

## MESSAGE # 3: APPROPRIATION OF THE WORD OF GOD

Biblical Passages: 1 Timothy 1:5 ff, 4:11-16; 2 Tim 3:14-17

### I. Introducing the Subject

In much of life the guidance we need is in the Word of God although we may seek for it in many other places. I am aware that not everything is spelled out in complete detail in the Scripture but the principles are there that relate to everything. However, that helpful information is useful to us only as we take the Word and appropriate its teaching. To have such a source of help and helpfulness nearby and not to use it seems almost criminal but that is just what many of us do. Paul's constant exhortation to Timothy is to allow the Word of God to be a governing factor in his life and ministry and what Paul urged on Timothy is very applicable to us today.

### II. Discussion

#### A. Remember what the Word is and what it is to do. (2 Tim 3:14-17)

The Holy Scriptures given by God teach salvation, offer help in all the areas of life, and equip us to live "furnished unto all good works." The Word is the rule for faith and practice and touches on---as I have said about six times---every issue of life but if it is ignored we miss a lot of ready help. Remember and use.

#### B. Study--to show yourself approved unto God (2 Tim 2:15)

The concept in "study" is to exert yourself with diligence and with what manner your learning skills are best suited. \ Read it, compare it, listen to it, discuss it, pray over it, analyze it, etc. But don't just let it be a book that collects dust from Sunday to Sunday. (Note: when this talk was delivered I gave several suggestions on study methods.)

#### C. Apply yourself to the Word and the Word to you (1 Tim 4:12 ff)

Take it into every discussion and every decision. Don't be hesitant to ask other believers to help in your study but your study is primary. And when you see how the Word applies to