TIMES WHEN YOU WILL BE UNHAPPY

Text: II Tim. 4:10
Intro. Paul stated Demas had forsaken him having loved the world. Demas is mentioned 3 times in the Bible. Once he is called a fellow laborer. Once he is listed with others. The last time is when he is mentioned in the text. Saved people can be unhappy in the Lord's work. They can be dissatisfied. It may have nothing to do with the preaching, singing, or the church. It is a personal individual thing. When will you be unhappy in the Lord's work?

I. WHEN YOUR HEART ISN'T IN THE WORK.

A. The word.
1. We are to seek God's kingdom and righteousness first. Matt. 6:33
2. We are to present our bodies as living sacrifices unto the Lord. Rom. 12:1
3. We are to do things heartily, as unto the Lord. Col. 3:23

B. The will.
1. The Lord calls us to labor for Him.
2. The Holy Spirit convicts us and empowers us to do the work.
3. The Word of God shows us how.
4. We must choose to serve the Lord. We must make it the most important thing in our lives.

C. The witness.
1. When the Lord saved us, He changed us to bring glory to Him.
2. He wants us to influence others, like the woman at the well.
3. He wants us to be satisfied like the psalmist. Psa. 107:9

D. The waywardness.
1. Why wasn't Demas happy? Why did he quit?
2. He loved the world. His heart wasn't in the work with Paul. It was in the world.
3. It could have been his heart was on pleasures, power, passions, or position.

II. WHEN YOU AREN'T HOLY.

A. The word.
1. We are to be and live holy because He is holy. I Pet. 1:15
2. We are to deny ungodliness and worldly lusts and to live soberly, righteously, and godly. Tit. 2:12
3. We are admonished not to sin. I John 2:1

B. The will.
1. The Lord calls us to a holy life.
2. The Holy Spirit convicts us to live a holy life.
3. The Word of God shows us how to live a holy life.
4. We must choose to live a holy life. Joshua called on Israel to choose who they would ser-
ve. He was going to serve the Lord. Josh. 24:15

C. The witness.
1. A holy life pleases the Lord.
2. A holy life pleases us as saved people.
3. A holy life influences others about us to the power of God.

D. The waywardness.
1. Satan will tempt you to live unholy. He is constantly working.
2. Sin seems pleasant and appealing. It offers what it will not deliver to the saved.
3. We live in a world that craves satisfaction. People will try anything and everything to find contentment and happiness.
4. They try drink, dope, desires, etc., all to no avail.
5. A sinful way of life destroys life and the desire to live. It takes from us instead of giving to us.

III. WHEN YOU WON’T HELP.

A. The word.
1. We are to be active in the Lord’s service. I Thess. 1:9
2. Each of us is to labor. We are to find a work we can do and get busy. I Cor. 3:9
3. Isaiah said, Here am I send me. Isa. 6:8
4. We often make appeals for help to our membership with little response. Rom. 6:13

B. The will.
1. The Lord calls you to get busy working.
2. The Holy Spirit convicts you to get to work.
3. The word of God challenges you to work.
4. The child of God concedes he should work.

C. The witness.
1. Working satisfies the Lord.
2. Working satisfies you.
3. Working influences others about you.

D. The waywardness.
1. You may not help because you are discouraged.
2. You may be depressed about your life.
3. You may be divided about the priorities.
4. You may be deeply hurt by others.

IV. WHEN YOU WON’T HEAR.

A. The word.
1. We are to be ready to hear when in God's house. Eccl. 5:1
2. Jesus said a wise man will listen to His words. Matt. 7: 24-27
3. The Lord challenged the churches in Revelation to hear if they had an ear.

B. The will.
1. The Lord has something to say.
2. The Holy Spirit has something to show us.
3. The word of God has something to share with us.
4. The decision is ours to hear. We decide to listen or not.

C. The witness.
1. Jesus said, My sheep hear my voice. John 10:27
2. The reception of the Lord’s message has changed many lives saved and unsaved.
3. Samuel said, Speak Lord, thy servant heareth.

