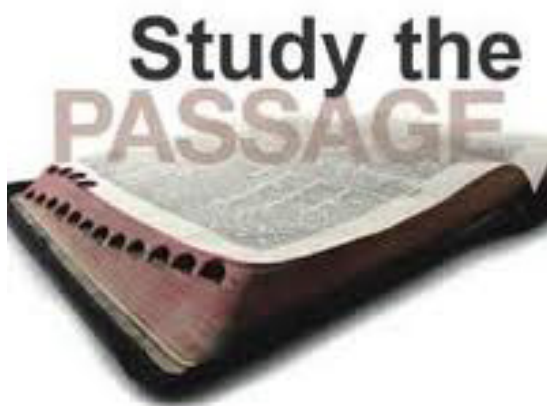


*Footprints*



## CHRISTIAN RESOURCES

### PREACHING



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Footprints into Africa

# PREACHING

## STUDY 1

### THE NATURE OF PREACHING

#### BIBLIOGRAPHY

How to prepare Bible messages  
I believe in preaching  
Rediscovering expository  
Lectures to my students

James Braga  
John Stott  
John MacArthur  
C.H. Spurgeon

#### INTRODUCTION

#### 1. THE PRIORITY OF PREACHING

##### A. JESUS

(Mark 1:14) – ‘Jesus came preaching’, in other words for Jesus his priority was preaching. (Luke 4:18) – ‘Jesus began his ministry preaching. Jesus put His preaching first. Even His critics said no man spoke like this man. Jesus’ last commission to the church was to go into all the world and preach the Gospel.

##### B. THE APOSTLES (Acts 6:4)

The Apostles put preaching as their top priority, on the day of Pentecost the Church was born through preaching.

##### C. THE APOSTLE PAUL

The Apostle Paul was first and foremost a missionary preacher (1 Cor 1:17, 9:16), he was not ashamed of the Gospel. (Rom 1:16)  
In church history, times of great blessing have always been a result of preaching. **P.T. Forsythe: “With preaching Christianity stands or falls. In reformed churches the pulpit always comes first.”**

#### 2. PREACHING MUST NOT BE CONFUSED WITH ORATORY

Being a good speaker does not mean you are a good preacher.

#### 3. THE AUTHORITY OF PREACHING

(2 Cor 5:20) – ‘Preachers are ambassadors for Christ.’

**James Stewart:** “God wants no groveling faint-hearted creatures as his ambassadors, He wants men who have communion with God, who are not intimidated by the world.” Our authority therefore, is the Word of God and the preachers commission from God. **True preaching is therefore concerned with Affirmations based on Revelation not Speculation.**

**4. THE SCOPE OF PREACHING**

When we preach we aim for the whole person, to their mind, to their emotions and you aim for the will. It aims to move the person to action, to bring them to God, to lead them to forsake their sin and to trust in their heavenly Father.

**5. PREACHING AND THE PREACHER**

To preach is the greatest privilege in the world, we are entrusted. We are entrusted with a message from God and therefore the preacher must be filled with the Spirit and marked by a holiness of life.

**6. THE OBJECT OF THE PREACHER**

**A. WHEN WE STAND BEFORE A CONGREGATION WE ARE TO PROCLAIM A MESSAGE FROM GOD**  
**(1 Cor 1:23; 1 Thes 2:4; 2 Cor 5:19)**

**B. WE ARE TO PROCLAIM THE WHOLE TRUTH (1 Cor 15:3-5)**

**C. YOU ARE THERE TO MOVE MEN TO ACTION**

They will need to repent of their sins and to seek God's grace to lead to a holy life.

## **PREACHING**

### **STUDY 2**

## **TYPES OF PREACHING**

### **INTRODUCTION**

Biblical preaching may take more than one form. There are at least seven different types of sermons. Whichever we preach it must be based on the Scriptures. In order to preach the preacher must hold the truth firmly and preach it simply.

