

# Preach the Word

## Reformation 2013

2 Timothy 4:1-2 *“I charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and by his appearing and his kingdom: 2 preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, and exhort, with complete patience and teaching.”* (ESV)

### INTRODUCTION

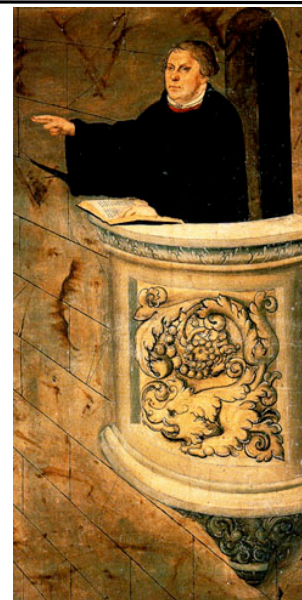
The Reformation of the 16<sup>th</sup> recovered the understanding that the primary responsibility of the minister is to preach the Word.

- *Martin Luther tried to avoid the call, but to no avail.*
- *Though he feared the worst, he went on to preach 7000 sermons.*
- *Though Luther was a powerful preacher, he was always fearful when stepping into the pulpit.*

### A SERIOUS RESPONSIBILITY

The minister's task is so important because he is commissioned to preach the Word of God.

- *The Gospel is not mere words, propositions or concepts.*
  - *The Gospel is the power of God unto salvation.*
  - *God's Word is the sustenance of His people.*
  - *Christ's words are spirit and life.*
- *When the minister faithfully discharges his duty, the people hear the equivalent of the voice of God.*



*“It is impossible to exaggerate the dignity and importance given to the task of preaching.”*

### THE CHARGE: PREACH THE WORD

- *The word “charge” means to earnestly implore, solemnly insist and strongly urge.*
  - *Paul calls heaven to witness this commission.*
  - *Paul reminds Timothy that we will all give an account before God when Christ comes..*
- *The charge is to “preach the Word.”*
- *The word “preach” means to declare a message while urging compliance.*
  - *The content of preaching is confined to the Word of God.*
  - *The method of preaching is proclamation that confronts with God's demands.*
- *The minister of God must remain faithful to the message entrusted to him.*
  - *We are not free to alter the message to fit the culture.*
  - *Paul refused to engage in oratory sparring.*
- *Preaching is more than disseminating information.*
  - *Reprove: to expose error and summons to repentance.*
  - *Rebuke: to denounce what is wrong.*
  - *Exhort: to comfort and encourage yielding to God's Word.*
- *The minister must always be prepared to preach the Word whether or not it is convenient (to the world or to himself). He deliver the Word with complete patience, bearing with those who hear it.*

*“It is not the work of the minister to open up schemes of human wisdom or learning, not to bring his own fancies, but to tell the facts and glories of the Gospel. We must speak of what is within the Word of God.*

*~ Robert Murray McCheyne*