

A person wearing a white dress shirt and a red patterned tie is holding an open book with both hands. The person's face is not visible. The background is dark.

Giving Our Attention & Ourselves to What?

1 Timothy 4:12-16

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¹² Let no one despise your youth, but be an example to the believers in word, in conduct, in love, in spirit, in faith, in purity. ¹³ Till I come, give attention to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine. ¹⁴ Do not neglect the gift that is in you, which was given to you by prophecy with the laying on of the hands of the eldership.

¹⁵ Meditate on these things; give yourself entirely to them, that your progress may be evident to all. ¹⁶ Take heed to yourself and to the doctrine. Continue in them, for in doing this you will save both yourself and those who hear you.

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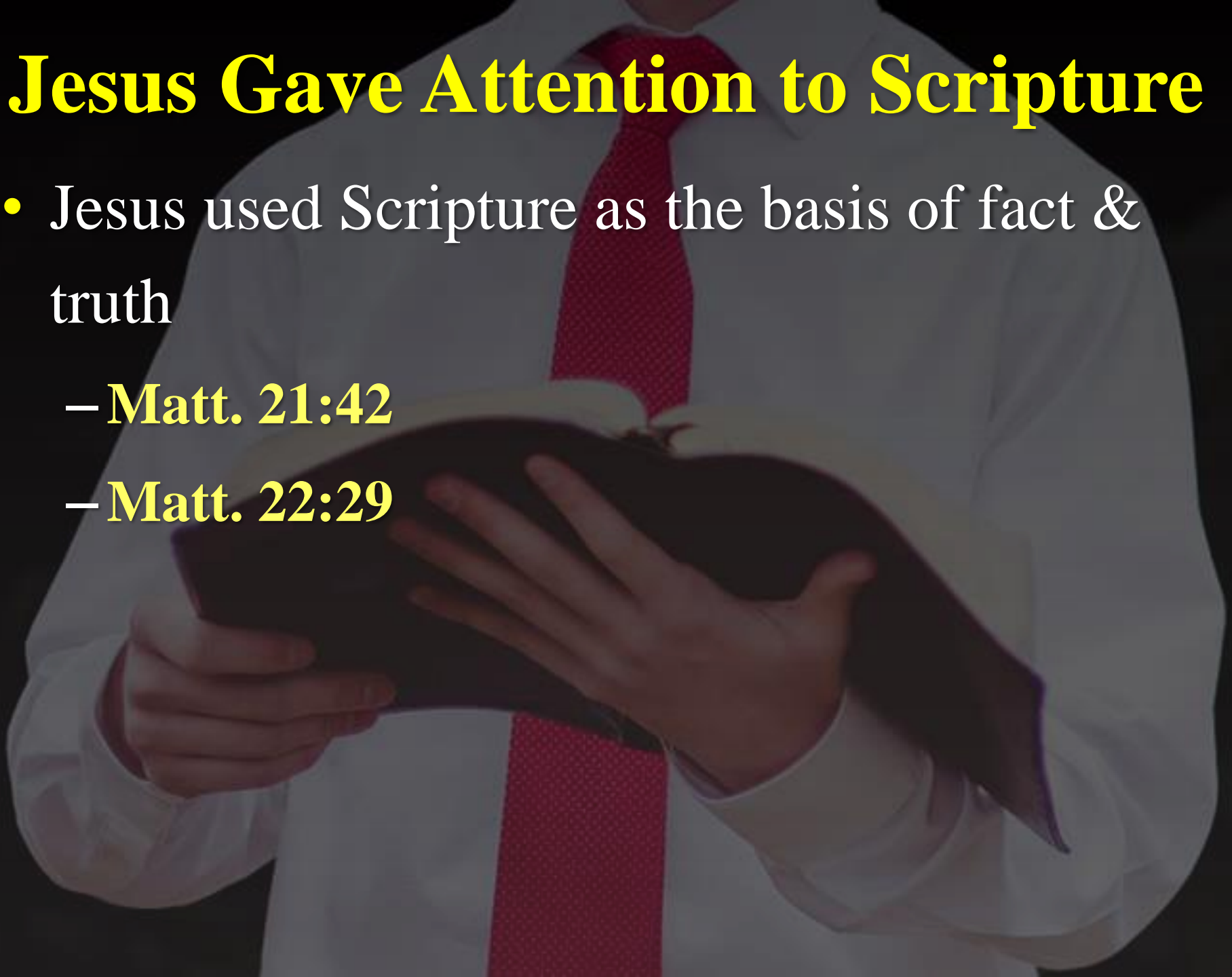
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Give Attention To... READING

- Reading (*anagnosis*, “[act of] reading,” lit. know again)
 - **Deuteronomy 17:19** Reading the Old Testament to all was stressed as essential (**Jn. 5:39**; **Rom. 15:4**)
 - **Nehemiah 8:2-3, 8, 18** Practice seen in people of return
 - **Daniel 9:2** Reading in individual life produced good (v. **20f**)
 - Not only did Jesus focus on Scripture, but others also...

