

BIB 281 The Pastoral Epistles

Lesson 8 II Timothy 2 Overcoming pastoral trials

Intro. Paul explains the importance of defending the ministry by being a godly minister. There are trials that are specific to the ministry which makes these epistles a particularly valuable resource for the minister. Paul is going to challenge Timothy by giving him illustrations to explain the work of the ministry, especially the trials of the ministry.

1. The product of a minister - a Son 1-2 the blessings of a son both physically and spiritually
 - A. a disciplined son - Heb. 5:11-14 - a son with maturity and discernment. Others should see Christ in you and will be drawn to you if you are aware.
 - B. a discipling son - find faithful men. If you cannot find any you need to be praying for them. Luke 10:1,2

Note: the power of discipleship found in pyramid schemes

2. The perseverance of a minister - as a Soldier 3-4 - 'good soldier' = Valuable Warrior

Note: 'spiritual warfare'. - The majority of my life I thought that talk was foolishness. Now I realize who the fool was.

Soldier = Emphatically, a brave warrior; a man of military experience and skill, or a man of distinguished valor.

Note: Pat Tillman the NFL football player who gave up his career to enter the military and eventually lost his life in service. He was a good soldier. He gave up his life for the cause.

Note: not like the children of Ephraim. "*The children of Ephraim, being armed, and carrying bows, turned back in the day of battle.*" Ps. 78:9

King David was known as a valiant man. His desire was to be actively engaged in the battle. It was killing him to be set on the sidelines while his brothers were engaged in the conflict. When his opportunity arose he jumped at the chance and when confronted with the giant refused to withdraw. His brothers, likely condemned by his actions could do nothing but scoff. David's reply is worthy of embracing: "is there not a cause?"

King David had valiant men. They were known as his mighty men. There were 36 or 37 of them in all. There were thirty and then 3 and 3. II Sam. 23 David a type of Christ. Would you be counted among His mighty men?

- A. endurance - 'endure hardness' = suffer hardship and afflictions

The primary use of this term is in reference to suffering persecution. To be a good soldier in this spiritual warfare you must be a godly Christian, and the Bible promises that "all that live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution".

1. Mark 4:16-17 test of salvation Mk. 13:13

2. Heb. 3:14 wandering in the wilderness Numbers 11- mixed multitude, complaining over water, complaining over food, spies not wanting to enter, complaining about Moses leadership wanting to return to Egypt, Korah's rebellion to go back to Egypt, wanting to enter the promised land after God finally told them not to.

3. Good soldiers do not go awol when the shooting starts. This warfare that we are engaged in is inevitable. Imagine being in the civil war when you are engaging bayonets and

canons and shooting surrounding you. That would be an apt description of the severity of the spiritual battle. I would never want to be the guy that takes up the flag without a weapon.

B. entanglements 'affairs' = transactions or negotiations

1. Heb. 11:23-27

2. Laodicea - Rev. 3:20

Note: Reasons to engage and endure the battle: Christ is our Captain and victory is certain

3. The performance of a minister - as a Striver 5 - the participant in an athletic contest - in our attempt to perform great things we must strive lawfully. God's work must be done God's way.

Note: we should always be striving to perfect that which is lacking in our lives. Striving for the mastery. Run that ye may obtain.

4. The provision of a minister - as a Sower 6

A. Partakes of the truth of God to have to give to others. Farmer keeps seed to plant for future. The preacher must first be partaker before he can be a provider.

Note: oxygen masks on an airplane. You put the mask on yourself first then on your children.

B. Paul sowed, Apollos watered, but God gives the increase. It is easy to get impatient waiting for the harvest. The farmer doesn't expect a yield directly after he plants. The race is not to the swift.

5. The path of a minister - a Sufferer 8-13 what a great expectation to have.

Note: The minister must be an example

1. the pattern of suffering

a. Christ 8

b. Paul 9

2. the purpose of suffering

a. for the elect's salvation

b. for the glory of God

3. the possibilities of suffering - the repetition of the word "if"

a. dead to self - live with Him

b. denial of self - rule with Him

c. denial of Him - denial of you

d. dead to Him - death of you

6. The priority of a minister - a Student 14-18 Acts 6:1-4

Note: we are measured by our words. There are four types of words.

1. profitable words - 14

2. proper words - 15

3. profane words - 16

4. perilous words -17

7. The purity of a minister - a Steward to be used by the Master 19-22

1. identified with the Master 19

2. instrument of the Master 20-21

a. various vessels - gold and silver, or wood and clay = honor/dishonor

- b. viable vessels - separated, sanctified, and settled
- 3. “flee and follow”

8. The pastoring of a minister - a Servant 23-26

- a. avoid contention 23
- b. admonish carefully 24
- c. acknowledge causes 25
- d. aware captivity 26

Conclusion

Who is sufficient for these things? These are eight areas that need to be mastered in the life of a minister