

EVANGELISM -- How to preach the Gospel!

J.E. Dennison

Readings: Matt 28:16-20; Mark 16:14-20; Acts 1:6-8; 6:3,5; 8:5, 12,14,25-40; Acts 17:16-17; 22-32

Introduction:

- A. Important words describing evangelism:
 - 1. **euangelizo:** to evangelize or generally announce good news (Acts 8:35; 1 Cor 1:17)
 - 2. **kerusso:** to herald or publicly proclaim (Mark 16:15; 1 Cor 1:23)
 - 3. **apologia:** to verbally defend, argue or reason (Acts 22:1)
 - 4. **martus:** to witness of what one has seen, heard, or knows (Acts 1:8;)
- B. Is evangelism a privilege or a responsibility?

I. The Mandate and Method:

- A. Commission of the Savior: Mark 16:16 "Go ye into all the world and PREACH!"
- B. Example of the Savior and the Apostles: 1 Cor 1:23 "We preach Christ Crucified!"
- C. Exhortation in the Epistles: 2 Tim 4:2 "Preach the Word"
- D. Benefits and Outcomes of Gospel Preaching:
 - 1. For God:
 - 2. For the Sinner:
 - 3. For Believers:
 - 4. For the Assembly:
 - 5. For the Preacher:

II. The Messenger:

A. Perspectives:

1. Right view of the Role of the Preacher: (1 Cor 9:22; 2 Cor 2:15-16)

- a. Ambassador: Dignity and Representation 2 Cor 5:20; Eph 6:20
- b. Soldier: Discernment and Loyalty 1 Tim 2:3; Php 2:25
- c. Athlete: Development and Discipline 1 Tim 6:12; 2 Tim 4:7
- d. Servant: (minister): Obedience and Commitment 1 Cor 3:5; 1 Pet 4:11
- e. Steward: Authority and Responsibility 1 Cor 4:1; 1 Tim 1:11
- f. Farmers: Faithfulness and Dependency Jn 4:35-38; 1 Cor 3:6-8
- g. Fellow-laborers: Humility and Harmony 1 Cor 3:9; Phil 4:3
- h. Vessel: Preparation and Purity 2 Cor 4:7; 2 Tim 2:21
- i. Fisherman: Skill and Patience Matt 4:19; Mark 1:17

2. Right view of the Word of God:

- a. Power: Gives Life: 1 Peter 1:23
- b. Precision: Exposes Sin: Heb 4:12; Rom 3:20
- c. Purpose: Leads to the Savior. John 5:39; 2 Tim 3:15
- d. Potential: Promise of Blessing Isa 55:11
- e. Priority:
 - Memorize it! John 14:26
 - Preach it! 2 Tim 4:2

3. Right view of the Holy Spirit:

- a. Filling with the Spirit: Acts 4:8; Eph 5:18
- b. Guidance by the Spirit: Acts 8:19
- c. Dependence on the Spirit: (Conviction and Revelation)
 - What exactly is the role of the Holy Spirit?

4. Right view of Souls: How burdened are you when you preach?

- a. Recognize their Value! Mark 8:36
 - How much would you sacrifice to win one soul? (2 Cor 12:15)
- b. Remember their Condition! Mark 6:34
- c. Realize their Destiny! Luke 19:43-44
- d. Respect their Dignity! Acts 26:3
- e. Review your goal! "**repentance towards God and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ**" Acts 20:21
 - Every person is made up of intellect, emotion, conscience, and will.
 - How should this understanding guide us in our preaching?

5. Right view of the Ability of the Preacher:

- a. Who should Preach the gospel? (1 Peter 4:11; Eph 4:11)
- b. How will a person know if they have the gift of evangelism? (1 Tim 4:5)
- c. What is the difference between natural ability and gift in the gospel?

6. Right view of the Gospel:

- a. What makes the gospel a treasure? "Treasure" 2 Cor. 4:7
- b. How should this affect my handling of the gospel?

7. Right view of the Salvation of a Soul:

- a. It is completely the work of God! John 1:12-13
- b. Sharing in the work 1 Cor 3:9; John 4: 35-38

B. Preparation:

- 1. Prayer and Dependence: (Rom 10:1; Luke 5:16-17)
- 2. Holiness and Separation: 2 Tim 2:19-24; Phil 1:27
 - a. Isaiah; Moses; Paul; Peter, and the Savior.
- 3. Character: Acts 6; 1 Tim. 3:8-14
- 4. Knowledge of the Gospel
- 5. Witnessing: How can I see a soul saved for the glory of the Lord Jesus?
 - a. Pray for open doors! Col. 4:3
 - b. Seek Opportunities! 1 Tim 4:2
 - c. Win their Confidence! Luke 9:6; 10:9
 - d. "GO!" Mark 16:16
 - How can I get up the courage? Eph 6: 18,19
 - How should I begin? Mark 5:19 GO HOME TO THY FRIENDS!

