

Authenticity in Ministry

Bob Young

Text: Ezra 7, esp. 9-10

Introduction

Good verses for my own life, good for all, good for encouragement to Daily Bible Reading.
Two girls, yes he's a doctor, but he can't help anyone.
Sparrow Hospital, oncology residency, when all the doctor's help is over, there is still a need.
Barry Grout, the hospital called.
Jim Bill McInteer, it takes more than veneer to make a cabinet.
In just over two years, I hope to be a doctor, what does that mean? To help people.
Hope this is a sermon that helps folks.

I. Ezra devoted himself to study.

2 Tim. 2:15, spoudazo, diligence, all of heart.

A doctor is a teacher. John Calvin's "church offices" included the doctor/teacher.

Doctor, doctrine. Rabbi, John 3.

Nothing more important than the study of God. This helps us be like him. Ps. 63:8.

Ezra, hungering and thirsting after righteousness.

Ministry of the word, 1 Tim. 4:6-16

DBR (daily Bible readers), in Dierks AR, we posted the number.

Become like the great physician, seek and save the lost. Be a Christian who can help others.

II. Ezra devoted himself to practice of the law.

Book, "Making of a Surgeon": learn, do, teach.

Learning must lead to doing. Make full proof of your ministry.

Interesting parallels to Ezra's text.

To do: elder must be blameless.

Rather see a sermon than hear one any day. The importance of example and modeling.

III. ...and to teaching its decrees and laws.

Note parallel in Neh. 8:1-8

ETS meeting, Iola Geiger, well at least I understand the conjunctions and the pronouns.

We easily use our own jargon.

Mal. 2:7.

Do we believe? Matt. 28:18-20.

Conclusion

Great Physician came to help; and heal. We call him the Christ. He helped people.

We follow him, we call ourselves Christians. Do we help people? Are we good?

Do I know, observe, teach?

Will I be a Dr. who can help others? I pray so. I pray that you as a helper to the Great Physician will help people with matters of eternity that really matter.

"Without successors, there is no success."

Who will take your place?