"GUARD WHAT WAS COMMITTED TO YOUR TRUST"

I Tim. 6:20

Donald Townsley

I. INTRODUCTION

- 1. Timothy had been entrusted with the gospel, and he was told to guard it.
- 2. Paul said he was set for the DEFENSE of the gospel Phil. 1: 17.
- **3.** Every Christian is to guard the gospel Jude 3.
- **4.** We must diligently guard the gospel TODAY . . .

II. TODAY WE ARE LIVING IN PERILOUS TIMES; WE MUST BE ON GUARD

- **a.** There has always been danger:
 - i. Christ and the Apostles warned Matt. 16: 6, 12; Matt. 7: 15 20; Acts 20: 28 31; I Tim. 4: 1 6; 2 Pet. 2: 1 3; 2 Tim. 4: 2 5.
 - ii. The early Christians let down their guard 2 Thess. 2:7.
 - **1.** The result the Catholic church.
 - iii. The Pioneers failed to guard.
 - **1.** The result the Christian church.
 - iv. Our generation failed to guard.
 - 1. Resulting in another denomination coming into existence.
 - **v.** TODAY we must ever be on guard.

III. WHAT MEMBERS OF THE CHURCH MUST GUARD:

- a. The GOSPEL OF CHRIST Rom. 1:16.
 - **i.** The first principles Heb. 5:12.
 - **1.** Faith in Christ Acts 8:37; Mk. 16:15 16.
 - 2. Repentance Luke 13:3; Acts 2:38.
 - **3.** Confession Rom. 10:10; Matt. 10:32.
 - **4.** Baptism I Pet. 3:21; Acts 22:16.
 - ii. The Second law of pardon:
 - 1. Repent Acts 8:22.
 - 2. Confess Sins I John 1:9.
 - **3.** Pray Acts 8:22; James 5:16.
 - iii. Godly living must be guarded Tit. 2:11 -12; I John 2: 15 17; I Pet. 2:1 2.
- **b.** The CHURCH OF THE LORD must be guarded—Acts 20: 28 31.
 - i. The Organization of the church Local church Acts 14: 23; Phil. 1:1; Rom. 16:16.
 - ii. There is no organization between the local congregation and the church universal we must guard this ground.
- **c.** The WORSHIP of the Church John 4:24.
 - i. Acts of Worship:
 - 1. Prayer Acts 2:42.
 - 2. Teaching Acts 20:7.
 - 3. Lord's Supper Acts 20:7.
 - **4.** Giving I Cor. 16: 1 2.
 - **5.** Singing Eph. 5:19.
 - ii. In years gone by, the instrument of music was brought into the Worship. . .

- iii. Today, some would take the Lord's Supper out of the assembly.
- iv. Today many would, and do, bring in "group singing".
- **d.** The WORK OF THE CHURCH.
 - i. PREACH to the Lost Mk. 16:15 16; Lk. 19:10.
 - 1. The local church is to do this work Phil. 1:5; 4: 14 20.
 - **2.** No church in New Testament times worked through another church.
 - **3.** No sponsoring church in the New Testament.
 - ii. EDIFYING itself Matt. 28:20; Eph. 4: 16.
 - **1.** Local church to do this work.
 - **2.** The church cannot give its money to a Bible college to do its work of edification.
 - iii. Caring for ITS OWN NEEDY Acts 2: 44 45; 4: 32- 37; 6: 1 6; Acts 11: 27 30; I Cor. 16: 1- 2; Rom. 15:25.
 - 1. This work is done by the local church, not human organizations.
 - iv. The church is not a social institution to do all kinds of social work.

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