What Seek Ye?

Linville Dunaway, Corinth Christian Church

2 Timothy 4:1-2, "I charge thee therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom; Preach the word; beinst antinseason, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all long suffering and doctrine."

At times a congregation needs to look for a preacher. Sometimes a change is dreaded, while at times folks are glad for a change. A church needs to pray and to consider carefully, before they choose someone to fill the position of pastor. One thing to consider is - which kind of preacher do they want? Another question is this - is the kind that you want the kind that you need?

Preachers are expected to be and to do many different things in a church. Some expectations are unrealistic and would be hard, if not impossible, for anyone to fulfill. As a church elder told me once that his church was looking for a preacher. The man was to

be young enough to appeal to the young, and mature enough to relate to the older members. Then he was to be well educated, while able to talk in a way that the average person could related too. There were several more conditions, one of which I think was being able to preach without offending anyone. I don't know if anyone could be the person that they were looking for. Jesus, Paul, and the apostles couldn't have done it, so I don't much think that modern man could either. At least if he wanted to please God

The kind of preacher that we should want is one that seeks to serve God and preach the gospel. He should be trying to please God and to feed the congregation the true word of God. Sincere Christians want to hear the truth, not something that sounds good. As one elderly saint asked for the truth saying, "I don't want to stand before my Lord and find out that I've been wrong." No one who truly believes the Lord would want to be found living a lie.

There are those who try to keep the congregation happy, even to the extent of compromising the gospel. I want people to be

happy, but the way to do it is to do according to the words of Jesus. In speaking of his commands he said, in **John 13:17**, "If ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them." That is the key to it - knowing his will and then doing it. That is what a minister that is called of God will do, encourage everyone to follow the Lord. Not just to say it, but to do it every day.

What kind of preacher do you want? I hope that you want, and have, one who will seek to please the Lord. Someone who is serious about living for God. I still remember the story of the minister at a church who as time drew near for services to start would say, "Come on, let's get this over with." I don't know who he was, but I know that I didn't miss anything by not knowing him, or hearing him.

Some have a preacher that they can tell what to preach and how long. He may be funny and keep folks feeling good but how will it turn out when the Lord comes back if we have failed to hear and to do the commands of God? The Lord expects that his children will obey him. How can a person do that unless they are taught the true word of God and seek to live it?

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