

“THE TESTIMONY OF A MAN OF GOD”
2 TIMOTHY 4:6-8

INTRO: I am very thankful for the **MEN OF GOD** who have been a part of my life through which I have learned so much about Christian living. For Instance:

-In my Family:

- Poppa Mike (Mom’s Dad) = Missionary to Hawaii, Salvation Army, Pastor
- Pawpaw Lester (Dad’s Dad) = Lifelong Deacon
- Dad = A Dedicated Christian and True Churchman

-Outside my Family:

- George Marsteller = Pastor who encouraged me to go into the ministry
- Phillip Horne = Pastor who disciplined me in ministry
- George Miles = WBC President who taught me much about ministry
- Carlton Helgersen = Pastor who mentored me in ministry
- Paul Van Gorder = Encouraged me to begin WOTM

A true man of God can be used of God in the lives of others in so many ways. **WHAT ABOUT YOU? CAN YOU NAME A MAN OF GOD WHO HAS IMPACTED YOU FOR CHRIST?** Since it is Father’s Day, let me address the men in our congregation today. **AS A MAN, ARE YOU INFLUENCING OTHERS FOR CHRIST?**

OBSERVATION: **THE APOSTLE PAUL** was a man who had **GREAT INFLUENCE** upon others, and his influence remains today. Each one of the NT EPISTLES written by Paul provide spiritual instruction for the people in the churches he established that they could grow in Christ. **Paul had a true testimony as a MAN OF GOD and because of who he was, GOD CHANGED THE WORLD THROUGH HIM FOR CHRIST. PAUL’S TESTIMONY IS ONE FOR EVERY CHRISTIAN MAN TO FOLLOW TODAY IF THEY WANT TO BE A TRUE MAN OF GOD.**

QUESTION: **WHAT IS A MAN OF GOD?**

- One who is born again through Faith in Jesus Christ
- One who is growing spiritually through Faith in Jesus Christ
- One whose life reflects the qualities of Faith in Jesus Christ

NOTE: As a **TRUE MAN OF GOD**, Paul gives men of our day an example and a pattern of what it takes to be a **MAN OF GOD IN OUR DAY.**

I. PAUL’S READINESS TO DIE – VS. 6

NOTE: Paul had been faithfully serving the Lord for over 30 years and was now looking forward to being with the Lord.

- A. Paul’s Determination was to Serve the Lord – Acts 9:6; 1 Corinthians 2:1,2
- B. Paul’s Desire was to be with the Lord – Philippians 1:21-23
- C. Paul’s Destiny was about to become a reality.
 - 1. He anticipated martyrdom – “READY TO BE OFFERED.”
 - 2. He was beheaded for his faith by Nero at 63 years of age in 68 AD.

NOTE: As a **MAN OF GOD** Paul was ready to **LIVE AND DIE FOR CHRIST.**

QUESTION: **SIR, ARE YOU READY AND WILLING TO LIVE AND DIE FOR CHRIST?**

II. PAUL'S RETIRING TESTIMONY – VS. 7

NOTE: Paul was ready to die for Christ because he had been faithful in living for Christ and had accomplished all that God had for him to complete.

- He had planted at least 14 local churches.
- He wrote at least 14 Epistles.

A. Paul Fought the Good (Honorable) Fight

1. The Fight for Truth
2. The Fight for Righteousness
3. The Fight for the Church
4. The Fight for Jesus Christ

QUESTION: SIR, ARE YOU FIGHTING THE GOOD FIGHT OF FAITH TODAY?

B. Paul Finished the Course

1. As begun in Acts 9:6
2. As continued in Galatians 1:17
3. As seen in 1 Corinthians 2:2

QUESTION: SIR, ARE YOU DOING ALL THAT GOD WANTS YOU TO DO?

C. Paul Kept the Faith

1. By Obeying Christ
2. By Proclaiming Truth
3. By Living Righteously
4. By Refusing to Quit

QUESTION: SIR, ARE YOU KEEPING THE FAITH?

III. PAUL'S RESOUNDING ANTICIPATION – VS. 8

NOTE: Paul knew that as he was a FAITHFUL MAN OF GOD that when he saw the Lord in Heaven, a great reward was going to be given to him.

A. Paul's Anticipated Reward – THE CROWN OF RIGHTEOUSNESS

- The reward given to those who faithfully serve Christ on Earth

B. Paul's Anticipated Revealing – HE WOULD SEE THE LORD

QUESTION: SIR, ARE YOU LOOKING FORWARD TO HEAVEN BECAUSE YOU KNOW YOU WILL RECEIVE THE CROWN OF RIGHTEOUSNESS FOR FAITHFUL SERVICE TO GOD?

LESSON/APPLICATION

1) WE NEED FAITHFUL MEN OF GOD LIKE PAUL TODAY?

2) SIR, ARE YOU A FAITHFUL MAN OF GOD LIKE PAUL TODAY?

QUESTION:

HOW DID PAUL GET TO WHERE HE WAS IN HIS CHRISTIAN LIFE?

ANSWER:

BY SURRENDERING TO ALL THAT CHRIST WANTED HIM TO BE.

-PHILIPPIANS 3:7-14

SIR, WHEN PEOPLE SEE YOU, THINK OF YOU, OR HEAR YOUR NAME DO THEY SAY, “THERE IS A MAN OF GOD?”