

Drinking From The Well itself: Using Exposition to Teach

(Dr. Walter C. Kaiser, Jr., 2019)

EXPOSITIONAL PREACHING FROM THE Old TESTAMENT:

THE JOY OF DRINKING FROM THE WELL ITSELF

WHY USE THE OLD TESTAMENT?

- IT WAS ALL THE EARLY CHURCH HAD
- IT LEADS US TO JESUS THE MESSIAH
- IT DEALS WITH THE QUESTIONS OF LIFE
- IT IS THE POWERFUL WORD OF GOD

BARRIERS TO PREACHING FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT

- IT IS JUST FOREIGN TO OUR CULTURE
- HEBREW IS HARDER THAN GREEK
- IT IS IRRELEVANT TO US TODAY
- WE LIKE THE NEW TESTAMENT BETTER
- WHAT ELSE DO WE NEED IF WE HAVE CHRIST?
- (AFTER SCOTT M. GIBSON, PREACHING THE OT)

WHY SHOULD THE CHURCH HEAR ABOUT THE OLD TESTAMENT?

- IT'S OVER 75% OF GOD'S WORD TO US
- IT'S ABOUT THE GOSPEL- ROM 1:1-2;
HEB 3: 17 – 4: 2
- IT'S ADDRESSED TO US AS WELL – I PET
1: 10-12; HEB 6: 18

HOW DOES THE O.T. HELP MY TEACHING OR PREACHING?

- IT GIVES IT BALANCE AND FULLNESS- ACTS 20:27
- IT USES LITERARY GENRES NOT USED IN THE N.T.
—
- IT FORCES ME TO COVER TOPICS I WOULD OTHERWISE AVOID

HOW TO DO EXPOSITORY PREACHING

- TAKE AT LEAST 1 PARAGRAPH, STROPHE OR THE LIKE.
- MARK THE EXTENT OF THE TEACHING BLOCK (PERICOPE).
- LOCATE THE FOCAL POINT OR BIG IDEA IN A VERSE, CLAUSE OR PHRASE.
- CHOOSE AN INTERROGATIVE: WHO? WHAT? WHY? WHERE? WHEN? & HOW?
- SELECT A HOMILETICAL KEYWORD.

HOW TO COMPLETE THE SERMON/TEACHING PREPARATION

- TITLE THE LECTURE OR SERMON BASED ON THE FOCAL POINT OR BIG IDEA.
- MARK OFF THE PARAGRAPHS, SCENES, & STROPHES IN THE PERISOPE.
- USE THE INTERROGATIVE AND HOMILETICAL KEYWORD FOR EACH PARAGRAPH, SCENE, STROPHE
- MAKE THE POINT OF EACH PARAGRAPH A PRINCIPLE THAT IS FREE OF TIME OR PLACE.

APPLY IT ALL TO US

DON'T USE THE PAST TENSE VERB

DON'T USE ANY PROPER NAMES EXCEPT GOD'S NAME

DON'T USE 2ND OR 3RD PERSON PRONOUNS.

USE THE PRESENT OR IMPERATIVE TENSE

USE GOD'S NAME FREELY

USE 1ST PERSON PLURAL PRONOUNS

PRINCIPALIZE; NOT SPIRITUALIZE, PSYCHOLOGIZE, HISTORICIZE, OR ANY OTHER --IZING

USING O.T. NARRATIVES

- DETERMINE WHERE THE SCENES BEGIN AND END.
- GET A FIX ON THE PLOT OF THE STORY.
- IDENTIFY THE POINT OF VIEW.
- NOTE ANY PATTERN OF WORDS RELATED IN SOUND, FORM OR VOCABULARY – (LEITWORT)
- SEE IF A KEY SPEECH DOES NOT MAKE THE POINT THE NARRATOR WOULD HAVE MADE.

ILLUSTRATION OF NARRATIVE PREACHING

- 1 SAM 3:1 – 4: 1a
 - FOCAL POINT: VS 19 “GOD LET NONE OF HIS WORDS FALL TO THE GROUND.”

FOUR SCENES: (1) PREVIOUS DAYS; (2) ONE NIGHT (2-14); (3) NEXT MORNING (15-18); (4) SUBSEQUENT DAYS (19 – 4: 1a).

TITLE OF SERMON: “THE POWER OF THE WORD OF GOD”

INTERROG.: “WHAT?” “CHARACTERISTICS

OUTLINE- 1 SAM 3: 1 – 4: 1a

- GOD CAN MAKE HIS WORD SCARCE -1
- GOD CAN MAKE HIS WORD STARTLING –2-14
- GOD'S WORD IS SOVEREIGN OVER US – 15-18
- GOD'S WORD SECURES HIS SERVANTS – 19 – 4: 1a

PREACHING THE PSALMS: PSALM 73

- FOCAL POINT- VS 2 “MY FEET HAD ALMOST SLIPPED”
- TITLE: SLIPPERY THINKING ON GOD’S GOODNESS
- PLACE: AT THE START OF BOOK III (73-89) AFTER TWO BOOKS BY DAVID AND PS 72 BY SOLOMON ENDS IT.
- INTERROG.: “WHY?”
- HOMILETICAL KEYWORD: “REASONS”

OUTLINE – PSALM 73

- BECAUSE WE ENVY THE WICKED -3-12
- BECAUSE WE THINK IT HAS ALL BEEN IN VAIN – 13 – 17
- BECAUSE WE FAIL TO NOTICE WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO THE WICKED IN THE END – 18 – 20
- BECAUSE WE ARE IGNORANT OF GOD’S CONSTANT PRESENCE AND GUIDANCE-21-26

Preaching From the O.T. Wisdom Books

- The Genre of the Proverb
- Interpreting Proverbs:
 - Equational Proverbs
 - Oppositional Proverbs

Preaching From the O.T. Wisdom Books

- Moving Proverbs to the Sermon
 1. Is the proverb part of a proverbial cluster on a particular subject?
 2. Are there links between the proverb and the surrounding text?
 3. Is this proverb part of a larger group of proverbs on the same subject or theme?
 4. What are the theological norms and informing doctrines announced in earlier Scriptures that are now encapsulated in this new proverbial grouping that forms the basis of our sermon?

Preaching From the O.T. Wisdom Books: Non-Proverbial Wisdom

- Ecclesiastes
 - Allegory, example story, proverbs and more
- Job
 - Hymns, proverbs, riddles, dialogue and disputation
- Song of Solomon
 - Dedicated to the gift of marital love

An Illustration of Preaching from the Wisdom Books: Ecclesiastes

Ecclesiastes 3:1-5:20

Subject: Understanding the Eternal Plan of God.

Focal Point: 3:1- “[God] has made everything beautiful in its time. He has also eternity in the hearts of men; yet they cannot fathom what God has done from beginning to end.”

Homiletical Keyword: Appointments

Interrogative: What? (are the appointments God has God given to us for understanding eternity?)

An Illustration of Preaching from the Wisdom Books: Ecclesiastes

- Outline for Ecclesiastes 3:1-5:20
 - I. God’s Plan takes in Everything 3:1-15
 - II. God’s Plan must not be Denied Because of Anomalies 3:16-4:16
 - III. The Worship of God must be Carried Out Cautiously 5:1-17
 - IV. Conclusion- One’s Lot in Life Comes From God 5:18-20

PREACHING FROM THE O.T. PROPHETS: ISAIAH

40: 9 – 31

- FOCAL POINT: VS 9 “BEHOLD YOUR GOD”
- TITLE: OUR INCOMPARABLY GREAT GOD
- INTERROG.: “WHAT?”
- HOMILETICAL KEYWORD: “COMPARISONS”
- RHETORICAL DEVICE AS DIVIDER: “TO WHOM THEN WILL YOU LIKEN ME?” -18, 25

OUTLINE – ISAIAH 40: 12-31

- IN HIS POWER OVER US – 12 – 17
 - COMPARED TO NATURE – 12; COMPARED TO WISDOM OF MORTALS -13-14; COMPARED TO POWER OF NATIONS -15 - 17
- IN HIS PERSON TOWARD US – 18-20
 - COMPARED TO INERT IDOLS – 18-20; COMPARED TO PRINCES & NOBLES-21-24
- IN HIS PASTORAL CARE FOR US – 25-31
 - COMPARED TO FINITE THINGS-25-26; COMPARED TO DESPONDENT ONES -27-28; COMPARED TO THE STRENGTH OF YOUTH
 - CONCLUSION – VS 31

CHANGING THE WORLD BY PREACHING THE WORD OF GOD

- GROWTH BY EXPOSITION OF THE WORD OF GOD – ACTS 12:24; 13: 49; 19: 20.
- NEGLECT ANY PART OF GOD’S WORD (e.g., THE O.T.) AND IT WILL EITHER BE A SEEDBED FOR TOMORROW’S HERESIES OR IN GOD’S MERCIFUL PROVIDENCE AN OPPORTUNITY FOR A PARA-CHURCH MINISTRY!
- HALT THE FAMINE OF THE WORD OF GOD – AMOS 8: 11-12