

Loyal Heart Ministries

www.LoyalHeartMinistries.com

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A Philosophy of Preaching

- Five Criteria for judging the genuineness of the preaching event.
 - The mode: oral communication
 - » Preaching is primarily oral communication
 - » Stanfield described it as “giving the Bible a voice”
 - » Fasol defined preaching as “orally communicating truth as found in the Bible”
 - The message: biblical truth
 - » Preaching has the specific content – the Word of God
 - » The bible primarily recounts God’s activity of recreating mankind into His image through a relationship with Jesus Christ. The preacher is responsible for immersing people in that process.

- The medium: Holy Spirit/human personality
 - » He inspired the Word we preach; illuminates our understanding as to its meaning; anoints our communication; enlightens the minds of listeners; convicts their hearts; prompts them to response.
 - » Both the Holy Spirit and the human instrument are necessary for genuine preaching
- The mark: given audience: the Preacher must approach every sermon with an audience in mind
- The motive: positive response
 - » Must be an implicit call for decision
 - » Sermon designed with intent of persuading people
 - » Preaching Defined: The oral communication of biblical truth by the Holy Spirit through a human personality to a given audience with the intent of enabling a positive response.

The Process of Preaching

- Key terms identify the various key parts of the process
 - Exegesis: The procedure one follows for discovering the Holy Spirit's intent in the Bible passage.
 - Hermeneutics: The science of interpreting what a passage of Scripture means.
 - Homiletics: The art and science of saying the same thing that the text of Scripture says.
 - “Nations are still moved by the power of the spoken word transmitted through propositional assertion and logical arrangement.” Vines 145

- Exposition: To lay open or uncover the biblical text in such a way that its original meaning is brought to bear on the lives of contemporary listeners.
- Expository Sermon: A discourse that expounds a passage of Scripture, organizes it around a central theme and main division which issue forth from the given text, and then decisively applies its message to the listeners.

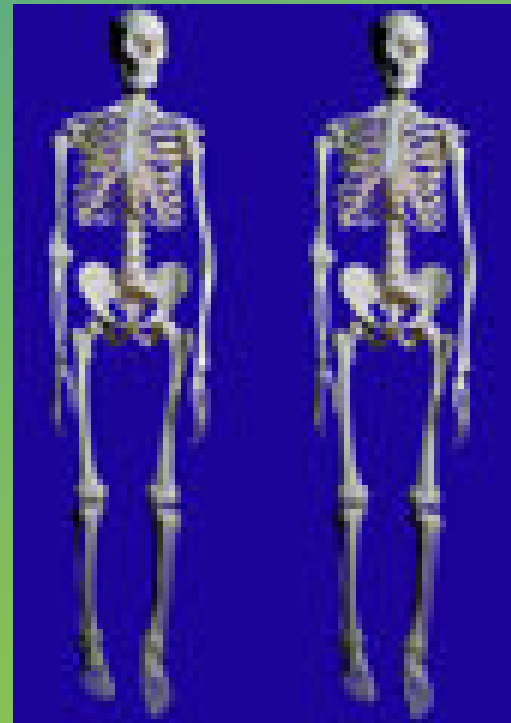
The Benefits of Exposition

- Biblical Literacy
- Accountability
- Protection
- Stress Relief
- Appetite Development
- Spiritual Maturity



The Dangers of Exposition

- Dullness
- Irrelevancy
- Monotony
- Spiritlessness
- Formlessness
- Detail Overload



Study the Text

- Seeing the Details (Richard)
 - What information has God put in a biblical passage.
Make all possible observations.
 - **Observations**
 - Key Words
 - Relationships
 - Grammatical
 - Logical
 - Chronological/Geographical
 - Psychological
 - Contextual
 - Genre

- What do I look for?
 - » Simile: imaginative comparison using *so*, *like*, or *as*.
 - » Metaphor: an implied likeness in which *so*, *like*, or *as* are omitted.
 - » Paradox: seemingly absurd or contradictory statement that catches the attention.
 - » Hyperbole: an exaggeration used to emphasize a point.
 - » Synecdoche: a part used for the whole or the whole used for the part.
 - » Metonymy: one noun exchanged for a related noun.
 - » Irony: words used to convey the opposite meaning.
 - » Euphemism: an exchange of earthy words or concepts for gentler ones.

- Consider Principles of Revelation
 - The *Ethnic Division* addresses the issue “to whom was this written.”
 - The *First Mention* principle reminds the interpreter that often the first time a subject is mentioned in Scripture is the key to its meaning.
 - The *Full Mention* principle is necessary when subjects are given one comprehensive treatment somewhere in the Bible.
 - The *Proportionate Mention* principle calls the interpreter’s attention to the amount of space given in Scripture to a particular theme.

- The principle of *Repeated Mention* reminds the interpreter that sometimes God's truth is revealed in an evolutionary fashion in the Bible.
- The *Gap* principle often sheds light on otherwise confusing passages.
- The *Salvation/Fellowship* principle frequently helps the interpreter to determine whether a passage should be applied to Christians, Non-Christians, or both.
- The *Threefold* principle recognizes that God's great truth of salvation is presented in a threefold way: justification presents the past aspect, sanctification presents the present process, and glorification sets forth the future dimension.
- The *Recurrence* principle will serve you well as you interpret passages in which a subject is repeated from a different view point and with a different purpose.