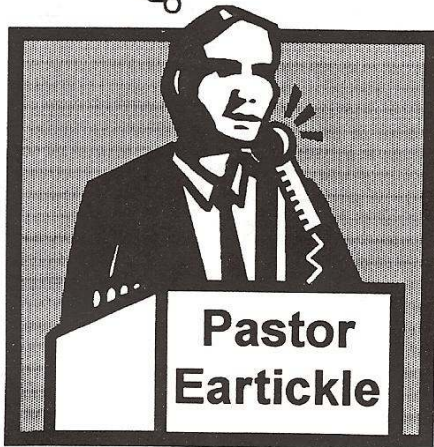


# The Hireling

Even though some people in this congregation are known drunkards, greedy and sexually immoral, for the sake of my ministry and paycheck, I MUST remember in my sermons to avoid all Scriptures that would exclude them from the kingdom of God. If they get mad and leave, we won't receive their tithes anymore.



**S**hepherds who don't warn and feed the sheep have always been a hindrance to the work of God. There is a great need in our day for true teachers. If you teach God's Word as a pastor, evangelist, missionary, Sunday School teacher, etc., please know you are not in a popularity contest! Also, take to heart the following:

"Preach the Word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage—with great patience and careful instruction. For the time will come when men will not put up with sound doctrine. Instead, to suit their own desires, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear. They will turn their ears away from the truth and turn aside to myths" (2 Tim. 4:2-4).

"Unlike so many, we do not peddle the word of God for profit. On the contrary, in Christ we speak before God with sincerity, like men sent from God" (2 Cor. 2:17).

"Rather, we have renounced secret and shameful ways; we do not use deception, nor do we distort the word of God. On the contrary, by setting forth the truth plainly we commend ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God" (2 Cor. 4:2).

"Not many of you should presume to be teachers, my brothers, because you know that WE WHO TEACH WILL BE JUDGED MORE STRICTLY" (Jam. 3:1).

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