

# A Charge to our new Senior Pastor

By Dr. Ralph "Yankee" Arnold

November 15, 2020

**Introduction:** God's Word gives a threefold charge to the preacher.

## 1. Take heed unto "thyself".

**1Ti 4:16** Take heed unto thyself, and unto the doctrine; continue in them: for in doing this thou shalt both save thyself, and them that hear thee.

- a. The pastor is to be a man of prayer

**Act 6:4** But we will give ourselves **continually to prayer**, and to the ministry of the word.

- b. The pastor is to be a man of purity

**1Ti 5:22** Lay hands suddenly on no man, neither be partaker of other men's sins: **keep thyself pure.**

**Isa 52:11** ... be ye clean, that bear the vessels of the LORD.

**2Ti 2:21** If a man therefore **purge himself** from these, he shall be a vessel unto honour, sanctified, and meet for the master's use, *and prepared* unto every good work.

**2Ti 3:12** Yea, and all that will **live godly** in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution.

**2Ti 3:14** **But continue thou** in the things which thou hast learned and hast been assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned *them*;

**2Ti 3:15** And that **from a child** thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.

**2Ti 3:16** All scripture *is* given by inspiration of God, and *is* profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:

**2Ti 3:17** That **the man of God** may be perfect, **thoroughly furnished unto all good works.**

## 2. Take heed unto... "The Doctrine".

- a. Sound Doctrine

**Tit 2:1** But speak thou the things which become sound doctrine: (Do things that are becoming to a Christian).

- b. Profitable Doctrine

**Act 20:20** *And* how I kept back nothing that was **profitable** *unto you*, but have shewed you, and have taught you publicly, and from house to house,

- c. Complete Doctrine

**Act 20:27** For I have not shunned to declare unto you all the counsel of God.

**2Ti 4:1** I charge *thee* therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom;

**2Ti 4:2** Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine.

**2Ti 4:3** For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears;

**2Ti 4:4** And they shall turn away *their* ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables.

**2Ti 4:5** But watch thou in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, make **full proof** of thy ministry. (leave no doubts about your commitment to this ministry)

### 3. Take heed unto "All the Flock"

**Act 20:28** Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and **to all the flock**, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood.

#### a. Feed the Flock of God

Jesus told Peter, "Feed my **Lambs**", and twice to "Feed my **Sheep**" Feed the young and the old. (John 21:15-17)

**1Pe 5:2** **Feed the flock of God** which is among you, taking the oversight *thereof*, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind;

#### b. Lead them

**1Pe 5:3** Neither as being lords over *God's* heritage, but **being ensamples to the flock.**

#### c. Love them

A preacher should love his people. Paul wrote to the Thessalonians:

**1Th 2:8** So being affectionately desirous of you, we were willing to have imparted unto you, not the gospel of God only, but also our own souls, **because ye were dear unto us.**

#### d. Warn the flock

##### i. About wolves:

**Act 20:31** Therefore watch, and remember, that by the space of three years I ceased not to **warn** every one night and day with tears.

##### About doing the wrong things

ii. **1Co 4:14** I write not these things to shame you, but as my beloved sons I **warn** you.

##### iii. About not doing the right things

**1Th 5:14** Now we exhort you, brethren, **warn** them that are unruly, comfort the feebleminded, support the weak, be patient toward all *men.*