## Should I Preach...?

## Matthew 23:33-35

New International Version

<sup>33</sup> "You snakes! You brood of vipers! How will you escape being condemned to hell? <sup>34</sup> Therefore I am sending you prophets and wise men and teachers. Some of them you will kill and crucify; others you will flog in your synagogues and pursue from town to town. <sup>35</sup> And so upon you will come all the righteous blood that has been shed on earth, from the blood of righteous Abel to the blood of Zechariah son of Berekiah, whom you murdered between the temple and the altar.

Definitions of the term Preacher

Mirriam Webster - someone who delivers a religious discourse in public.

Wikipedia - someone who preaches sermons

Bible definition lists a preacher as preaching the Gospel, not with human words but with the guidance of Jesus Christ!

(1 Corinthians 1:17). Quite simply to be a teacher or broker of the Truth! That truth is Jesus Christ!

Are all of us meant to preach? NO! some of us have different directions in our lives. These are decided by God, and not by us. We are never a preacher by choice, it is a direction by God.(Ephesians 4:11)

I have seen others out there who want so much to preach, but rather than glorify God they glorify themselves. And I have seen them lead many astray, giving people the words their ears are itching to hear. Telling them exactly what they want to hear, rather than what they need to hear.(2 Timothy 4:3)

Then I have seen those who want so much to teach and preach, but then they do not understand what it is they are talking about. Or they are simply not meant to preach. With this ignorance, they do more damage to the Kingdom of Heaven. Even though their preaching is done with good intentions, good intentions is not enough!

To teach, to preach, is a very serious occupation. Something you cannot attempt lightly. Something you cannot just begin, it must be ordained by God! Then its something you must do, when you are spiritually mature enough!(<u>1 Timothy 3:7</u>)

For if you teach falsely, whether out of ignorance or for your own self gratification. The punishment is the same. It would be better for you to be thrown into the sea, with a large stone tied around your neck, then for you to teach falsely. (Mark 9:42)

A big example of this is Judas Iscariot, his false teaching and betrayal lead in one direction, death! And before this he was regarded as one of Jesus' chosen disciples.(<u>Matthew 27:1-6</u>)

I give this warning to everyone who hears this message. Do not preach or teach the Gospel, unless **two conditions** are met in your life.

1. You are spiritually mature enough to understand the Gospel

2. You are directed by God to do so!

If you attempt to teach or preach, without having both of these in your life, you are preaching falsely. And it would be better for you to have a rope tied to your neck, and on the other end a rock and be tossed into the deepest ocean.(Mark 9:42)

## 1 Timothy 1:3-9

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Warning Against False Teachers of the Law

<sup>3</sup> As I urged you when I went into Macedonia, stay there in Ephesus so that you may command certain men not to teach false doctrines any longer <sup>4</sup> nor to devote themselves to myths and endless genealogies. These promote controversies rather than God's work—which is by faith. <sup>5</sup> The goal of this command is love, which comes from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith. <sup>6</sup> Some have wandered away from these and turned to meaningless talk. <sup>7</sup> They want to be teachers of the law, but they do not know what they are talking about or what they so confidently affirm.

You should not ever preach because its your desire to preach. You should preach because its what God desires you to do!

Amen and Amen

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