

No Answer to Death! No Comfort of the Scriptures!

Beloved, your pastor was called very early this morning to go to the home where one of our beloved Sunday school teachers was taken, the first death in the family circle there for some 25 years. Going into that home this morning with the family gathered there, what could I have told them if I had not had the Word of God? What could I have said? What good would I have been if I had not had the Word of God? Could I quote them Paul, and say, well actually it was some unknown writer that gave you this and you can look at it if you want to. Oh, beloved, I was able to walk into that home and to tell them that they shall see His face, and to be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord. I was able to give them this message, the message of faith which we preach, the message which we have been standing on, the message we are suffering for, the message we are seeking to preach. I sat there in that family circle and I said, Thank God for that wonderful family. They have heard the Word all these years, they have believed it, and now in their tears and in their loss there is that bright countenance of faith that knows that death is a door that opens up into the presence of Jesus Christ.

What do the men who write these lessons say? What do these men do? What hypocrites must they be when they try to comfort people with their fantasies! They do not have the truth to give to them. Oh, believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved." But Paul says, Timothy, Timothy, you are no symbol. Timothy, you are not representing all of them. No, Timothy, from a child you have known the Holy Scriptures, you learned them from your grandmother and from your mother, and the faith that was in them I perceive to be in you, Timothy. And, Timothy, go out and preach this message, preach this message, that men may believe that they are lost and that Christ is their Saviour, and if they will believe in Him they will receive the gift of everlasting life.

Oh, I tell you, beloved, this is a disaster; it is a tragedy, and it is just coming upon us all at this one time. When your pastor stands here with his heart bleeding because he sees what is happening, don't you see that we need a people in this church who believe these things? We need not only to find comfort in the hour of sorrow that God's Word gives us, but we need to have strength in the hour of testimony so that we will be able to reach people with the truth and with the Word of God, for it is souls that are at stake and their eternal destiny.