

Handling Treasure, Part 1

John MacArthur

I. Introduction.

- A. Text: I Timothy 6:20-21.
- B. The bottom line for choosing a church should be how they handle the Word of God.
- C. God wants someone who trembles at His Word. (Psalm 119:161, Isaiah 66)
- D. The Word is a trust that we must preserve.
- E. We are to preserve the Word. (II Corinthians 2:17, Deuteronomy 4:2, Revelation 22:18-19, Jude 3)

II. The severest crime against God is to mishandle His Word.

III. Faith is to be held onto because it is the content of Christian truth. (I Timothy 2:7)

- A. Timothy was to guard himself against false teaching.
- B. He was to guard the truth.
- C. The pastors and elders were honored doubly for teaching the truth.
- D. The heart and soul of ministry is guarding the truth. (Romans 3)
- E. The question that all will be known for is whether they kept the truth.
- F. The goal of the man is to fight for, seek and teach the truth. (Titus 1:9)
- G. The believer is to steer clear from error.
- H. The issue is how we handle the truth. (II Peter 2:2)

IV. Response.

- A. Believe the Word of God.
- B. Honor it. (Job 23:12)
- C. Study it.
- D. Obey it. (John 8:31)

E. Love it. (Psalm 119:197, 19)

F. Defend it.

G. Proclaim it.

Application questions:

1. How do many churches fail in their faithfulness towards Scripture?

2. How do subjective and unclear matters play into the conversation about Scriptural faithfulness?

3. How are we called to defend the Word publicly and privately? Explain.
