

Spoudazo: Do Your Best
By Bob Young

Introduction

Last letter of Paul, encourage Timothy, what would you say in a last letter?

Talk about the word of God. What do you do with the word of God? Do we know what to do with the word? Do we know anything except study?

- 1:13-14, keep it, guard the deposit—internalize it
- 2:1, pass it on
- 2:8, remember it; 2:14, remind others of it
- 2:15, handle it correctly
- 3:15-17, know it and let it work in your life to teach, rebuke, correct, train, equip
- 4:1ff, preach it, proclaim it, give instruction to others

***1* The POWER of the word: power for Christian living**

Descriptions in 2 Tim. 2 to describe Timothy's role—son, soldier, athlete, farmer, craftsman

- Closer look at vv. 1-2—steward, fiduciary. Goes back to 1:13-14. Guard, protect, verify its presence, make sure it goes where it is supposed to go, deliver it, invest it. Illus: Latin America. Faithful steward.
- Soldier, hardship, please the one who calls him to soldiering, reference to 1:8-9. Enduring soldier.
- Athlete, compete legally. Trained athlete.
- Farmer, first crops. Expectant farmer.

***2* The IMPORTANCE of the word: two Instructions about the Gospel**

***A* Remember the gospel.**

Two (2) aspects—resurrected Jesus, of David's lineage. Divine and human. Son of God, Son of Man. John 1:1, 14. ;Phil. 2:5-11.

This is according to my gospel, my gospel is according to this.

The gospel worker may be shackled, but the gospel is never shackled.

The gospel is for the sake of the elect—both now and future. Not use the word that way.

***B* Remind others of the gospel.**

Figure of speech—craftsman, 2 Tim. 2:15.

- Diligence to present self to God....
- Approved
- Not ashamed
- Able—cut straight, accurate, cut for purpose of sewing/connecting.

***3* The VALUE of the Word: something valuable in our lives**

All this is in the context of how we handle God's word.

- Pattern, word is pattern for something else—Christian living, spiritual health, healthy teaching.
- Word is to be delivered with help of HS.
- Word is to be entrusted to others who will pass it on.
- Word is to be clarified, reinforced.
- No place for macho wording—ruins the hearers.

- There is such a thing as “word chatter” which does not contribute to godliness—Paul says it is godless and leads to increased ungodliness if it does not positively contribute to godliness. What about my teaching?
- God’s word is firm regardless of mistreatment or abuse.
- Cleanse yourself from ignoble uses of the word.

All this is in the context of how we let God’s word work in our lives as power of God.

- The word is God’s, comes from God, is breathed out by God, guided by God
- The word is knowable, understandable
- The word can change our lives, and equip us

***4* The RESULTS of the word: preach the word**

- Source of correction, rebuke, encouragement
- Source of guidance when many prefer something else
- Source of strength
- Source of hope