Jesus some praise for healing our bodies in the midst of a pandemic. We could have been dead lying in our graves, but God made a way out of no way. He's still working miracles in our lives. In the midst of afflictions that could have carried us out of here; 'O Church He's been faithful.' He's truly been the doctor in the sick room, the lawyer in the courtroom, and a mighty good friend. Won't He do it? Do the Work of an Evangelist!!!

Psalm 105 is a direct command to believers to engage in evangelistic worship. The psalmist challenges them to “*make known among the nations what he has done*” How? “*Sing to him, sing praise to him; tell of his wonderful acts.*” Believers are continually told to sing and praise God before the unbelieving nations. (See Psalm 100:1-5.) God should be praised before all the nations, and as our Sustainer is praised by his people; the nations are summoned and called to join in song. Our being a witness, sharing the love of Jesus, so that others make a commitment is what evangelism is all about! Not everyone is called to *be an evangelist*—to go out preaching to the world. But, everyone is called to *do evangelism*—to share your faith with unbelievers and lead them to Christ whenever the opportunity presents itself. There are opportunities that are given to us EVERY DAY that we can use to share Christ with others. “*Be wise in the way you act toward outsiders; make the most of every opportunity*” (Colossians 4:5, NIV). *Do the Work of an Evangelist!*

In closing, do the Work of an Evangelist!!! We are called not only to love others, feed the hungry, help the poor, etc., but also to share the Gospel and make disciples for Jesus Christ. Our calling is so much more. If my travel agent would have asked me "If you could vacation anywhere in the world, where would you like to go?" I imagine I would go to Punta Cana and see the beautiful ocean and fine food. But I wouldn't stop there. Maybe Italy to see the beautiful statues, but I wouldn't stop there. Maybe Hawaii with the beautiful islands, but I wouldn't stop there. Maybe to Sierre Leone or the Ivory Coast of Africa to see the wildlife and to trace my ancestral roots, but I wouldn't stop there. I believe I'd come right here to Big Bethel and do the work of an Evangelist. I'd tell everybody about somebody that can save anybody. I'd do the work of an Evangelist and tell you" there is now no condemnation awaiting those who belong to Christ Jesus. For the power of the life-giving Spirit(this power is ours through Christ Jesus),has freed us from the vicious circle of sin and death. We aren't saved from sin's grasp by knowing the commandments of God because we can't and don't keep them, but God put into effect a different plan to save us. He sent his own Son in a human body like ours,except that ours are sinful. He destroyed sin's control over us by giving himself as a sacrifice for our sins. So now we can obey God's laws if we follow after the Holy Spirit and no longer obey the old evil nature within us. (Romans 8:1-4) I'd tell you "The wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life." *O'Lord, How Excellent is Your Name. Yes, Jesus-How Excellent is Your Name.* My brothers and sisters... *Do the Work of an Evangelist!!! In Name of Jesus. Hallelujah, Amen.*