

2016 – Turn the Page  
“No More Shallow Spirituality”  
Pastor Eddie Turner  
Sunday, January 3, 2016

Philippians 3:13-14(TLB) ~ I am still not all I should be, but I am bringing all my energies to bear on this one thing: Forgetting the past and looking forward to what lies ahead, <sup>14</sup> **I strain to reach the end of the race and receive the prize for which God is calling us up to heaven because of what Christ Jesus did for us.**

-----  
Philippians 3:13(TLB) ~ I am bringing all my energies to bear on this one thing: Forgetting the past and looking forward to what lies ahead.

- ~~~~~
- “I am not proud of some things I have done and decisions I have made. I have missed opportunities and wasted some major parts of my life. I could spend the remainder of my days living in regret. I am tempted to live in my painful past. But I have made a decision to use all of my energy to turn the page, forget the past and focus on my future.”

~~~~~  
Philippians 3:1(NLT) ~ Whatever happens, my dear brothers and sisters, rejoice in the Lord. I never get tired of telling you these things, and I do it to safeguard your faith.

~~~~~  
Philippians 3:1(NIV) ~ Further, my brothers and sisters, rejoice in the Lord! It is no trouble for me to write the same things to you again, and it is a safeguard for you.

~~~~~  
Philippians 3:1(TLB) ~ Whatever happens, dear friends, be glad in the Lord. I never get tired of telling you this, and it is good for you to hear it again and again.

- ~~~~~
- It is good for you to hear it again and again-why?

~~~~~  
1 Cor. 3:1-6(NIV)~ Brothers and sisters, I could not address you as people who live by the Spirit but as people who are still worldly—mere infants in Christ. <sup>2</sup>I gave you milk, not solid food, for you were not yet ready for it. Indeed, you are still not ready. <sup>3</sup>You are still worldly. For since there is jealousy and quarreling among you, are you not worldly? Are you not acting like mere humans? <sup>4</sup>For when one says, “I follow Paul,” and another, “I follow Apollos,” are you not mere human beings?

<sup>5</sup> What, after all, is Apollos? And what is Paul? Only servants, through whom you came to believe—as the Lord has assigned to each his task. <sup>6</sup>I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God has been making it grow.

~~~~~  
· Notice v: 6-<sup>6</sup>I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God has been making it grow.

~~~~~  
· What seed did Apollos water?  
Apollos watered the same seed that Paul planted.

· Apollos taught on the same thing that Paul taught on~he watered the seed.

~~~~~  
· Why did Paul say it was good for the people to hear it again and again? Because seed does not grow without water!

~~~~~  
· God’s word will not grow in our hearts and produce fruit in our life by hearing it just one time.

~~~~~  
Romans 10:17(NKJV) ~ So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

~~~~~  
· None of us can attend church once or twice a month hear a sermon and think that is enough spiritual food to enable us to grow spiritually!

~~~~~  
· To grow spiritually and face courageously the difficult days ahead for Christians it is going to require an increase of faith which comes only through our commitment to God’s word!

~~~~~  
Unfortunately we are seeing an increase of SADD in the church.  
~~~~~

SADD~ Spiritual Attention Deficient Disorder  
~~~~~

2 Tim. 4:1-4(NIV)~ In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who will judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I give you this charge: <sup>2</sup> Preach the word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage—with great patience and careful instruction. <sup>3</sup> For the time will come when people will not put up with sound doctrine. Instead, to suit their own desires, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear. <sup>4</sup> They will turn their ears away from the truth and turn aside to myths.

~~~~~  
2 Tim. 4:1(NIV) ~ In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, I give you this charge...  
~~~~~

The word “charge” is very unique in the Greek language. It was a word used to swear in public officials or those who presided over the affairs of men. When the Greeks used it-they were invoking the attention of their gods.

the gods are watching, the gods are listening, and waiting to see if you would carry out your commitment. It was the most solemn charge that could be given.”

~~~~~  
The word “preach” was not originally a Christian word-it was a Greek word used to describe the spokesman of the emperor. The technical term would be, “The Imperial Herald”-the man who had access to the throne room and the Emperor.  
~~~~~

- This was the noblest position in the government. This was the job everyone wanted, because you had access to the king. You were the king’s spokesman and were invested with such power that you could speak on the king’s behalf.

~~~~~  
2 Tim. 4:1-4(NIV)~ In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who will judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I give you this charge: <sup>2</sup> Preach the word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage—with

great patience and careful instruction.

· “...be prepared in season and out of season...”

2 Tim. 4:2(KJV) - Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all long suffering and doctrine.

The word “instant” is a military term used referring to a time of warfare. And the word literally means, “stick to your post.”

· “encourage with great patience...”

KJV- “exhort with all longsuffering”

TLB-“encourage them to do right, and all the time be feeding them patiently with God’s Word.”

Holman-“encourage with great patience and teaching.”

Amplified-“exhort and encourage [those who are growing toward spiritual maturity], with inexhaustible patience and [faithful] teaching.”

2 Tim. 4:3-4(NKJV) - For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers; <sup>4</sup> and they will turn their ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables.

· “For the time will come...”

The two words “will come” comes from the Greek word which means, “I am.”

Paul is describing a time of a “self centered, self seeking attitude in the church. When people are not concerned with the word of God, they are not concerned about the lostness of humanity-they are only concerned about themselves and being spiritually entertained.

· “For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine...”

- but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers...”

~~~~~  
2 Tim. 4:3-4(NLT) ~ For a time is coming when people will no longer listen to sound and wholesome teaching. They will follow their own desires and will look for teachers who will tell them whatever their itching ears want to hear. <sup>4</sup> They will reject the truth and chase after myths.

- ~~~~~
- The remedy for not being caught up in shallow spirituality in 2016 is to commit your life to Jesus and the Word of God.

~~~~~  
Next Week:

- 2016-Turn the Page (The Year Christ Lives Through Me)  
Philippians 3:9-10(NLT) ~ I no longer count on my own righteousness through obeying the law; rather, I become righteous through faith in Christ. For God’s way of making us right with himself depends on faith. <sup>10</sup> I want to know Christ and experience the mighty power that raised him from the dead. I want to suffer with him, sharing in his death.