COURAGE

It is always possible for me to be wring, but in this I do not think I am. I believe we do not have much courage in the church anymore, either among our members or preachers. I remember when preachers preached “it like it is” and members demanded they do so. If a preacher was not strong enough in Bible or doctrine they heard about it and sometimes lost their job with that church.

While I agree that some of them were somewhat “crude” in their expressions, they spoke the truth of God’s word without cringing or favor. They took the words of the apostle Paul in 2 Timothy 4 seriously “I charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and by his appearing and his kingdom: preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, and exhort, with complete patience and teaching.” (v.1-2)

I liken our pulpits to more nearly emulate the pulpits of denominations these days. The person occupying our pulpits are actually acting like “pastors” the others churches claim their preachers are. They think more about “taking care of the flock,” that is, of their own members “perceived needs,” than preaching the word. In my judgment that is a mistake. We know less about the Bible in the church today than at any time in my life. I pray I am wrong!

After all is said and done, more is said than is done. What we are to face at judgment is “God’s word,” and be judged by it.(John 12:48) Therefore we need more men with the courage to preach it.

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