



## Take a Stand

JAMES TAYLOR

“Preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, and exhort, with complete patience and teaching.” – 2 Timothy 4:2

In many ways, the cultural climate of Ephesus, the city where Timothy pastored, is similar to the cultural climate of America. There were many competing ideas that influenced the church, just as there are many competing ideas that influence today’s church. Paul recognized the danger of believers letting go of the Truth, aligning the Word with their passions, and chasing after mystical thrills. These influencers can lead us to interpret the Bible through the lens of culture rather than interpreting culture through the lens of Scripture.

Today, we are faced with gender identity, questions of sexuality, social injustice, and a host of other issues and ideas. How can we answer and resolve them? How can we help others who are wrestling with them? There is only one place: Scripture. John Albrecht Bengel said, “Apply thy whole self to the text; apply the whole text to thyself.” We must “preach the word.” We must stand upon what God has declared and be ready in every season to strengthen others and ourselves in it, for only in the Bible do we find the answers we seek.

October 11, 2020  
Devotion

 Coordinates with Resources: 10B



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