

"I have offended God and mankind because my work did not reach the quality it should have."

Leonardo da Vinci, inventor and painter

"Leave me as I am, the one who gives me strength to endure the fire will also give me strength to stay quite still on the pyre., even without the precaution of your nails.... For eighty and six years I have been his servant, and he has done me no wrong, and how can I blaspheme my King who saved me?"

Polycarp (ca. 69 – ca. 155) Second century bishop of Smyrna.

"Like anybody, I would like to live a long life. Longevity has its place. But I'm not concerned about that now. I just want to do God's will. And He's allowed me to go up to the mountain. And I've looked over. And I've seen the promised land. I may not get there with you. But I want you to know tonight, that we, as a people will get to the promised land. And I'm happy, tonight. I'm not worried about anything. I'm not fearing any man. Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord."

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr, Memphis, TN April 3, 1968

Are you guys ready? Let's roll.

Todd Beamer, passenger on United Flight 93, September 11, 2001.

2 Timothy 4:1-8

"I charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and by his appearing and his kingdom: ² preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, and exhort, with complete patience and teaching. ³ For the time is coming when people will not endure sound

teaching, but having itching ears they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own passions, ⁴ and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander off into myths. ⁵ As for you, always be sober-minded, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.

⁶ For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure has come. ⁷ I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. 8 Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved his appearing."

God, through Paul, charges us to fulfill our mission.

As for you, always be sober-minded, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry. Vs 5

1) The Audience of our Charge:

"I charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and by his appearing and his kingdom:" vs 1

"For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may be recompensed for his deeds in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad. 2 Cor 5:10

"...He has fixed a day in which He will judge the world in righteousness through a Man whom He has appointed, having furnished proof to all men by raising Him from the dead." Acts 17:31

"For as the Father has life in himself, so he has granted the Son to have life in himself. And he has given him authority to judge because he is the Son of Man. John 5:26,27

2) The Calling of our Charge:

"preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, and exhort, with complete patience and teaching. Vs 2

3) The Nature of our Charge:

I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Vs 7

As for you, always be sober-minded, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry. Vs 5

5 Urban Trends in North American Cities:

1.Re-Urbanization

2. Gentrification

3. Metro-politanization

4. Vanishing Neighbor

5. Polarization

"Every day in North America these 5 things are becoming true. More people are moving to metroplexes, these areas are more multiethnic, more hostile for faith, more divided socioeconomically, more full of lonely people, more polarized and partisan than ever before. We need churches that address these things."

Tim Keller

4) The Motivation for our Charge

"Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that Day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved his appearing." vs 8

"the twenty-four elders fall down before him who sits on the throne, and worship him who lives for ever and ever. They lay their crowns before the throne and say:11 "You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honour and power, for you created all things, and by your will they were created and have their being."

Rev 4:10,11