

# HOMILETICS: 3 MAIN PARTS

## 1<sup>ST</sup> PART: RECEIVING A MESSAGE FROM GOD

## 2<sup>ND</sup> PART: DEVELOPING THE MESSAGE

## 3<sup>RD</sup> PART: EFFECTIVELY COMMUNICATING THAT MESSAGE TO THE PEOPLE

### I. RECEIVING A MESSAGE FROM GOD

#### A) WHAT TO PREACH, I Cor.14:6 There are 4 kinds of profitable preaching:

- 1) REVELATION - A vision, a dream, a scripture or word that God has spoken to your heart, Jer. 23:28. If God has given you a revelation, that can be the seed (even if it was only a little revelation) that you can nurture and grow to become a full message. Study Dan.5:18-28.
- 2) KNOWLEDGE - Preach about something you know or understand:
  - a) Preach about things you have experienced- God's love, protection, guidance, mercy, repentance...
  - b) Preach about a need or a sin that you know is in the church, Rev.3:15, Eph.3:19, Rom.14:14.
  - c) Preach a message that you know is appropriate for the occasion (perhaps it is a holiday, a funeral, or a special occasion).
- 3) PROPHECY - The Lord can anoint us when we preach, and guide us into speaking about things that we had not prepared to speak about. A prophetic flow should be followed when you feel the anointing lead you. Yet it is difficult (and often unwise) to assume that you need not prepare to preach, but only wait for the anointing to guide you.
- 4) DOCTRINE - We need to systematically teach sound doctrine to give our church members strong spiritual foundations, 1 Tim.4:16, 2 Tim.4:2-4, Heb.6:1-2  
-The example of the Apostles: Acts 2:41-42, 5:27-29.  
-The world's most famous sermon, the Sermon on the Mount, was doctrinal teaching, Mt.5:2 & 7:28

#### B) CHOOSING WHAT TO PREACH- Three steps towards choosing your message:

- 1) Pray and read your Bible, seeking revelation from God about what to preach.
  - 2) If the Lord does not seem to reveal anything, then with the wisdom and peace of God decide what knowledge or doctrine it would be appropriate to preach.
  - 3) If you are at the pulpit and a prophetic anointing begins to flow and lead you, then drop your planned notes to follow the Spirit.
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- 1) SEEK FOR A REVELATION TO PREACH- An ambassador or messenger is only effective if he has up-to-date information from headquarters. If the Lord gives you a revelation, consider the following:
    - a) Do we understand the interpretation? Gen.41:8.
    - b) Do we feel it is the right time to reveal it? Mk.9:9, Gen.37:5-8, Lk.2:19.
    - c) If we have no new revelation that we feel we should preach, then with the leading of the wisdom and peace of God decide what knowledge or doctrine it would be appropriate to speak about.
  - 2) DECIDE WHAT KNOWLEDGE OR DOCTRINE TO PREACH:
    - a) KNOWLEDGE: If we are considering preaching about a subject or experience we know about:
      - 1) Is the subject or experience presently blessing our heart? Life reproduces life!
      - 2) Is the subject appropriate? Prov.25:11. Holidays and events often suggest some topics to preach.
      - 3) Consider your audience and speak to their needs. Make it practical and relevant!
      - 4) If we know about a problem:
        - Does the Lord wants us to confront the problem? 2 Chron.35:20-24, Eccles.7:17.
        - Is it the right time? Eccles.3:7-8, 1 Cor.4:5 Does the Lord want to come to expose & judge the problem at this time? Mt.13:24-30, Gen.15:16. Is the situation ripe?
        - Do we know the correct way to deal with the situation? 1 Chron.14:9-16
    - b) DOCTRINE: If we feel that we should preach doctrine, we should consider:
      - 1) Do the people have a good doctrinal foundation? Heb.6:1-2, Eph.4:14.

- Teach & preach special Bible studies for the new Christians
- 2) Give more emphasis to the important doctrines of the Bible, Mt.23:23.
  - 3) Is.8:20 Don't teach any doctrines that are not clearly established in the Word of God.
- Examples: There is life on other planets, Jesus is coming back in 2000 A.D.

#### IF A PROPHETIC ANOINTING COMES

- 1) We cannot plan this beforehand, although we should pray and prepare our heart so that if God wants to speak through us in a special way we will be prepared.
- 2) If the Lord gives us a prophetic quickening and seems to speak to our heart before we begin to preach (such as in the song service), then either prepare quickly to speak on that topic, or include the newly quickened material in your previously prepared message at an appropriate place.

## II. DEVELOPING THE MESSAGE: THE THREE MAIN PARTS OF A SERMON.

A sermon should have three main sections: A) an introduction, B) a main body, and C) a conclusion. Their functions can be illustrated by the three parts of an arrow: the feathers, the shaft, and the point

**A) The Introduction-** The beginning of the sermon. It gives direction to the rest of the message, just as the feathers on an arrow guide the arrow. The introduction's purpose:

- 1) Create interest and gather the people's attention- make it inviting!
- 2) Make it clear and simple what the message is to be about.

**B) The Main Body-** This is the main section containing the content of the sermon. This is like the shaft, the main part of the arrow. Organize your message into orderly points, and use at least one scripture and one illustration for each major point

**C) The Conclusion-** The ending of the sermon. This is like the point of the arrow, that is to penetrate the target. Our target is the hearts of the listeners!

- 1) SUMMARIZE THE MESSAGE State clearly and quickly the content of the message.
- 2) APPLY THE MESSAGE TO EACH PERSON'S HEART. The message may start in the hearer's mind, but it should end in their heart! The conclusion should be like the sharp arrowhead of the sermon, that is to penetrate into the heart of the listeners. An appropriate story or illustration that is emotionally moving may touch the people's hearts.
- 3) LEAD THE PEOPLE TO A DECISION, TO A RESPONSE, James 1:22

## III. EFFECTIVELY COMMUNICATING THAT MESSAGE TO THE PEOPLE

**A) Exalt Christ** (not people), and lead the People closer to Christ. Everyone needs to get closer to God!

**B) Be Sensitive to the Anointing** of the Holy Spirit: bring it, be led by it, and keep it!

**C) Be Sensitive to the People**

- 1) Consider your audience, and speak at their educational and spiritual level:
- 2) Are you keeping their attention? A message has no value if you cannot keep the people's attention.
- 3) Do not speak beyond their attention span.

**D) Ways to Use your Voice:**

- 1) Make sure your speaking can be clearly understood by all the people
- 2) Make sure your speaking is not too loud or fast
- 3) Do not speak monotone, or drone on and on with the same pitch. Make your voice sound interesting!
- 4) Pauses, and repeating your words, can add impact to what you say.
- 5) Avoid useless phrases and repetitions.

**E) Using Your Body Properly:**

- 1) Do not distract the people away from your message by unusual or overly repeated mannerisms
- 2) Make eye contact with the people. Do not always be staring at your sermon notes
- 3) Use your gestures, or actions, effectively:

**F) End your Message Positively-** We preach good news! Let them want to hear more from you again!