#### **1. EXPOSITORY PREACHING**

Without any doubt at all, this is the finest form of preaching. It is the one form of preaching which will teach the people better than any other form. (**Acts 2:42; 1 Tim 4:13; Col 3:16-17**)

##### **A. ONE VERSE OF SCRIPTURE**

E.g.; **John 3:16 – The love of God**

- a) **The God who loves**
- b) **The Character of love**
- c) **The Object of that love**
- d) **The Purpose of that love**
- e) **The Results of that love**

##### **B. WHOLE SECTION OF SCRIPTURE**

E.g. **Psalms 23**

- a) **The Shepherd's Person**
- b) **The Shepherd's Work**

##### **C. MAJOR IDEAS, OVERLOOKING DETAIL**

E.g. **The Lamb of God**

- a) **(Gen 22:7) – Where is the Lamb**
- b) **(Jn 1:36) – Behold the Lamb**
- c) **(Rev 5:12) – Worthy is the Lamb**

##### **D. SINGLE PHRASE OF SCRIPTURE**

E.g. **"First"**

Expository sermons allow the Bible to speak, but the most effective form of expository preaching is a verse by verse exposition of a book.

## 2. DOCTRINAL PREACHING

Eg.	<u>Holy Spirit</u>	<u>God</u>	<u>2<sup>nd</sup> Coming</u>
	<u>Person</u>	<u>Holiness</u>	Signs
	<u>Gifts</u>	<u>Wrath</u>	Return
	<u>Fruit</u>	<u>Love</u>	Events
	<u>Baptism</u>	<u>Mercy</u>	Judgement
	<u>Tongues</u>	<u>Sovereignty</u>	

## 3. EVANGELISTIC PREACHING

When you preach for a decision – **UNSAVED** – (1 Cor 1:18; John 3:16)

## 4. TOPICAL PREACHING

### A. A THEME

E.g.; Prayer, Abortion, Gambling, Alcohol, Government, Drugs.

### B. A CURRENT EVENT

E.g. The events in Richmond.

## 5. BIOGRAPHICAL PREACHING

E.g. **Life of David**

i. Upbringing

ii. Goliath

iii. Family

iv. Weaknesses

**Five People Who Changed The World**

i. Barnabus

ii. Peter

iii. Paul

iv. Dorcas

v. Lydia

## 6. MISSIONARY PREACHING

It is when you preach in order to encourage.

### A. CHRISTIANS TO FULFIL THE GREAT COMMISSION

### B. PEOPLE TO OFFER THEMSELVES TO MISSIONS

## 7. ETHICAL PREACHING

This is when the preacher will bring the Word to bear upon some ethical question of the day, e.g. Revenge, voting.

**PREACHING**  
**STUDY 3**  
**PREPARATION FOR PREACHING**

**INTRODUCTION**

In this study we will be concerned with the general preparation for our preaching. In **2 Tim 4:13** Paul instructed them to bring his books and parchments. Paul placed great emphasis on this.

**1. THE PREACHER AND HIS BIBLE**

The Bible alone is the preacher's major text book. From the Bible he draws out his message. The preacher's task is to expound the Word of God and therefore the preacher should be familiar with his Bible. If we are to preach we must be men of the Book.

**2. THE PREACHER AND HIS GENERAL READING**

A. BIBLE DICTIONARIES, COMMENTARIES, TRANSLATIONS, PARAPHRASES

B. EXPOSITIONS OF CHRISTIAN DOCTRINE  
e.g. - Know the Truth – Bruce Milne

C. DEVOTIONAL LITERATURE – e.g. Pilgrims Progress

D. CHRISTIAN BIOGRAPHY

E. PRINTED SERMONS

F. GENERAL READING  
Readers make leaders.

**3. THE PREACHERS' LOOKING AT LIFE**

The preacher must not be just a book worm. He learns from the lessons of life and often he will use these lessons in his sermon. It is therefore important to read the daily newspapers and to watch the news and keep in touch with what is happening.

**4. STORING THE FRUITS**

A. THE COMMON-PLACE BOOK OR FILING SYSTEM

B. A CARD INDEX SYSTEM

C. A LOOSE-LEAF BIBLE

**5. CONCLUSION**

A. THE MOST IMPORTANT PART OF PREPARATION IS THE PREACHER'S HEART

B. THE PREACHER MUST BE A MAN OF PRAYER

C. THE PREACHER MUST BE A MAN OF THE BOOK

D. IT TAKES HARD WORK

## PREACHING STUDY 4

### THE CHOICE OF A TEXT

#### INTRODUCTION

Every message preached ought to be based on the Bible. E.g.; **Our Lord Jesus Christ when he preached (Luke 4:61)**. The word text is taken from the Latin word *Texere* – to weave, our whole sermon ought to be “woven” from the Scriptures. How do I choose a text?

#### 1. THE VALUE OF HAVING A TEXT

##### A. PERPETUAL RECOGNITION

It is a perpetual recognition of the preacher’s task merely to expound the Bible.

##### B. REGULAR REMINDER

It is a regular reminder to the congregation of the authority of the Bible.

##### C. TEXTS ARE MEMORIALS

The text becomes like a memorial, the congregation may forget the sermon, but they will remember where he preached from.

##### D. TEXTS ARE INVALUABLE

You will never be without something to preach on.  
ALWAYS HAVE A TEXT.

#### 2. VARIETIES OF TEXTUAL PREACHING

There are varieties of textual sermons.

##### A. THE USE OF A SINGLE VERSE (John 3:16)

##### B. THE USE OF A GROUP OF VERSES (Psalm 23)

##### C. THE USE OF A PARAGRAPH

#### 3. THE RIGHT AND WRONG USES OF TEXTS

##### A. THE TEXT MUST BE IN THE BIBLE

##### B. MAKE SURE THAT THE ENGLISH IS TRUE TO ORIGINAL HEBREW OR GREEK

##### C. YOU MUST AVOID SPIRITUALISING OR ALLEGORIZING

##### D. YOU MUST LOOK AT THE TEXT IN THE CORRECT CONTEXT **Always look at the context.**

##### E. YOU MUST AVOID ODDITY OR ECCENTRICITY

**Trying to be clever.**

##### F. CHOOSE A TEXT THAT STRIKES THE MIND

4. **CHOOSING THE TEXT**

A. **DAILY DEVOTIONAL BIBLE READING**

B. **FOLLOWING A PLAN**

a) **Lectionary – Lutherans**

b) **Church Calendar**

c) **Expository Preaching**

Expository preaching will mean that you slowly and systematically work your way through the book in the Bible.

C. **THE NEEDS OF THE CONGREGATION**

This will become clear through your visitation.



**PREACHING**  
**STUDY 5**

**THE SPADE WORK OF PREPARATION**

**1. THE NECESSITY FOR PREPARATION**

Some commentators have said that we should not take time preparing sermons, but rather concentrate on preparing ourselves. Obviously the godly preacher will seek to prepare his own heart, but there is no substitute for giving time and thought to preparing your message. Work without prayer is atheism, but prayer without work is presumption, therefore, the true preacher will prepare well. It is vital to spend hours in preparation.

**2. THE NATURE FOR PREPARATION**

**A. WE BEGIN WITH MEDITATION**

The preacher prays and feeds himself on the text, he meditates over the words like a cow chewing the cud, meditate until it becomes part of your life.

**B. INVESTIGATION**

What this will mean is that:

- a) I check on the different translations to see that I have the correct meaning.
- b) You read the different commentaries.

**C. ELABORATION**

- a) Read around the text.
- b) Study the words of the text.
- c) Ask questions of the text:
  - What does this mean?
  - What did it mean for the people in Jesus' time?
  - How can I make it relevant for today?

**3. AMASSING OF MATERIAL**

After we have analyzed our text we are now in a position to pull our material together, some of the material you have gathered will not be needed, so collect all your material of your sermon. First write it out, no matter how chaotic it may appear. The next step is now to create an outline.

**PREACHING**  
**STUDY 6**

**THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE SERMON**

**1. THE NEED FOR FORM**

The sermon if it is to be effective must have form; it must be built on a plan. Therefore the construction of your sermon is very important and time ought to be taken on it. In general the sermon will look like this.

**TITLE**

**INTRODUCTION**

**BODY**

1.    A.  
      B.
2.    A.  
      B.
3.    A.  
      B.

**CONCLUSION**

1.    SUMMARY
2.    APPLICATION

**2. PRINCIPLES OF ARRANGEMENT**

**A.   EXPLANATION AND ARGUMENT SHOULD COME BEFORE PERSUASION**

You must be careful of applying the sermon too soon.

**B.   FEELING SHOULD DEEPEN AS YOU ENTER THE DISCOURSE**

The preacher is getting hotter and hotter as he goes into the sermon.

**THE ARGUMENTATIVE PART OF THE SERMON SHOULD BE SO ARRANGED THAT THE WEAKER THOUGHT LEADS ON TO THE STRONGER**

### 3. THE TEXTUAL PLAN

#### A. WORKING WITHIN THE TEXT

This means that your headlines come straight out of the text.

#### THE WAY OF WISDOM - PROVERBS (3:23–4:19)

##### INTRODUCTION

#### 1. PEACEFUL (v.23-26)

A. IN TIMES OF STABILITY (v.23-24)

B. IN TIMES OF STRESS (v.25-26)

#### 2. POSITIVE (v.27-35)

A. IT PRODUCES GOODNESS (v.27-34)

B. IT ALSO LEADS TO GLORY (v.35)

#### 3. PARENTAL (4:1-9)

A. POSTERITY (v.1-2)

B. PARENTS

#### B. WORKING OUTSIDE THE TEXT

E.g.; The Life of Peter.

### 4. THE PLACE OF HEADINGS

A. THEY SHOULD BE FEW IN NUMBER

B. THEY SHOULD BE LOGICAL IN ARRANGEMENT

C. THEY SHOULD BE CONCISE IN EXPRESSION

D. THEY SHOULD BE GRAMMATICAL AND EXPRESSIVE

E. THEY SHOULD CONFORM TO THE GRAMMATICAL STYLE

F. THEY SHOULD BE STRICTLY OBSERVED

G. THEY SHOULD MATCH THE LENGTH OF THE SECTIONS

**PREACHING**  
**STUDY 7**  
**THEME, INTRODUCTION, CONCLUSION**

**1. THEME (TELOS)**

**A. THE FUNCTION OF THE THEME**

The preacher ought to be able to state in one sentence the main point of his sermon. It is important therefore to have a clear theme. The theme will keep the sermon in shape, each heading will be related to the theme.

**B. THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE THEME**

There are different methods of announcing your theme. E.g.; You may begin by announcing your theme, then give your text and then the introduction or you may give the text and then your theme.

**C. THE CONCISENESS OF THE THEME**

It must be clear and concise so that at the end everyone should be able to tell you the theme.

**2. INTRODUCTION**

**A. SIZE**

The general rule is don't have a very long introduction, try and keep it as brief as you can. Always remember that all you are going to say in the introduction is: This is what I am going to tell you.

**B. CONTENTS**

- 1) **It should lead up naturally to the theme.**
- 2) **It should convey the notion that the theme is a relevant issue.**
- 3) **It should arrest the attention of the congregation.**
- 4) **It should avoid banality (trying to be silly).**
- 5) **It should create an atmosphere.**
- 6) **It should be marked by simplicity, pertinence and courtesy.**

**3. CONCLUSION**

**A. THE IMPORTANCE OF THE CONCLUSION**

The conclusion is more important than the introduction. Your whole sermon has been aimed to change lives and so the conclusion will draw everything together (summarize) and apply it to the heart.

**B. THE NATURE OF THE CONCLUSION**

- 1) **You must be definite and clear in thought and expression.**
- 2) **Be personal in its aim and application.**
- 3) **Will the emphasis be evangelical or ethical?**