



# **The Pastor's Priority – preach the word!**

**2 Timothy 4:1-8**

**Slides from Peter Grainger's sermon  
at the morning service  
Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> February 2014**







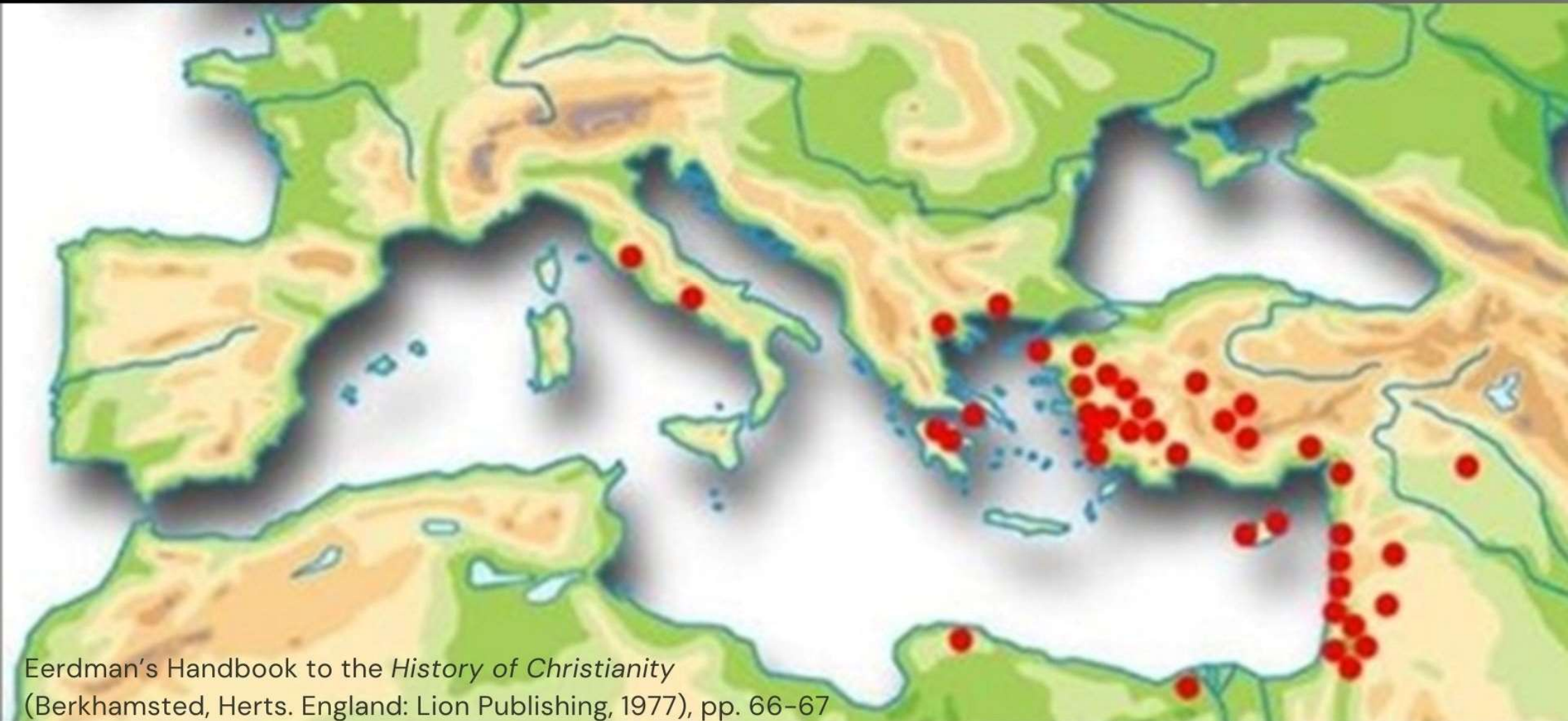
67 A.D.







# 1st Century Churches



Eerdman's Handbook to the *History of Christianity*  
(Berkhamsted, Herts. England: Lion Publishing, 1977), pp. 66-67







Preach  
the  
Word!

