

## Elder Ronnie Loudermilk



### Pressing Into The Kingdom:

Luke 16:16, **"The law and the prophets were until John: since that time the kingdom of God is preached, and every man presseth into it."**

Often in our reading and study of the Bible we come across verses that will remind us of another portion in God's Holy Word. Every time I read the verse previously cited, I'm reminded of a verse in Micah chapter 4. In Micah's prophecy of the kingdom of God found in chapter 4:1 we will notice that the **"mountain of the house of the LORD shall be established in the top of the mountains, and it shall be exalted above the hills; and all people shall flow unto it."** According to Micah's prophecy, the people will flow up a mountain to enter into the House of the Lord. In order to flow up a mountain, it will require one to press against the currents. In Luke 16:16, the Lord Jesus Christ said the same, **"presseth into it."** If we desire to enter into the Lord's kingdom (the new testament church) to sit and fellowship with our precious Savior, it will require us to press against the natural currents of the world, our carnal nature and the efforts of the devil. Otherwise, we will just go with the flow and float downstream with this present evil world.

Several years ago, while my daddy was with us, he and I went fishing on the Tugaloo River. He and I placed our boat in the river a little downstream from one of our favorite fishing spots. When we finally got the boat on the water, we cranked up the outboard engine and began to go up stream. All of a sudden we heard a huge bang and felt a bump. A speckled gar fish had ran into the propeller of the outboard engine. My daddy, when he saw the dead fish floating on the water, asked, *"what do you think that poor ol' fish thought when the propeller hit him?"* My response was, *"I*

*don't know."* Daddy said, *"I guess he thought we were serious about getting up this river."* My daddy used that experience to teach me that I need to be serious about serving God. Are we serious about serving Jesus, or will we allow the things (bumps) of this world to carry us downstream away from the Lord and His House? My prayer is that every child of the King will be convicted enough to fight the good fight of faith and go against the world's currents to go into the Kingdom of God and serve Jesus. Amen!

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