

Biblical Preaching

First Peter 1.22–25

Don Ruhl • Savage Street, Grants Pass, Oregon • May 18, In the year of our Lord, 2014

Scripture Reader and Reading: Michael Crisp – Jeremiah 26.1–6

Song Leader and Song Suggestions: Larry Amberg – Anything on the word of God

Prelude:

I. Some people have more than one book to preach.

- A. That would confuse me.
- B. I have hardly enough time to know the Bible alone.

II. Some people have more than one philosophy to preach.

- A. That would confuse me, because
- B. man's ideas often contradict God's word.

III. For me just simply preaching and teaching the Bible is so much easier.

Persuasion:

I. Biblical Preaching Is an Issue of Biblical Authority

- A. What shall we preach?

6 The voice said, "Cry out!"
And he said, "What shall I cry?"
"All flesh is grass,
And all its loveliness is like the flower of the field.
7 The grass withers, the flower fades,
Because the breath of the Lord blows upon it;
Surely the people are grass.
8 The grass withers, the flower fades,
But the word of our God stands forever."
(Isa 40.6–8)

- 1. How can we preach anything else?

- a) 1 Corinthians 9.16

16 For if I preach the gospel, I have nothing to boast of, for necessity is laid upon me; yes, woe is me if I do not preach the gospel! (1Co

9.16).

b) Now the cry is,

“Woe is unto me, if I preach the gospel and woe is unto me, if I preach not every new philosophy of man.”

B. Sadly, biblical authority is not the issue with most professing believers.

1. Does it make people feel good?
2. Will it offend visitors?
3. Is it endorsed by Church Growth experts?
4. Will it entertain?

C. An age-old problem: not to be concerned with biblical preaching.

1. Jeremiah 6.16

16 Thus says the Lord:

**“Stand in the ways and see,
And ask for the old paths, where the good way is,
And walk in it;
Then you will find rest for your souls.
But they said, ‘We will not walk in it.’”
(Jer 6.16)**

2. 1 Kings 22.1–14

3. Isaiah 30.9–11

**9 That this is a rebellious people,
Lying children,
Children who will not hear the law of the Lord;
10 Who say to the seers, “Do not see,”
And to the prophets, “Do not prophesy to us right things;
Speak to us smooth things, prophesy deceits.
11 Get out of the way,
Turn aside from the path,
Cause the Holy One of Israel**

**To cease from before us.”
(Isa 30.9–11)**

4. Amos 7.10–13

10 Then Amaziah the priest of Bethel sent to Jeroboam king of Israel, saying, “Amos has conspired against you in the midst of the house of Israel. The land is not able to bear all his words. 11 For thus Amos has said:

**“Jeroboam shall die by the sword,
And Israel shall surely be led away captive
From their own land.”**

12 Then Amaziah said to Amos:

**“Go, you seer!
Flee to the land of Judah.
There eat bread,
And there prophesy.**

**13 But never again prophesy at Bethel,
For it is the king’s sanctuary,
And it is the royal residence.”
(Amos 7.10–13)**

D. It must be a God-ordained message.

1. Ezekiel 2.4; 3.11

4 “For they are impudent and stubborn children. I am sending you to them, and you shall say to them, ‘Thus says the Lord God.’” (Eze 2.4).

11 “And go, get to the captives, to the children of your people, and speak to them and tell them, ‘Thus says the Lord God,’ whether they hear, or whether they refuse” (Eze 3.11).

II. What Happens When We Preach the Bible Only

A. We deliver a unified message

1. If two take same verse and repeat it,

2. they have said the same thing.
 - a) If their explanations simply explain instead of
 - b) speculating and denying,
 - (1) then they speak identical messages.
3. If opinion is issued,
 - a) it ought to be identified.
 - b) Still keep at a minimum number.
4. Jeremiah 23.28; Isaiah 8.20

**28 “The prophet who has a dream, let him tell a dream;
And he who has My word, let him speak My word faithfully.
What is the chaff to the wheat?” says the Lord.
(Jer 23.28)**

**20 To the law and to the testimony! If they do not speak according to
this word, it is because there is no light in them (Isa 8.20).**

B. We eliminate false notions

1. The case of Aylett Raines
 - a) Memoirs of Alexander Campbell, Vol. 2, pp. 244-248.
 - b) Simply speak
 - (1) affirmatively for what the Bible affirms and
 - (2) do not support what the Scriptures do not support.
2. First Corinthians 4.6

**6 Now these things, brethren, I have figuratively transferred to myself
and Apollos for your sakes, that you may learn in us not to think beyond
what is written, that none of you may be puffed up on behalf of one
against the other (1Co 4.6).**

3. How can we go wrong using biblical terminology?
4. If a man chooses a certain opinion, fine, but let him keep it to himself.

a) Romans 14.22

22 Do you have faith? Have it to yourself before God. Happy is he who does not condemn himself in what he approves (Rom 14.22).

C. We help to erase division

1. Not all division results from non-biblical preaching.
2. Division resulted from additions, subtractions, and modifications.
 - a) One man preached his opinion and another disagreed with it.
 - b) The second man may have responded with his speculation.

D. We help people to learn what God says

III. Biblical Preaching Eliminates All Other Messages

A. There is no other power for salvation.

1. Romans 1.16–17

16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek. 17 For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, “The just shall live by faith” (Rom 1.16–17).

2. Many concern not themselves with the message of salvation.
 - a) To hear about salvation, means
 - (1) addressing sin and
 - (2) repentance from sin.
 - b) They only want feel-good-about-themselves messages.
 - c) Some are ashamed of the old Jerusalem gospel.
 - d) Many want to be analyzed in behavior, thus placing blame on another.

B. There are some interesting philosophies by men with some truth.

1. But these are missing:
 - a) Biblical authority

- b) Christ as the central message
 - c) Holy Spirit as the inspiration
2. Moreover:
- a) Rat poison is 98% good.
 - b) The devil never presents a totally false message:
 - (1) Matthew 7.15

15 “Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep’s clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves” (Matt 7.15).

- (2) Second Corinthians 11.13–15

13 For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into apostles of Christ. 14 And no wonder! For Satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light. 15 Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also transform themselves into ministers of righteousness, whose end will be according to their works (2Co 11.13–15).

- (a) Did Peter think that Satan was using him?

“Get thee behind me Satan”

- (b) Was there any truth in the serpent’s response to Eve?

Exhortation:

I. First Peter 1.22–25

22 Since you have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit in sincere love of the brethren, love one another fervently with a pure heart, 23 having been born again, not of corruptible seed but incorruptible, through the word of God which lives and abides forever, 24 because

**“All flesh is as grass,
And all the glory of man as the flower of the grass.
The grass withers,
And its flower falls away,**

25 But the word of the Lord endures forever.”

Now this is the word which by the gospel was preached to you (1Pe 1.22–25).

- A. Since man’s flesh will not abide, neither will his theoretical knowledge.
- B. Biblical preaching will always be relevant,
 - 1. not necessarily popular, but
 - 2. it meets our needs, our true needs, perfectly.

II. Obey the Truth

- A. John 8.31–32

31 Then Jesus said to those Jews who believed Him, “If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. 32 And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free” (John 8.31–32).

- B. The truth is...