

Pastor's Pen

Teachers of the Word of God

Those who correctly administer and teach the word of God to the Church in this age of grace must be held to certain qualified standards for dispensing the truth of the gospel.

According to I Timothy 4:6, there is a condition which must be met if one is to be a good minister of Jesus Christ, namely the conveyance of the essence of the good teaching which Paul gave to Timothy. In reference to that which he was writing Paul commands Timothy, "Command these things and teach" (I Timothy 4:11), and he goes on to add, "Be concerned about these things, be in them that your advancement might be manifest to all" (I Timothy 4:5).

In I Timothy 6:2-3, Paul charges Timothy, "These things teach and exhort. If anyone teaches a different doctrine and does not consent to sound words to those of our Lord Jesus Christ and to the teaching according to godliness, he is deprived of the truth" (I Timothy 6:5). The phrase "sound words" is synonymous to "sound teaching" mentioned in I Timothy 1:10, which is identified with the glory entrusted to Paul. In II Timothy 1:13, Paul uses the same phrase to depict the message, which Timothy had heard from him (II Timothy 4:3). Thus we see, the sound words of the Lord Jesus Christ are the words that Jesus Christ revealed to the Apostle Paul for the Church (Galatians 1: 12). Paul warns Timothy against those who teach other than these sound words (I Timothy 6:3-5). In II Timothy 2:2, Paul makes it crystal clear that the message which has been received from him is the message which is to be passed on to others in this church age. My former Pastor, Elder Clyde Colbert Sr., who I consider to be my mentor in the gospel; use to always quote to me from this passage and it reads, "And what you have heard from me through many witnesses, these things commit to faithful men, who shall be qualified to also teach others". Summarizing, teaching which does not conform to Paul's gospel is Heterodox Teaching. The requisite for a good minister is to teach the message (as received by Paul) and to be aggressively involved in its advancement.

The Grace Gospel Church Ministry takes the word of God literally for what it teaches. This truth compels us to make Paul's Epistles the heart of our ministry curriculum. We truly believe that if one is not thoroughly immersed in the truth of Paul's fourteen epistles (Hebrews included); he is not adequately qualified to teach others the message for the Grace Church, the gospel of the grace of God.