D. The waywardness.
1. Why don’t people hear the Lord? He still wants to speak to them.
2. A carnal life style makes spiritual things unimportant.
3. Sinfulness causes love to grow cold. Matt. 24:12
4. Pride causes us to think we know it all.

V. WHEN YOU WANT TO HURT OTHERS.

A. The word.
1. We are to love our neighbor as ourselves. Matt. 22:39-40
2. We are to love the LORD with all the heart.
3. We are to love one another as Christians. John 13:34, 35

B. The will.
1. The Lord calls us to love one another.
2. The Holy Spirit convicts us to love.
3. The Word causes us to love.
4. We must choose. We must decide to love, not hurt.

C. The witness.
1. Jesus teaches love is a sign of discipleship. John 33:35, 36
2. Love is an evidence of salvation. 1 John 3:14
3. Love is the fruit of the Spirit. Gal. 5:22

D. The waywardness.
1. James said some bite and devour others. James 4:1-3
2. Paul wrote letters telling saved people not to hurt, but
help and love.
3. The devil works among a membership to divide, destroy, discourage, and devour.
4. Some spitefully hurt, show up, put down, criticize etc., but this is not the spirit of our Lord.

VI. WHEN YOU AREN'T HUMBLE.
A. The word.
1. If you think you stand take heed lest you fall. I Cor. 10:12
2. Pride goes before destruction. Prov. 16:18
3. We are not to think highly of self. Rom. 12:3
B. The will.
1. The Lord wants to give us grace. He only can if we are humble. James 4:7
2. The Holy Spirit woes us to have the right attitude.
3. The Word of God gives us the way.
4. We must decide if we are going to be proud or humble.
C. The witness.
1. Humility satisfies God. We see ourselves as God sees us.
2. It satisfies us.
3. It influences those around us.
D. The waywardness.
1. Pride elevates self.
2. Pride eliminates God.
3. Pride evaluates with the world.
4. The words of our Lord will help us to understand our need of humbleness. John 15:5

VII. WHEN YOU ARE HEAVY.

_________________________________________________________
WATCHMAN WANTED
By Kenneth Click
Text: Ezekiel 3:17-21
Intro. God's call of Ezekiel to be a watchman over the house of Israel hangs like a double-edged sword over us today.
The frightful judgment of God on wicked, sinful men has not changed. Likewise, the offer of loving forgiveness toward those who confess and repent has not changed.
What has changed is the number of watchmen proclaiming the message.

I. THE WATCHMAN'S JOB.
A. Watching
1. For the welfare of others.
2. For the attack of the enemy.
3. For instruction from on high.

B. Warning
1. The unsuspecting.
2. The unconcerned.
3. The unfaithful.
C. Witnessing
1. About the plan of God.
2. About the person of God.
3. About the power of God.
4. About the perfection of God.
D. Weeping
1. Over the sinfulness of sin.
2. Over the destiny of the lost.
3. Over the apathy of the saved.

II. THE WATCHMAN'S JOY.
A. Working
1. For the Almighty God.
2. For the glory of the Kingdom.
3. For the prize of the high calling of Christ.
B. Winning
1. The lost
2. The backslider
C. Worship
1. Which is not hypocritical.
2. Which is according to God's will.
3. Which is acceptable to God.

Con. We have a responsibility to sound the warning. We must tell the world that sin is sin and God is God and judgment is coming.

FROM FAMINE TO FEAST
By Marty McCoy
Text: II Kings 7:1-11
Intro. We see in the preceding chapters a scene of despair and hopelessness, but praise God before the 7th chapter ends we see their despair turned into victory! In this simple story we see a beautiful picture of salvation and service.

I. THE PLIGHT. Ch. 6:24,25
A. A great famine in Samaria.
1. Caused by a wicked king.
2. Caused by sin of the people.
B. A famine of the Word of God today.
1. Caused by cold churches.
2. Caused by sin of God's people.
C. People are hungry for the Word of God today.