III. The Message:

A. Preparation of the Message:

- 1. Evaluation of the **Audience:**
 - a. Factors:
 - Background
 - Knowledge of the Gospel
 - Interest in Salvation
 - Age and attention span
 - b. Try to anticipate their thinking and stumbling blocks. Matt 3:9; Matt 10:34
- 2. Selection of the **Text:**
 - a. Choose a text relevant to your audience.
 - b. Understand the meaning and interpretation of the text! (Nehemiah 8:8)
- 3. Determine your main points
- 4. Essentials of the Gospel:
 - a. Man's Ruin:** Isaiah 1:5-6
 - What is "depravity of man"? (Isa 1:5-6; Rom 3:10-19)
 - b. God's Remedy:** Isaiah 53:5,6
 - c. Man's Responsibility:** Isaiah 1:18; 45:22
 - Faith in Christ Acts 16:30,31
 - Confession of Salvation Romans 10:9
 - Discipleship and Bowing to the Lordship of Christ Matt 28:16-20
- 5. Suggestions for preaching different types of Gospel Messages:
 - a. Preaching **Gospel Texts:**
 - Ex: 1 Cor. 15:1-4
 - b. Preaching **Parables:**
 - Ex: Parable of the Sower and the Seed (Matthew 13:1-23)
 - c. Preaching **Old Testament Narrative:**
 - Ex: Serpent on the Pole: John 3:14-15
 - d. Preaching New Testament **Conversion Stories:**
 - Ex: Conversion of Zaccheus Luke 19:1-8
 - e. Preaching **New Testament Miracles:**
 - Ex: Miracle of the Feeding of the 5000 John 6
 - f. Preaching **Apologetics:** (Why we believe a certain truth?)
 - Ex: Defense of Resurrection Matthew 22:23-33; Luke 20: 27-38
 - g. Preaching **Topical Messages** on Gospel Subjects:
 - Ex: Romans 3 and 1 Cor 15

B. Presentation of the Message:

- A. With Authority: 1 Pet 4:11 let him speak as the oracles of God;
- B. With Order:
 - a. Beginning:
 - Use of “attention-getters” “Altar TO AN UNKNOWN GOD”
 - Clear, concise statement of theme “Him declare I unto you” (vs.23)
 - b. Basic Pattern of Presentation:
 - **State Point:** “God is living and personal”
 - **Explain point:**
 - a. His Position: *Lord of Heaven and Earth (24)*
 - b. His Provision: *He giveth to all (vs. 25)*
 - c. His Power: *“made” “determined” (vs. 26)*
 - d. His Presence: *“He be not far” (vs. 27)*
 - **Restate point:** “In Him we live, move, & have our being” (vs. 28a)
 - **Illustrate: Quotation:** “*For we are also his offspring*” (vs. 28b)
 - **Apply point.** Address your Audience!
 - + We should not: “*we ought not to think*” (vs. 29)
 - + We should: “*REPENT!*” (vs. 30)
 - b. Conclusion:
 - Urgency of Action: “*He hath appointed a day*” (vs. 31)
- C. With Conviction!
 - a. Verbally: Word choice
 - b. Nonverbally: (Gestures, tone, pitch, volume) Acts 2:14; Acts 26:1
- D. With Caution!
 - a. Advice for preaching warnings
 - b. Advice on making appeals
 - c. Advice on telling your conversion
 - d. Advice on speaking to children

Miscellaneous Questions and Scenarios:

1. People rarely come to our gospel meeting in the Hall. Right now, we only have little children and the believers attending the meetings. Should we switch the meeting to a ministry meeting? After all, what value is there in preaching to Christians?
2. There is a young brother in our assembly who has good content in his gospel messages but is very monotone in his presentation. What can the elders do to help him improve his delivery?
3. A friend of mine often has doubts about her salvation. How can I help her?
4. My boss says he is not sure if there is a God. He wants to come out and hear me the next time I preach. Where should I begin with this type of a person?
5. My young child is troubled after gospel meetings especially when the preaching is about judgment or the coming of the Lord. How can I help him?
6. Whenever I speak to my unsaved family, they immediately resort to their religion of infant baptism and taking communion. Why do they not see the error of this and how should I approach them?
7. Why do so many Christians’ children have so much trouble with “believing?”
8. My neighbor does not believe the Bible is the Word of God. Does that mean I should not quote verses from the Bible to try and witness to Him?
9. Why do we have the general practice of having two speakers and usually the younger man goes first?
10. What are the advantages and disadvantages of preaching a message more than once?

