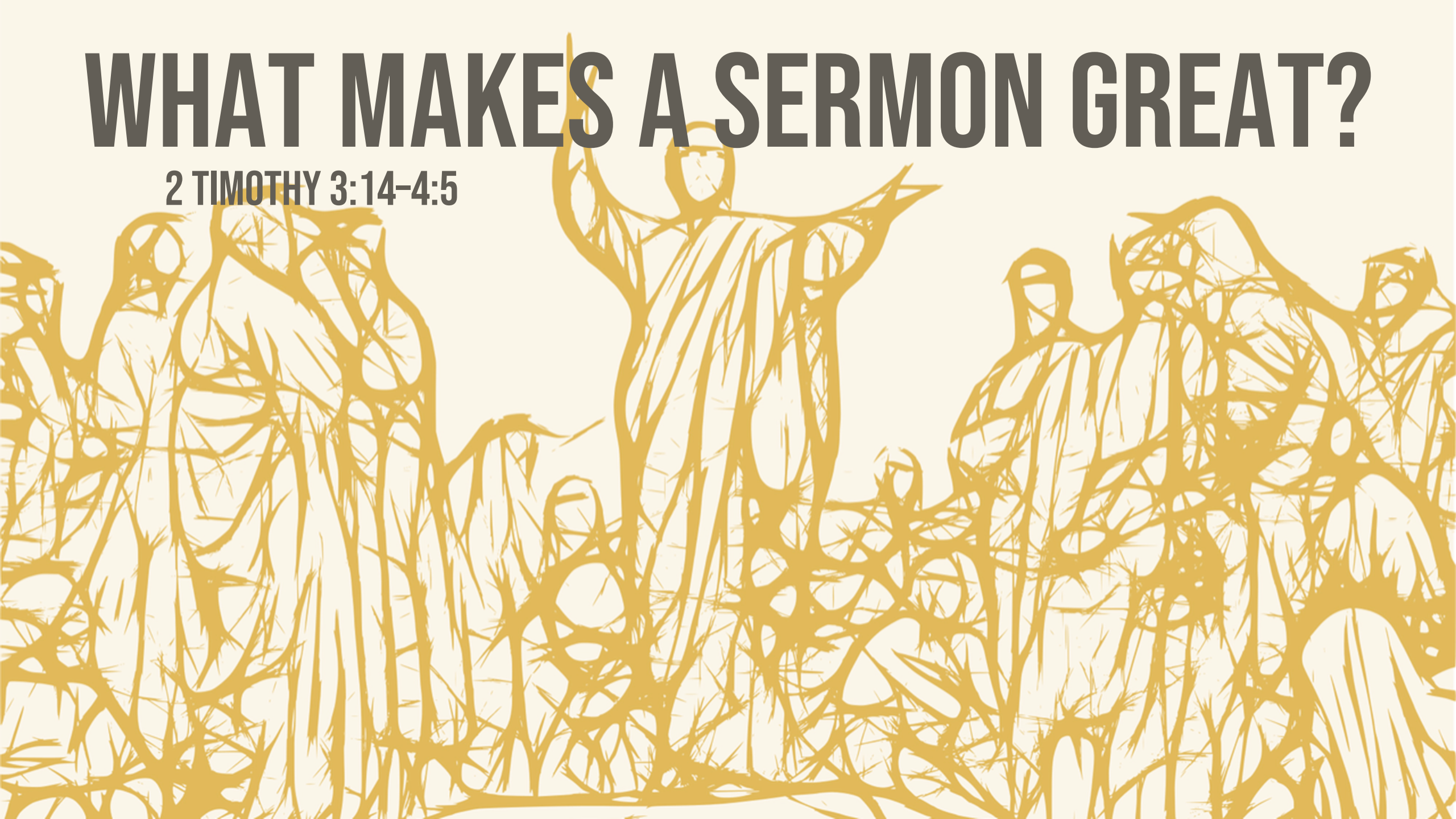


# WHAT MAKES A SERMON GREAT?

2 TIMOTHY 3:14-4:5



# AN UNEXPECTED METHOD

- God has unpredictably chosen preaching as the means by which people hear the good news of Jesus Christ and are saved (1 Cor 1:18-25).
- What is even more surprising is that God entrusts people with the task of taking his message to others (Rom 10:13-17; cf. Matt 28:18-20).
- Yet when we humbly and accurately proclaim the word (oracles) of God, preaching evangelizes and edifies others and glorifies God (1 Pet 4:11; cf. 1 Thess 2:3-4).

# THE POWER OF PREACHING

- Preaching is not only God-glorifying but also powerful because God himself works through it to accomplish his purpose (Isa 55:11; Rom 1:16).
- For it to be powerful, preaching does not always have to be eloquent and emotive; it must, however, be intimately coupled to God (1 Cor 2:1-5).
- When God is the source and focus, a sermon can accomplish the "impossible" and "unimaginable" (Luke 18:27; Eph 3:20; Heb 4:12; 2 Cor 10:4-5).

# GREAT SERMONS

- A great sermon, first, centers on Christ and confines (or expands) itself to the revealed word of God (1 Cor 1:23-24; 1 Pet 4:11; 2 Tim 4:2; cf. 3:16-17; 2:15).
- A great sermon also starts where people are but boldly says what needs to be said, whether it is desirable or not (1 Cor 9:19-23; 1 Tim 4:2-5; cf. 1 Cor 3:1-3; Heb 5:11-14).
- A great sermon, lastly, "storms the will" of the hearer(s), compelling an appropriate response (2 Tim 3:16-4:2; Matt 7:24-27; Eph 4:11-12).

# WHAT MAKES A SERMON GREAT?

2 TIMOTHY 3:14-4:5