II. THE PLAN. V4
A. The lepers plight was of extreme desperation.
1. They were sure to starve because the lepers of a city lived off the leftovers of the people.
2. In the Bible leprosy always
B. Let's look at the plan of these lepers.
1. They recognized their condition.
2. They devised a definite plan.
   "Now therefore come..." V6
3. They executed the plan quickly.
   "And they arose in the twilight."

III. THE PROVISION. V5-8
A. God had provided for them by causing the enemy to flee. "For the Lord had made..." V6
B. God has provided salvation today for all who will accept it.
   1. That provision is through Jesus Christ.
   2. It is the only way to be saved.
      a. Not by baptism.
      b. NOT BY CHURCH MEMBERSHIP.
      c. Not by good works.

IV. THE PROCLAMATION. V9,10
A. The lepers had a concern for the people of Samaria.
B. They realized that they were dying physically.
C. Oh, that we would see souls dying from spiritual starvation.
D. Key phrase. "We do not well."
E. These lepers were not concerned about just satisfying their own hunger, but the other people also.

Con. Let us go forth and share the gospel message with those who are hungry.

YOUNG TIMOTHY'S ANCHORS

By D. B. Wright

Text: II Timothy 3:1-17

Intro.
A. Paul lists some of the SIGNS OF THE END TIME.
B. He tells Timothy "persecutions" come to one and all who lead a godly life. VI2
C. Paul says to this young preacher, it is going to get worse!
D. He appeals to him to keep his ANCHOR out!

E. Two quotations from Dr. C.H. Spurgeon in a sermon preached Oct. 10, 1885.
1. "Those who know the scriptures, and so believe in Jesus, are pillared upon a personal acquaintance with the foundations of their faith."
2. "The man that hath been taught the scriptures from his youth is anchored by divine influences of that scripture."

F. Definition of anchor.
1. Something or someone to tie to the hitching post.
2. Something that holds fast implement for securing; that which gives stability.
3. The ANCHOR is especially useful in time of storms.

I. TIMOTHY WAS ANCHORED TO THE SUPREME SOVEREIGN!
A. The God of the Word. V16
B. The God of all wisdom. Matt. 6:8; 7:11
C. The almighty God. Gen. 17:1
1. Able to perform. Eph. 3:20
2. Able to complete what He begins. Rom. 4:21
D. Knows all and loves all. Prov. 15:3
Rom. 5:8
E. Eyes and ears open to our cry. I Pet. 3:12; Gen. 21:17
F. Faithful. Lam. 3:22,23

II. TIMOTHY WAS ANCHORED IN JESUS THE SOLID, SAVING ROCK OF AGES.
A. Psa. 62:2
B. II Tim. 3:15
C. Jesus, Timothy's Rock.
   3. Sure. II Tim. 2:19
   4. Satisfying. John 4:10; Matt. 11:28; I Cor. 10:4; Psa. 23:2
   6. Strengthening. I John 4:4; Phil. 4:13; II Tim. 4:17

III. TIMOTHY WAS ANCHORED BY THE SEALING HOLY SPIRIT.
A. Eph.1:13,14
B. Timothy's INWARD WITNESS. I John 5:10; Rom. 8:16
C. Timothy's "One called along side to help and comfort." John 14:16, 17
D. Timothy's TEACHER AND GUIDE. John 14:26; Rom. 8:14

IV. TIMOTHY WAS ANCHORED TO THE SETTLED, SURE WORD!
A. Ps. 119:89
B. II Peter 1:19
C. Light for the paths of life. Psalms 119:130
D. Stability and assurance. Psalms 1:2,3
E. Peace in the night. Psalms 119:165
F. Comfort regardless of circumstances. I Thess. 4:18

V. TIMOTHY WAS ANCHORED TO SPIRITUALLY STEADFAST SAINTS.
A. Grandmother-Example and Teacher.
B. Mother Eunice-Example and Teacher.
C. A dedication and faithful father in the ministry...apostle Paul.
   1. I Tim. 1:2
   2. II Tim. 1:2
   3. An inspiration to many. Phil. 1:14
D. The great cloud of witnesses. Hebs. 12:1

VI. TIMOTHY WAS ANCHORED BY SURE AND STEADFAST HOPE.
A. Hebs. 6:18,19
B. I Tim. 1:1
C. Col. 1:27
D. Blessed hope. Tit. 2:13

