**Psalter**: 421:1,6 - 243:7,8 - 333:1,2,3,4 - 254:4,5 - 222:1,4,5,8 - 428:2,6,9

**Scripture**: 2 Timothy 3:1 – 4:4

**PAUL’S EXHORTATIONS TO TIMOTHY (VII) – Preach the Word**

**1. The solemnity of the exhortation**

* Christ shall return as the exalted King and shall separate the people (Mat. 25:31-46).
  + Eternal woe for those who have built their hopes upon a false doctrine (Rom. 16:17-18; 2 Tim. 3:8; Mat. 25:41).
* No servant in his own strength is capable of bringing sound doctrine (2 Cor. 2:16).
* Let the solemnity of the reality that we all must appear before Him cause us to examine whether we are in the faith (cf. Rom. 10:17).

**2. The background of the exhortation**

* Vss 3-4 are the background to the exhortation (cf. 1:13; 3:7) and contain Paul’s solemn diagnosis.
* Paul’s’ diagnosis is highly applicable also for the times we live in.

**3. The content of the exhortation**

* What Timothy must do.
  + Kerusso: (1) preaching in public the glad tidings of the kingdom of God.
    - Is a command; solemn duty which God has laid upon his shoulders (1 Tim. 4:14-16; cf. 1 Cor. 9:16).
    - Full counsel of God; only one Name (Acts 4:12; cf. 1 Cor. 2:2-3).
  + Kerusso: (2) the need to *accept* the message.
    - Is responsibility of the hearer (cf. Eze. 33:7-9).
    - Weigh in your balance the things of this temporal life versus your eternal destination (cf. 2 Cor. 4:17).
* When Timothy must do it.
  + In convenient moments and not so convenient moments.
    - Not forcing in (cf. Mat. 10:14; Acts 13:51, 18:6).
    - Timothy must continually preach the word to those over whom the Lord has made him an overseer.
      * We need His grace to be faithful for the welfare of the souls under our oversight.
* How Timothy must do it.
  + Reprove:
    - Using the Word of God (Heb. 4:12; Eph. 6:17).
    - The real character of false doctrines needs to be exposed (cf. 2 Cor. 11:13-14).
  + Rebuke:
    - Is duty of the preaching and ruling elders.
    - Out of love for the eternal welfare of the souls.
  + Exhort:
    - An admonishment which accompanies the proclamation of the gospel (cf. 2 Cor. 5:20).
    - With all longsuffering (cf. Ex. 34:6; Ps. 86:15; 2 Pet. 3:9; 1 Tim. 1:15-16).
    - With all doctrine.
    - Its centre: Jesus Christ for lost sinners (cf. Col. 1:27-28).