

## God's Word Is Not For Your Entertainment

I. Introduction: Podcasts, Streaming, Social Media, Special Meetings, etc. often draw people because of who is talking or what the subject matter is. How many of you listen to something just for entertainment, though the purpose may be for other reasons? For many, preaching the Gospel has become about attendance numbers, likes, clicks, followers, and such. Think about how popular Jesus was (**John 7:7**).

A. People that find the teaching of God's word to be entertaining is not a new problem (**Ezekiel 33:30-33**).

1. Some will listen to just to hear some new thing (**Acts 17:16-21**).
2. Some just pick who tickles their fancy [appeals to them] with what they pervert God's word to say (**Isaiah 30:9-11**, **Micah 2:11**, and **II Timothy 4:3-4**).

B. What this has resulted in today is those who have turned to teaching with enticing word's of man's wisdom, which is wrong (**I Corinthians 2:1-5**).

1. Those supposed teachers focus on delivery and sounding in a manner in which their audience is pleased. Real preachers of God's word preach the word (**II Timothy 4:2**) based upon the needs of the audience (**Acts 20:26-27**).
2. When a teacher is winning a popularity contest, he is not teaching the truth (**Luke 6:26**)!

II. Body: God's Word Is Intended To... (**II Timothy 3:15-17**).

A. ...To make wise unto salvation through faith in Jesus Christ (**Romans 10:14-17** and **Acts 20:20-21**).

1. Even before Christ came in the flesh (**Psalms 19:7-11**).
2. Once implanted in the prepared heart (**James 1:21**).

B. ...To be your doctrine, your teaching as evangelists ought to teach (**Titus 2:1**).

1. Not just the New Testament (**Romans 15:4**).
2. Cannot be the doctrines of men (**Colossians 2:4-8** and **Colossians 2:18-23**).

C. ...For reproof, to convict, be evidence (**Hebrews 11:1**).

1. God expects us to prove [test] all things (**I Thessalonians 5:21**).
2. Thus, we have evidences in God's written word:
  - a. Witnesses (**Acts 2:32**, **Acts 3:15**, **Acts 4:33**, **Acts 7:44**, **I Corinthians 15:1-8**, and **Hebrews 2:1-4**; cf. **John 8:17**).
  - b. Superior knowledge before man found things to be as they are (**Job 26:7**, **Job 38:16**, **Ecclesiastes 1:7**, **Ecclesiastes 11:3**, **Isaiah 40:22**, and **Amos 9:6**).
  - c. Natural evidences (**Acts 14:17**).
  - d. Man's conscience (**Romans 2:12-15**).

D. ...For correction, to restore; to instruct (**Acts 26:18-20**).

1. To instruct [meaning chasten; cf. **Hebrews 12:5**].
  2. In righteousness (**II Peter 2:5**).
  3. So, the word of God is sometimes going to crush someone's toes [so to speak] (**I Kings 22:8** and **Matthew 15:12**).
- E. ...To perfect you, throughly furnish you to all good works (**Luke 4:4**).
1. The man of God (**Deuteronomy 33:1**, **I Kings 17:18**, and **I Timothy 6:11**).
  2. Such instruction is not going to be effective for those whom choose to not be of God (**John 8:43-45**).
  3. For those receptive, the word of God will teach us to be perfect in Christ (**Colossians 1:28**).

III. Conclusion: Thus, while faithful men are helpful (**Nehemiah 8:8** and **Acts 8:30-35**), the power is in God's word (**Acts 20:32**, **Romans 1:16-17**, and **I Thessalonians 2:13**).