RESPONDING TO THE LORD

Text: I Peter 2:6-8
Intro.
A. The SETTING and it's SIGNIFICANCE.
   1. The REVELATION that needs to be COMPREHENDED.
      a. The significance of Jesus - He is indispensable.
      b. The response that is called for.
B. The SCENE and the SONG.
   1. The SCENE - illus. the portrait of Jesus standing at the door knocking. Rev. 3:20
   2. The SONG.
      Jesus is standing at your hearts door.
      Standing and knocking, He's knocked before.
      This is the question you face once more.

What will you do with Jesus.
Will you now answer His tender call?
Will you obey Him what e'er befall?
Follow Him daily as Lord of all?
What will you do with Jesus?
What will you do with Jesus?
neutral you cannot be;
Some day your heart will be asking:
What will He do with me?
C. The SUBJECT and it's SERIOUSNESS.

I. RESPOND TO THE LORD HUMBLY!
A. ILLUSTRATIONS.
   1. Isa. 6:1-9 - Isaiah recognized His greatness and splendor and humbly said, "Woe is me for I am an unclean man."
   2. Rev. 1:17,18 - John saw His glory and supremacy and fell at His feet as dead.
B. INSIGHT.
   1. Realize and recognize who He is.
   2. This experience will humble you.
   3. This experience will bless you-
      benefit.
   4. James 4:10
   5. In order to become a recipient of God's riches and blessings you must:
      a. Be aware of how you look to God.
      b. Be aware of who He is and what He's done.
      c. Appropriate His promises.

II. RESPOND TO THE LORD HONESTLY!
A. The Lord's DISCERNMENT - John 2:24,25 "BUT JESUS DID NOT COMMIT HIMSELF UNTO THEM, BECAUSE HE KNEW ALL MEN. AND NEEDED NOT THAT ANY SHOULD TESTIFY OF MAN: FOR HE KNEW WHAT WAS IN MAN."
B. Humanities DELIMMA - we are so concerned today with impressing others and putting on a front that we fail to realize and ascertain that you can't fool the Lord. He knows what you are - what you think - and what you've done.
C. The DECISION - respond to the Lord honestly.

III. RESPOND TO THE LORD HAPPILY.
A. The FACT - it's not a DREARy thing to serve the Lord.
B. The FOCUS - It's a delightful
thing to submit to and serve the Lord.
1. The happiest times in your life are when you know you're right with God and that your doing what He wants you to do.
2. Be positive in your praise and worship to the Lord.
3. Psalms 144:15 "HAPPY IS THAT PEOPLE, THAT IS IN SUCH A CASE: YEA, HAPPY IS THAT PEOPLE, WHOSE GOD IS THE LORD."

IV. RESPOND TO THE LORD HONESTLY.

A. This involves awesomeness.
B. This involves giving Him our best.

THE OLD GOSPEL VERSUS THE NEW

Text: Galatians 1:9  By Danny Chappell

Introduction:
1. There are many in the world who believe that we need a new modern gospel for a new modern society.
2. However, the gospel we need—whether a new time, old time or anytime must be the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ.
3. The true gospel according to the scripture is the "good news" as preached by the apostle Paul. I Cor. 15:3-4.
4. Though modern man is proud of his progress and technological advancements, he is lost and desperately needs the good news of God's love.
5. There are three problems that man faces that only God can solve.
   a. Sin - We change the names of sin, but sin is still dirty and its consequences will eventually find us out.
   b. Sorrow - Job attested to the unvarnished truth that "Man born of woman is of few days and full of trouble."
   c. Separation - Though man has changed the names from coffin to casket, undertaker to mortician, graveyard to memorial park our appointment with death still stands.
6. In view of these realities man has devised a "social gospel" to help humanity's hurts. However, it is no substitute for God's gospel and the Bible says "let them be accursed."
7. Notice several things about the "social gospel."
I. THE ROOT OF THE SOCIAL GOSPEL
A. Its author is Satan.
   1. He's a liar and the father of all untruth. John 8:44
B. Its announcers are the liberal ministers and seminary professors who advance its message as wolves in sheep's clothing.
   1. Matthew 7:15
   2. II. Cor. 11:13
   3. I Timothy 4:1-3
C. The truth is we do not need a boost from below but a birth from above.
   1. John 3:3
   2. John 1:11-13

