

### What Is The Preacher's Job?

Linville Dunaway, Corinth Christian Church  
**2 Timothy 4:1-4**, "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; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine. For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables."  
 Some think that the preacher's job is to keep them happy. If he does not do this they might leave and go somewhere else, or the preacher might be told to leave. I think that this is done more often than asking a preacher to leave because he hasn't preached the word. One man said, some years ago, that a preacher was called by the church. His thought was that the preacher was hired and could be fired, "If he didn't work out." I said that the preacher had better be called of God and that his responsibility was to God.

He didn't seem to like my answer, but I know it is the right one. Those who seek to please the congregation, to keep their position, are not pleasing God. As Paul told Timothy, he was to preach the word. In season, when it was accepted, and out of season, when it was rejected, either way God's word was to be told to all who would listen. Paul knew that the time would come that some would want a preacher to tell them what they wanted to hear. They would hire those who would tell them that they were alright, no matter how they lived. He was right that it would, and did, happen. There are even those who dare to say that no matter how you live you are alright in the sight of God.  
 That's really something, isn't it? I mean stop and think about it, people deceived to the point that they can live in sin and tell themselves that God is proud of them and that they're going to heaven. Satan has to be pleased that his plan is working so well. There is a lot of preachers who gladly tell folks that no matter what they do, they are pure in the eyes of God.  
 Yet, let a minister of God tell people that they are to observe what God has said and to fight against sin and they get very angry.

These kind of people don't want to hear what God has said, but to hear someone tell them what they wish he had said. Often people want to be entertained instead of fed the word of God.  
 Some preachers will not talk about hell because there are those who don't want to hear about it. How can you preach the bible and not talk about hell? Jesus sure talked about it and warned the people. Does ignoring hell change the fact that there is such a place? Jesus died for us to save us from sin and from going to hell.  
 One man said he visited a church while on vacation years ago and came away disappointed. He told of how the "preacher" announced various dinners, outings, and other events until he looked at his watch and said that there was not time enough left for him to preach. He was not a preacher but an activities director. That church needed a preacher, they didn't seem to have one. Maybe they had what they wanted and would have been offended if someone had really preached the gospel to them. You see, that's what a true preacher does, he speaks God's word - in season, and out of season.

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This is a dramatized version of facts taken from the Book of Esther, intending to show some of the customs of these ancient and traditional times.

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**EVIL HAMAN**  
 STUMBLING CLUMSILY ON THE QUEEN IN HIS FRENZY OF FEAR TO BEG FOR HIS LIFE, HAMAN HAS FURTHER INCURRED THE KING'S WRATH AND IS DULY SENTENCED TO DEATH, NOW...

IF IT PLEASE THE KING, MAY I SPEAK?

HARBOONAH, THE KING'S CHAMBERLAIN, MAKES A SUGGESTION...

BEHOLD HAMAN HAD A GALLOWS CONSTRUCTED ON WHICH TO HANG MORDECAI WHO DID GOOD FOR THE KING—WOULD IT NOT BE FITTING...?

INDEED! HANG HIM THEREON!

AND SO IT IS THAT HAMAN ENDS HIS EVIL DAYS HANGED ON THE VERY SAME GALLOWS UPON WHICH HE HAD PLANNED TO HANG MORDECAI, ALL OF WHICH HAS BEEN RECORDED IN THE BOOK OF ESTHER: CHAPTERS, 3-7.

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