

## The Teacher – Christ's Gift

The teacher gives people a reason for the hope that it in them. Through the systematic exposition of the interwoven truths of Scripture, there is proof that our faith is built on a solid foundation. It has been well said that every theological heresy is rooted in a misperception of the nature of God. The first assault the enemy leveled against humanity was an assault on the nature of God. It is the teacher's job to reveal the nature of God that is expressed in every doctrinal system. If the nature of God is not accurately reflected in a doctrine, then the doctrine is false, flawed or incomplete. If the nature of God is not vigorously portrayed in the correct theological systems that are expressed, then the teacher has built religious structures that are deadly in spite of their accuracy.[1]

*Luke 40:6 The student is not above the teacher, but everyone who is fully trained will be like their teacher.*

*James 3:1 Not many of you should become teachers, my fellow believers, because you know that we who teach will be judged more strictly.*

*1 Tim 1:6-7 ...6Some have strayed from these ways and turned aside to empty talk. They want to be teachers of the law, but they do not understand what they are saying or that they which they so confidently assert*

The teacher is one who is gifted to explain, illuminate and persuade. Teachers educate the body on the meaning of Scripture, the history of the church, and the current social context for Christianity. God uses teachers to explicit central truths, ideas that reorganize our lives and ministries, ideas that critique our assumptions and help us to see things more clearly. [2]

The writings of the apostle Paul comprise two-thirds of the New Testament- almost entirely teaching. Consider the four Gospels, which are composed of the parable and he sermons of Jesus. They are all teaching. Look at the book of Acts. The key issues were the reason Jesus died and rose from the dead, he relationship of circumcision to salvation, the offense of the cross – all interlaced with persecution of the early church over **teaching**. [2]

One of the forgotten observations of Luke is the way he initially descried the early church immediately after recording the event of Pentecost: "They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching. (Acts 2:42) Teaching came first in the new Testament, and it should come first today. [2]

The office of the teacher is the last on the list of those offices, or special anointings, given in Ephesians 4:11. It is the least controversial, but possibly the most neglected of the five. The Greek word for teacher, (didaskalos) is found in the New Testament fifty-eight times. It was a common ay the twelve addressed Jesus – "Master" in the King James Version – which appears in the four Gospels alone at least forty-five times. The Greek word



didasko is found ninety-five times in the New Testament, and didakee (teaching) appears thirty times in the New Testament. [2]

In the ancient Hellenistic world these words taken together referred to instruction and were used to denote the insight of the one to be instruct and the knowledge presupposed in the teacher. The example, not merely the instruction of the teacher, formed a bridge to the knowledge and the ability of the pupil. Teaching referred to the inspiration of practical and theoretical knowledge. [2]

There was deep connection between the content of instruction and the example of the teacher, since the teacher would often be imitated by the pupil. Paul said to Timothy “You, however, know all about my teaching, my way of life, my purpose, faith, patience, love, endurance) Doctrine and ,manner of life were intimately related. [2]

There is a distinction between the teacher and the preacher. Preaching refers to the message as well but this method but largely embraces exhortation and evangelism. In a sense, preaching can be done by any believer, whereas the teacher is gifted with knowledge and the ability to impart knowledge. [2]

## Bibliography

[1]. A. Burk, “Fathers in the Church by Arthur Burk – Agape Revolution.” <https://agape-revolution.com/2012/12/03/fathers-in-the-church-by-arthur-burk/> (accessed Oct. 02, 2021).

[2] *Understanding the fivefold ministry*. Lake Mary, Fla. : Charisma House, 2005. Accessed: Oct. 03, 2021. [Online]. Available: <http://archive.org/details/understandingfiv0000unse>