II. THE REASONING OF THE SOCIAL GOSPEL
A. The social gospel is one that comes from the depraved minds of religious heretics.
B. Here are some of its beliefs:
   1. The Bible is a book that is inspired only like the poets or if it is inspired it is only inspired in parts.
      a. Answer: If the Bible is not the work of God then it is the work of men. However, if the Bible can be proven historically, scientifically, and practically it must be accepted as the infallible Word of God.
   2. God is a God of love and could send no one to Hell.
      a. Answer: It is true that God is a God of love but the Bible also portrays Him as a God of wrath. When God's love is rejected, it brings forth the consequences of judgment. In reality God sends no one to Hell but people send themselves because they reject God's love and His Son who is the only one who can save.
   3. Jesus Christ was only a good moral man and His blood has no saving power.
      a. Answer: Jesus was more than a man, he was God in the flesh with a sinless nature. His blood was shed in order that God the Father might be appeased and man might be cleansed of his sin.
   4. Sin is only a weakness and not wickedness. Man is a product of his environment and not responsible for his deeds; therefore, he is not to be held accountable.
      a. Answer: The Bible plainly teaches that man is born a sinner with the natural ability to produce sin which is contrary to the law of
God. The scripture teaches that man must reap the harvest of his iniquity and give account at the Great White Throne Judgment.

III. THE RESULTS OF THE SOCIAL GOSPEL
A. In the Church - The preaching of the social gospel will produce an unregenerated church membership. II Cor. 4:3-4
B. In the Community - The preaching of the social gospel will produce anarchy. When you humanize God, deitize man, minimize sin, glorify science, glamorize sex and liquorize society all must pay the consequences.
C. In Eternity - The difference between the old gospel and the new is Heaven and Hell. The new social gospel offers a barren eternity. Prov. 14:12; Matthew 7:21-23

IV. THE REVERENCE OF THE OLD GOSPEL
A. Just because the gospel of Christ is old doesn't mean it has lost its power. Rom. 1:16
B. The sun is old but without it people grope in darkness. The air is old but without it men gasp and die.
C. The gospel I preach is one that lifts up the fallen, weeps over the erring one and is mighty to save. I Cor. 9:16
D. It is rooted in Jesus Christ who can rescue, save and redeem. It believes:
   1. The Bible is the inspired Word of God.
   2. God is Holy.
   3. Christ is Lord because He died and rose again.
   4. Man is sinful and needs the new birth.

YOUR WORK AND GOD'S WORK

Text: II Cor. 6:1

I. SOMETHINGS WE HAVE NO CONTROL OVER.
A. It is impossible for us to control the actions of others. II Pet. 2:13
B. It is impossible for us to change human nature. Matt. 10:16
C. It is impossible to solve problems apart from the presence of God. Psa. 88:3,4; Rom. 1:18; II Cor. 12:10
D. It is impossible to please every one. Gal. 1:10

II. SOMETHINGS GOD ALLOWS US TO DO.
A. To choose between right and wrong.

Josh. 24:15
B. God allows us to grow spiritually. I Pet. 2:1-3
C. God allows us to put our problems into proper perspective. Prov. 21:23; Psa. 34:6
D. God allows us to please Him. I Thess. 4:1,3,6,11
E. God allows impossible to be possible. Mark 9:23

III. SOMETHINGS ONLY GOD CAN DO.
A. God can control people, places, and things. Acts 7:49,50
B. God can change human nature. Eph. 4:17-24
C. God can either solve problems or help us find a way to cope with them. I Pet. 3:17
D. God is willing to be pleased. Rom. 12:1,2

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WHAT MAKES A GOOD CHURCH?

