

INTRODUCTION.

- A. Scripture text: **2Timothy 4:6-8**.
- B. It seems to be a lot easier to get people ready to do things that have an entertainment value than that of a service or work characteristic.
- C. Being ready for any good work or activity takes preparation and most importantly a good attitude.
- D. Tonight, I want to talk about being ready.

I. SOME WHO WERE NOT READY.

- A. Jonah was God's man to go preach. But Jonah was not ready to heed what God said.
- B. Peter said he was ready to go all the way with Jesus, but he wasn't (Mt. 26:33).
But Peter answered and said to Him, "Even though all may fall away because of You, I will never fall away."
- C. The five foolish virgins were not ready for bridegroom when he came (see Mt. 25:1-13).
- D. The foolish farmer had many goods stored up for years to come, but was not ready to meet his end (see Lk. 12:16-21).
- E. Hezekiah was mortally ill, and was told to get his house in order. He was not ready because he did not have a son. After being granted 15 more years, 3 years later, Manasseh was born (see 2Kgs. 20:1, 6; 21:1).

II. SOME WHO WERE READY.

- A. The apostle Paul was ready to preach the gospel (Rom. 1:15,16).
Thus, for my part, I am eager to preach the gospel to you also who are in Rome. 16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.
- B. He was also ready to die (Ac. 21:13).
Then Paul answered, "What are you doing, weeping and breaking my heart? For I am ready not only to be bound, but even to die at Jerusalem for the name of the Lord Jesus."
- C. The five prudent (or smart) virgins were ready for the coming of the bridegroom even though they did not know when he was coming (see Mt. 25:1-13).
- D. The 5-talent and 2-talent men were ready for the masters coming because they had wisely used their time (see Mt. 25:14-30).
- E. Isaiah was man who when called by God to go and preach was ready for the task. "*Here I am. Send me.*" (see Isa. 6:1-8).

III. WE NEED TO BE READY.

- A. We need to be ready for doing every kind of good deed (Titus 3:1).
Remind them to be subject to rulers, to authorities, to be obedient, to be ready for every good deed,
- B. We need to be ready to make a defense of our faith and the gospel (1Pet. 3:15; Phil. 1:16).
(Phil. 1:16) ...the latter do it out of love, knowing that I am appointed for the defense of the gospel; (1Pet. 3:15) ...but sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts, always being ready to make a defense to everyone who asks you to give an account for the hope that is in you, yet with gentleness and reverence;...
- C. We need to be ready to die (see 2Tim. 4:6-8).
- D. We need to be ready for the coming of X (Mt. 24:42-44).
"Therefore be on the alert, for you do not know which day your Lord is coming. 43 "But be sure of this, that if the head of the house had known at what time of the night the thief was coming, he would have been on the alert and would not have allowed his house to be broken into. 44 "For this reason you be ready too; for the Son of Man is coming at an hour when you do not think He will."

IV. QUESTIONS ABOUT BEING READY.

- A. Are you ready to put your house in order?

- B. Are you ready to go to work for Jesus?
- C. Are you ready to meet Jesus on that final day?
- D. Are you ready to go to the judgment and face God Almighty?
- E. Are you ready...?

CONCLUSION AND INVITATION.

- A. May we continue to grow and mature to be ready for all things.
- B. Is your readiness like that of Peter and of Paul?
- C. Plan of salvation for non-Xians; erring-Xians.