

# Four-fold Objective of God's Workers

2 Timothy 2:15

## Introduction:

- A. Timothy: A young Christian worker.
  - 1. All Christians: Eph. 2:10; Tit. 2:14.
  - 2. Young Christians.
- B. Text: A Four-fold objective in life for young and old.

## Discussion:

- II. To Be *God-approved* Workers — “Present Yourself approved to God.”**
  - A. Man's approval sometimes good (Rom. 14:18; 1 Cor. 10:33).
  - B. God's approval more important and essential. (Gal. 1:10; Col. 3:22).
  - C. God first, then: Family, friends, peers, public.
- III. To Be *Diligent* Workers — “Be diligent.”**
  - A. King James “study.”
    - 1. Other Translations: “Give diligence” (ASV), “Be diligent” (NKJ, NASV), “Do your best” (NIV)
    - 2. Other Passages: Gal. 2:10; Eph 4:3; 1 Thess. 2:17; 2 Tim. 4:9; 4:21; Tit. 3:12; Heb. 4:11; 2 Pet 1:10, 15 3:14.
  - B. Diligence= intense interest and effort. (Cf. Rom. 12:11).
    - 1. Diligent are rewarded. (Cf. Heb. 11:6; Luke 13:24).
    - 2. All aspects: Learning, assembling, worshiping, evangelizing, service, light-bearing.
- IV. To be *Unashamed* Workers — “A worker who does not need to be ashamed.”**
  - A. Because of quality and quantity of work.
  - B. No reason to be ashamed of:
    - 1. Lord and his word (Mark 8:38; cf. Rom. 1:15,16).
    - 2. Lord's people — the church. (2 Tim. 1:8; cf. 1 Cor. 1:26).
    - 3. Suffering for Christ (2 Tim. 1:12; 1 Pet. 4:16).
- V. To be *Accurate* Workers — “Rightly dividing the word of truth.”**
  - A. *Orthotomeo*:
    - 1. Ortho=straight or upright (cf. Orthopedic)
    - 2. Literally "to cut straight": keep it straight; do things right.
    - 3. Thayer: “to teach the truth directly and correctly.”
  - B. Not just divide Bible into proper sections.
    - 1. To correctly teach rather than "to the ruin of the hearers". (cf. v. 14)
    - 2. To correctly apply the word of truth to self and others (cf 1 Tim. 4:16).
      - a. Rather than "profane and vain babblings" - useless speculations. (v. 16)
        - (1) Unprofitable. (vs. 14).
        - (2) Dangerous. (vs. 16-18).
        - (3) Divisive. (vs. 23-26).
      - b. Rather than careless interpretations and applications.

## Conclusion:

- A. Each Christian needs to make his life's goal to be: God-approved; diligent; unashamed and accurate.
- B. Each unsaved person needs to seek God's approval by obeying the gospel.