Why I Would Leave Preaching

Tony Mauck · Romans 12:1–5

INTRODUCTION

- That is my attempt here to produce the product that Jesus wants in his people. But the attempts to produce that do not come without some cost and some difficulty.
- If we're going to teach the New Testament, we're going to have to teach the roles that God designed for men and women.
- People say, I'm going to leave the Lord's church because I'm so disappointed. Well, where are you going to go?

1 The Unrealistic Expectations of Brethren

- Everywhere I've been, everywhere, I have dealt with unrealistic expectations that people have.
- He can't be everybody's best friend. He can't have a meaningful conversation with everybody at every service.
- It's important that all of us do the work of interacting with each other to make sure that all of us get the kind of attention and encouragement we need, because not one person is equipped to do it all.
- No matter how hard you try it, somebody's gonna be upset with you. Especially if you're preaching the gospel.
- When you go off on a weekend somewhere, Tony's not going off on the weekend.

2 The Demand of Perfection for Him and His Family

1 Corinthians 15:10

- The preacher's family is constantly under the scrutiny of the brethren and measured by everyone's standards.
- You're getting a guy who has been sin damaged just like everybody else.
- Don't equate passion for the message with arrogance or self-righteousness.
- The reason why I preach this gospel with passion is because the nature and urgency of the message deserves it and the relevance of the message to your life.

3 The Difficulties That Come When We Differ

Matthew 5:3

- That's precisely what Paul was telling Timothy to preach the word, be instant in season and out of season.
- Rebuke is never relished by those who receive it.
- I must give great diligence to make sure that what I preach is biblical, it is accurate, and a proper understanding and interpretation of the text.

- We should never believe our doctrines or views of Scripture are correct simply because we possess them.
- I could preach the truth about a thousand subjects and be wrong before God if it is not spoken in love.

4 The Lessons No Longer Affect Diligence, Change, and Growth

Ezekiel 33:31–32

- I would preach sermons I was excited about and preached my heart out, and it was like, it's just another sermon.
- If you're concerned about me vacating, let me tell you the recipe for getting it done. Act like, ah, no big deal. Just another message, just another sermon.
- They sit before you as my people and hear your words. But they do not do them.
- You, Ezekiel, are to them like a sensual song by one who has a beautiful voice and plays well on an instrument, for they hear your words and do not practice them.

5 Why I'm Not Leaving: I Am a Debtor

Romans 1:14–16

- I'm not going to leave preaching, at least not by plan or design, not in any upcoming days, for the very same reasons that I began.
- I gave up that dream in a single night. Because of a single sermon.
- I am under obligation. I am a debtor. To the Greeks and to the barbarians.
- I'm a debtor to do it. Because I believe in this message. And I believe in God's people who are helped by this message.
- That's why I preach for people who are willing to change. And you are those people.

THE CHALLENGE

If there's someone that needs to respond in a public way to be baptized into Christ, perhaps you need help and assistance from the brethren here, prayers that we can pray for you. Won't you come while we stand and sing together?

MY NOTES