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2 Timothy 4:1-8

# 2 Timothy 4:1-5

In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who will judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I give you this charge: Preach the word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage—with great patience and careful instruction. For the time will come when people will not put up with sound doctrine. Instead, to suit their own desires, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear. They will turn their ears away from the truth and turn aside to myths. But you, keep your head in all situations, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, discharge all the duties of your ministry.



# 2 Timothy 4:6-8

For I am already being poured out like a drink offering, and the time for my departure is near. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day—and not only to me, but also to all who have longed for his appearing.







# Preach the Word because

## Christ Jesus is coming

(Verses 1-2)

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# Christ Jesus is Coming

In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who will judge the living and the dead, and in view of his **appearing** and his kingdom, I give you this charge: Preach the Word

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2 Timothy 4:1-2

# Christ Jesus is Coming

## The King

We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God. God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

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2 Corinthians 5:20–21



# Christ Jesus is Coming

## The Judge

So we make it our goal to please him, whether we are at home in the body or away from it. For we must all appear before the judgement seat of Christ, that each one may receive what is due to him for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad. Since, then, we know what it is to fear the Lord, we try to persuade others.

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2 Corinthians 5:9–11

# Preach the Word because

Difficult days are coming

(Verses 3-5)

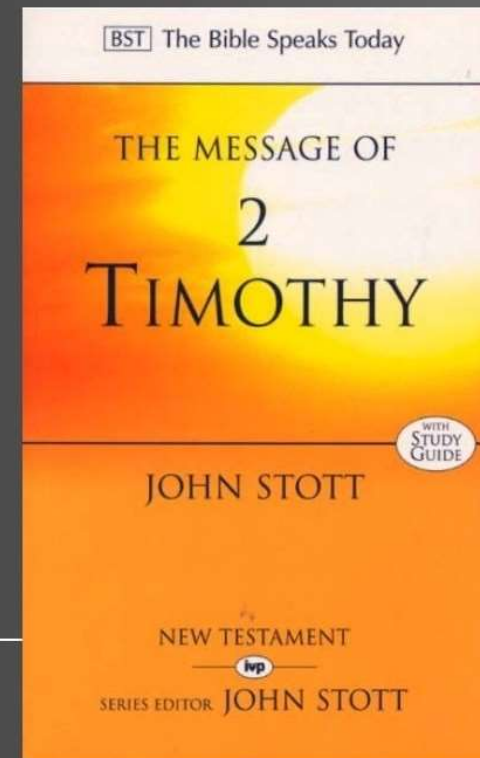
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# Difficult Days are Coming

“Preach the Word...for the time will come...”

Paul is giving a second basis on which to ground his charge. It is another future event, not now the coming of Christ but, before that end point, the coming of dark and difficult days.”



# Difficult Days are Coming

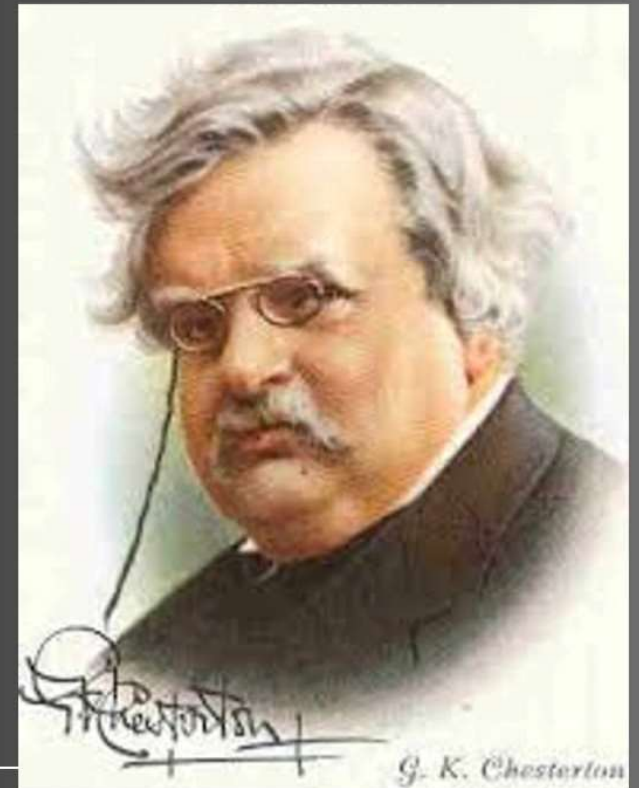
A hearing problem – people will:

- turn away from the truth
  - turn aside to myths
-



# Difficult Days are Coming

*"When people stop believing in God, it is not that they no longer believe in anything but rather they believe in everything."*



# Difficult Days are Coming

## The **response** to the problem

- keep **going** at all **times**

*Be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage—with great patience and careful instruction.*

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2 Timothy 4:2



# Difficult Days are Coming

## The **response** to the problem

- keep **calm** in all **situations**

*But you, keep your head in all situations, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, discharge all the duties of your ministry.*

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2 Timothy 4:5

# Preach the Word because

Paul's departure is coming

(Verses 6-8)

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# Paul's departure is coming

*For I am already being poured out like a drink offering...*



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2 Timothy 4:6

# Paul's departure is coming

*...the time for my departure is near.*



2 Timothy 4:6

# Paul's departure is coming

*And the things you have heard me say  
in the presence of many witnesses  
entrust to reliable men who will also be  
qualified to teach others.*



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2 Timothy 2



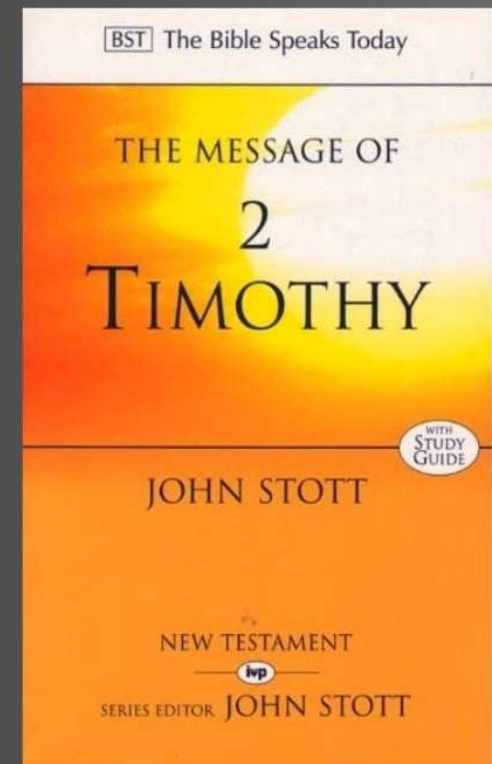
# The 21st century challenge

*"All around us we see Christians and churches relaxing their grasp of the gospel, fumbling it, in danger of letting it drop from their hands altogether."*



# The 21st century challenge

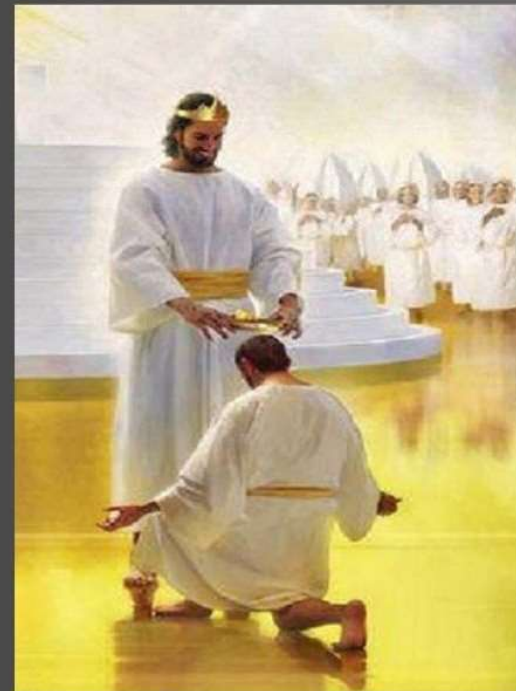
*"A new generation of young Timothys is needed, who will guard the sacred deposit of the gospel, who are determined to proclaim it and are prepared to suffer for it, and who will pass it on pure and uncorrupted to the generation which in due course will rise up to follow them."*



# Paul's departure is coming

## Future prospects:

*Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day – and not only to me, but also to all who have longed for his appearing.*



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2 Timothy 4:8



# What happened next?



# Preach the Word!

