

Preaching and the preacher

Lesson 1

A. Introduction

- We are now going to deal with one of the central activities of the church.
- One of the great instruments put in the hands of the church and its ministers is "to preach God's message". 1 Corinthians 1:21.
- It is a clear command from Jesus to His followers, Mark 16:15 "Go into all the world and preach!"
- Preaching is one of the greatest privileges entrusted to man, to be God's spokesman, God's ambassador. 2 Corinthians 5:18-21.
- Preaching is also one of the greatest responsibilities. Romans 10:14-15.

B. What is preaching?

1. Homiletics = the art of preaching (a study of everything related to preaching).
2. Definition: "Preaching is the proclamation of God's message by a chosen personality to meet the needs of humanity".

Two elements: a) Personality (the preacher).
 b) Message (the truth).
3. The message must be God's message – anything else is not preaching, but merely a humanistic, political, etc., talk.
4. Preaching must be personal proclamation, not reading or writing.

C. The Preacher

Dr. Martyn Lloyd Jones said: "Preachers are born, not made, you will never teach a man to be a preacher if he is not really one, but a born preacher you can help and improve a little here and there".

The preacher is not the source of the message – it is from God – but he is the channel. The message flows through his personality. The message should flow freely from its source (God) to its destination (the people). Preaching is a product of two factors; the divine and the human, and both are very important. The message flows through the personality of the preacher and will be shaped by it.

Because of his high calling, the preacher must not spare any discipline of heart, mind, body and soul.

1. Requirements for a preacher: