

Its Time to Renew the Work of God: Using Exposition to Teach and Call for Revival

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

The Old Testament Viewed From the Perspective of Expository Preaching

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Reasons Why There is Little Preaching or Use of the Old Testament

1. The rejection and avoidance because it is too difficult to understand.
2. It is spiritualized, allegorized, modernized or contemporized to say more than the original meaning to be New Testament in meaning.
3. Jesus is the “real” meaning of every Old Testament passage

The Debate Over What the Author Meant

- ▶ Necessity of Preaching **ALL** of the Bible
- ▶ Rejection of subjective or re-interpreted meanings
- ▶ Be an “originalist” and “textualist”
- ▶ Three Standards of Interpretation:
 - Literary genre
 - Historical setting of text
 - Theocentric interpretation based on the whole Bible
- ▶ Sensus Plenior – “multiple/fuller meaning”

Moving From Meaning to Application

- ▶ The Goal of the Preacher to move from meaning to application of Scripture
- ▶ Restate the author's propositions, arguments, narrations and illustrations in timeless abiding truths focusing on the current needs of the Church/ the situation in our life

Displacing Israel: Replacement Theology

- ▶ The Avoidance of the meaning of the text , especially in the Old Testament references to Israel
- ▶ Replacing Abraham with the Church- the "Christifying" the concepts of Israel and the Land
- ▶ The Divine Promise-Plan
- ▶ The Grafting in of Gentiles – not Replacing of Israel per the Apostle Paul

Conclusion

"The word of God embraces his promise-plan that began in the Garden of Eden with the promise to Eve about a coming deliverer ... And that plan has continued to dominate the narrative of the Bible. To understand that word, we must first listen to and then heed what the prophets and apostles, who have stood in the counsel of God and received as his message for us."

Conclusion

"That meaning of the text was not hidden, placed into a secret code, or encoded in a double-tracked message with a mere surface sense, yet it somehow contained a deeper sense somehow attached to that text. On the contrary, it instead was meant to be understood as God's word for all peoples in all times and in all cultures and in all languages."

A Short Course in Biblical Hermeneutics

Lesson 2: The Meaning of Meaning

I. Introduction

- Principles of Interpretation are the Same Age as Speaking or Writing.
- Not Invented by Man
- An Endowed Gift from God to us All
- Interpretation Demands an Open-ness to the Work of the Holy Spirit to Apply the Text to Us Personally.

II. A Case For the Single Meaning to the Scriptures

A. The Single Meaning of Scripture

1. Meaning- what is represented by the words of the text its literal/ straightforward expression of what the author meant
2. Significance - how that meaning is related to some other person
3. Scriptures say exactly what God wanted to Communicate through its writers
4. William Ames (1576-1633)

II. A Case For the Single Meaning to the Scriptures

B. Does God somehow Include a Sensus Plenior, “Deeper” or “Hyponoia” Meaning in the text?

1. Intended by God and Not the Author-Where is it?
2. “Between the Lines” Reading not Part of the Writing of the Scriptures

III. Interpreting Different Genres in Scripture: Narratives

- A. Most Common Genre of the Bible
- B. Determine the Scope of the Passage Pericope
- C. Identify the Focal Point/Big Idea of Passage
- D. Identify the Scenes/ Main Points
- E. Note with an Interrogative that forms the best question raised in the subject or title
- F. Use a Homiletical Keyword

III. Interpreting Different Genres in Scripture: Narratives

- G. Apply the Interrogative to Each Main Point-
 - 1. Use God's Name as a Proper Name
 - 2. Use only the Present or Imperative Tenses of the Verb
 - 3. Use only the 1st Person Plural Pronoun

III. Interpreting Different Genres in Scripture: Narratives

- H. Your Teaching Outline-
 - 1. Must Have the Text Talk Directly TO Us.
 - 2. No Other Proper Names Beside God's
 - 3. Do Not Use Past Tense of the Verb
 - 4. Do not use Third Person Pronouns

III. Interpreting Different Genres in Scripture: Narratives

- I. Conclude by Listing the Things God Wants Us to Do or to Change in Our Lifestyles if We are to Obey this Text.

IV. An Example of Narrative Teachings: 1 Kings 17:1-24

- A. There are Four Scenes:
The Palace (v.1); 2. Kerith Brook (2-7); 3. Widow's Home in Zarephath (8-16); 4. Prophet's Chamber (17-24)
- B. The Focal Point is Verse 24
- C. Subject/Title: "Finding the Word of the Lord is Dependable."
- D. Interrogative: "When?"

IV. An Example of Narrative Teachings: 1 Kings 17:1-24

- E. Homiletical Keyword: "Times"
- F. Four Teaching Points:
 - 1. When **We** Deserve the Judgment of God (v.1)
 - 2. When **We** Don't Deserve God's Messengers/Message (v.2-7)
 - 3. When **We** Have Come to the End of Our Resources (v.8-16)
 - 4. When **We** have Given Up All Hope (v.17-24)
- G. Note the "We"; Present Tense, the Absence of Elijah's and the Widow's Name in the Outline
- H. Conclusions – What God wants Us to do in light of His Word

V. Other Genres

- A. Poetry (Strophes/to Paragraphs, Scenes)
- B. Prose (Watch for the Paragraphs)
- C. **Apocalyptic (Same as Prophecy)**

CONCLUSIONS

- 1. Meaning or sense to a passage in the Bible is a single-fold not multiple in meaning.
- 2. **Narratives in Scripture Yield principles for Application to Our Times.**