

The following is an excerpt from Pastor Drew's upcoming book release entitled, *The Remnant vs. The Rebellious*.

SHEILDING ELI

I Samuel 3:15 – "...and Samuel was afraid to tell Eli the vision."

Please remember that as ministers unto the Lord we have a responsibility. We must deliver the true unadulterated message of repentance and conversion. Leadership that refuses to flow with God's vision must be confronted immediately. Remember saints, God will not write this message across the sky, but will speak it from His remnant followers. Don't be ashamed to minister the "confrontational issues" that may be in your immediate realm of influence. Whether you are recognized as leader or layperson in your church, God recognizes you as His messenger. Act like it!

We find in I Samuel chapter three, the record of Samuel's first prophecy. The picture is very clear that Samuel had received a word from the Lord and like most of us today, he was afraid to share the vision – especially with the one the vision concerned.

Samuel's natural instinct was to shield the backslidden priest from his soon punishment. Christians are still doing this today. We love those that we have spent years serving with so much, that we can't bare to deliver the word of the Lord to them if it includes correction, judgment or instruction. Saints, we must begin to ask ourselves the question, "who am I serving?" I am convinced that the prophetic voice coming to God's church will be one that will raise much controversy between the remnant and the rebellious. Lets look more intently at our responsibility as His ministers.

SEPARATED UNTO THE GOSPEL

Romans 1:1 – "Paul, a bondservant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, separated to the gospel of God..."

You may be saved, but are you separated to the Gospel? Do you hold in more esteem what your friends, overseer and pastor thinks of you or your commission to be a lover of the truth? Are you more interested in being recognized as important to your church leadership and denominational headquarters or as one whom will leave a legacy as one "separated to the Gospel". Is the importance that the true revelation of His message be heard dying in your life? These are all-important questions to ask yourself from time to time.

The church was never called to be accepted by the world. Saints were never actually called to accepted by anybody. In fact, if your message is as pure and true coming forth as Jesus' was, the world and those who condone or participate in worldly practices will despise you. Make sure that you are separated unto the Gospel. Don't be a saint that conforms to the teaching of the world, but rather, that is transformed by the renewing of your mind.

Most don't understand the term "separated unto the Gospel." Most of the time its because they don't really know what they are separated from. If you are separated to the Gospel, you are detached from everything else. If you are separated unto the Gospel you are separated from believing anything, meditating on anything and listening to anything except the Gospel. This means that you can't listen to weak faith's excuses, you can't dwell on what could have been and you absolutely refuse to believe anything for a second that is contrary to the truth that you

love. People who are separated unto the Gospel are people who refuse to preach a user-friendly message. They desire the truth, know the truth, love the truth and preach the truth even if it affects friendships, tithes, offerings and attendance. If you are separated nothing means more than obedience.

FOR CHRIST SENT ME...TO PREACH THE GOSPEL

I Corinthians 1:17 – “For Christ sent me...to preach the gospel...”

Paul was sure of one thing, his charge from Christ. The only thing that kept Paul ticking was that he knew what Christ commissioned him to do. The church could learn a lesson from this. It is important to make your calling and election sure in Christ. I know that each one of our callings may be individual and unique, but make no mistake about it – there are some absolutes! We are to go into the entire world and preach. It may never be from behind a pulpit, but to be His witness is commanded for everyone. Paul even charged the young pastor Timothy to “do the work of an evangelist.”

Godly preachers preach truth. Even when it hurts them or someone they love. Emotion should never be your motive for anything. Emotion will cause you to do things that were never in God’s perfect plan. Emotion has also driven many to excuse themselves from things that should have been done. We’ve heard that love sometimes hurts. This is not true. The Bible says that love edifies, but knowledge puffs up. Love is never meant to hurt someone. Hurt comes when the recipient of the love receives it incorrectly. Love only hurts when not received as intended. However, in order for healing, repentance and even deliverance to come – someone must be willing to deliver the message in love that may hurt the recipient if not received correctly. This is a risk we must be willing to take. Don’t shield Eli for fear that he may receive the word of love the wrong way. Deliver the word and let God be true and every man a liar.

WOE IS TO ME, IF I PREACH NOT THE GOSPEL

I Corinthians 9:16 – “...woe is to me, if I preach not the gospel!”

It should not be a matter of if we want to preach the Gospel, it should actually scare you to death to even think about not preaching what He’s laid on your heart. We do not serve a God that is much up for excuses. He’s not a God that is really moved by your circumstances. Whether or not you are the only one that is for the truth is really not that important. If you are grasping at straws trying to figure out how you might run out of being God’s spokesperson, remember that old preacher named Jonah. Jonah was like most of us today. He really just wanted to love God and care less about the people, especially if caring meant preaching to them a message contrary to what they wanted to hear. Jonah couldn’t run from the call and neither can we.

Saint, the arm of the Lord is still much too long! You will not be able to escape being tossed overboard and swallowed up. Woe unto you, if you preach not! What are you doing? It’s time to make a move and do exactly what God told you to do.

Remember it is going to be a message that will awaken the ones asleep and at ease. Don’t be surprised if they slap at you like they do their alarm clock. When they do, just count it all joy that you have suffered persecution for His namesake.