Jesus Gave Attention to Scripture

- Jesus used Scripture as the basis of fact & truth
 - Matt. 21:42
 - Matt. 22:29



N.T. Preaching Gave Attention to Scripture

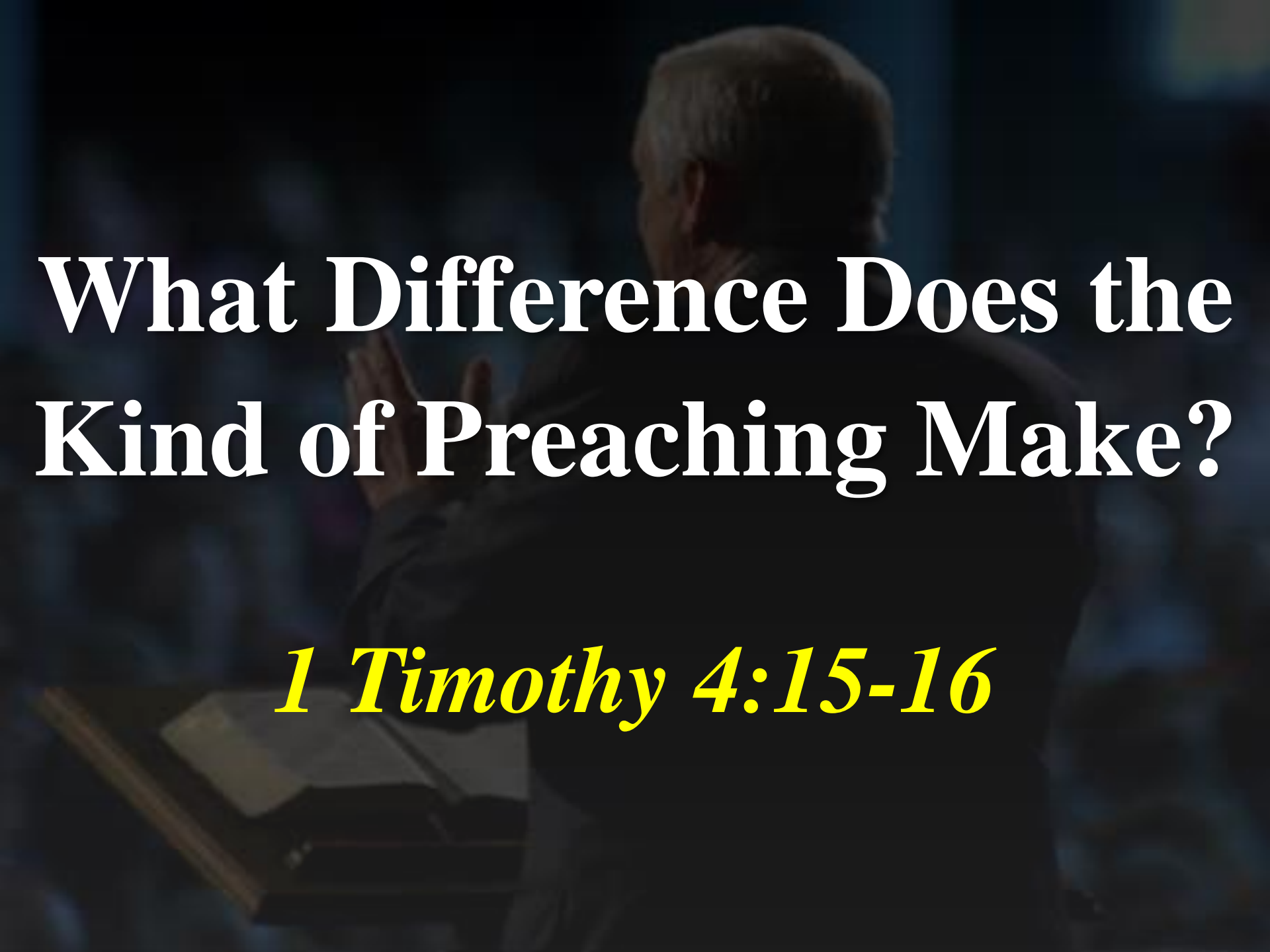
- N.T. preachers used Scripture as basis of fact & truth
 - Acts 2:16ff
 - Acts 8:32, 35
 - Acts 17:2

Give Attention To... EXHORTATION

- Exhortation (*paraklēsis*, lit. “call alongside,” urge, entreat)
 - **Romans 15:5** “God of patience & comfort” (same word)
 - **Acts 4:36-37** Barnabus called “son of encouragement”
 - **Heb. 12:3-6** Not inconsistent with correction (**13:22**)

Give Attention To... DOCTRINE

- **Doctrine** (*didaskalia*, act of teaching or what is taught)
 - **Eph. 4:11-15** Truth revealed must be source, not another
 - **Mark 7:1-9** Source must be divine, not human
 - **1 Tim. 1:3-4** Contrasted with “fables” (tale, story, legend)
 - **2 Tim. 4:1-5** Fully teach it regardless of time
(**Titus 2:1f**)



What Difference Does the Kind of Preaching Make?

1 Timothy 4:15-16

What Is the Effect of Such Teaching?

¹⁵ Meditate on these things; give yourself entirely to them, that your progress may be evident to all.

¹⁶ Take heed to yourself and to the doctrine. Continue in them, for in doing this you will save both yourself and those who hear you.

What Is the Effect of the Lack of Such Teaching?

Do not meditate on these things or give yourself entirely to them, and your lack of progress will be evident to all.

Fail to take heed to yourself and the doctrine, or continue in them, and you will **save neither yourself nor those who hear you.**