Text: Col. 1:9-29

By Carroll Grigsby

IT MUST BE CHRIST-CENTERED. (V13-22 are 10 consecutive verses wherein Christ Jesus is mentioned.)

A. That does not mean we---
   1. Have an opened Bible on a table in vestibule or a supposed likeness of Jesus on the wall.
   2. All pray together and lift up Jesus' name at the same time.
   3. Only sing songs of Jesus.
B. It means all things of our church revolve around Jesus Christ and redound = overflow; have an effect for Jesus' glory.
   1. Our meetings should be for the exaltation of Jesus Christ. He is everything.
   2. Our service parts should be to glorify Jesus.
      a. He has brought us to peace with God. 20-22
      b. You are only worthwhile "if ye continue in the faith
C. Our church will be Christ-centered only if---
1. Church members are saved. V14
2. Church members are obedient to the Word of God.
   a. Too many are moved away from obedience.
   b. They use Sunday for self instead of God.
   c. Daily they live for self-make a living, pleasure
   d. Church members are not considering God and His cause.
3. Church members are dedicated to living a Christ-like life. V9, 10,11-13, 3:3,4

D. A good church is a Christ-centered church.
1. Do you make this church Christ centered?
2. Shame on you if you live below Christ's standards and are members of Angelton M.B.C. Get right with God.

II. IT MUST BE A CHURCH WHERE LOVE PREVAILS.

A. Not worldly love.
   1. The worldly love is not the same as God's love. Which love is "shed abroad in our hearts." Rom. 5:5
2. Worldly love is lustful - what one can RECEIVE. God's love is GIVING. God has changed you. What one can GIVE to help another - time, encouragement, comfort, labor, understanding, money etc.

1. Forgive one another. Col. 3:13
2. Overlooking one another's faults. Col. 3:13
3. Encouraging, strengthening, and challenging each other. Col. 3:12
4. All the while you and I are being "renewed in knowledge after him that created him." Col. 3:13 BE GOD-LIKE.

C. Our love must be a God-like love.
1. God-like love is based upon salvation. You being unsaved don't have it and cannot show it. Rom. 5:5
2. God-like love comes from God and the actions of it are taught in the Bible.
3. Love of the world works death and destruction; love of God yields life and peace and satisfaction.

D. Our love is to nurture and admonish one another to growth in the Lord. Eph. 6:4 Church needs this as do children.
1. A church is not a meeting place only.
2. People coming to church need---
   a. To hear real praying - not repetitious, heartless, emotionless utterances without thanksgiving or concern.
   b. Bible reading, teaching, and preaching and that with conviction and feelings. Psa. 119:11,15
   c. To see people who genuinely care for one another and share a common strong interest in God, God's Word, and this church. Col. 1:24,25,27
3. This church is so important to God's people because of the many difficulties of life, hard tasks and problems.
   a. We help one another thru the difficulties.
   b. We pick one another up.
   c. We encourage one another.

A MESSAGE FROM A MAN

Text: John 1:6-18 Wesley Waldrum

I. A PERSONAL MESSAGE FROM A MAN. V6,7
A. John was chosen of God. Lk.1:17
B. John was a cousin to Jesus. Lk.1:36
C. John went crying in the wilderness.

II. A PLAIN MESSAGE FROM A MAN.V8-10
A. A message of a light to the world.
B. A message of love to the world.
C. A message of a Lord to the world.

III. A POWERFUL MESSAGE FROM A MAN.V12,13
A. It was a sonship message. Gal.4:7
B. It was a saving message. Lk.19:10
C. It was a sinless message.

IV. A PERFORMANCE MESSAGE FROM A MAN.V14
A. Jesus became flesh. V14
B. Jesus was begotten of the Father, C. Jesus bestowed fullness. V16

V. A PROCLAIMED MESSAGE FROM A MAN. V15
A. He announced the Messiah.
B. He adored His magistrate.
C. He anxiously made way for Jesus.

VI. A PICTORIAL MESSAGE FROM A MAN. V17,18
A. He fulfilled the law. Matt. 5:17
B. He was flawless as a lamb. Isa. 53:7
C. He furnished living water. Jn. 4:10