

The Terre Haute **Speaker**

“If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God...” (1 Peter 4:11).

Volume 2

June 09, 2013

Number 23

The Kind of Preaching We Need #1

John Isaac Edwards

The Bible reveals the kind of preaching we need.

We Need Preaching. Lest we get to thinking preaching is unimportant or unnecessary, let me remind us that we need preaching. The Lord commissioned His apostles, “Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature” (Mark 16:15). Evidently the world needs to hear gospel preaching or the Lord sent the apostles on a useless mission. Paul wrote the Corinthians, “...it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe” (1 Corinthians 1:21). Preaching saves!

The Kind of Preaching We Don’t Need. To help us better appreciate the kind of preaching we need, let me point out some preaching we don’t need:

Preaching that speaks smooth things. The cry of Israel was, “...Prophesy not unto us right things, speak unto us smooth things...” (Isaiah 30:10). There are those today who have so smoothed the message that they are no longer speaking the truth but speaking falsely and, as Jeremiah said, “...my people love to have it so...” (Jeremiah 5:31).

Preaching that seeks to please men. Paul informed the Galatians, “...for if I yet pleased men, I should not be the servant of Christ”

(Galatians 1:10). The word must be preached whether folks like it or not (2 Timothy 4:2).

Preaching that is speculative. Some make their appeal to “I think” or “It seems to me.” Jeremiah’s appeal was, “Hear ye the word of the Lord” and “Thus saith the Lord” (Jeremiah 2:4-5).

Preaching that apologizes. Where did the Lord make apology for His teaching? When the Pharisees were “offended” at His saying, Jesus answered, “Let them alone: they be blind leaders of the blind...” (Matthew 15:12-14).

Preaching that is all positive in nature. God’s law has always consisted of “thou mayest” and “thou shalt not” (Genesis 2:16-17). There must be reproof and rebuking as well as exhorting (2 Timothy 4:2).

Preaching that is only general. Much of the preaching that is done does not make any specific application. In answering error concerning the resurrection, Paul did not just say there are those teaching error about the resurrection and leave it at that. He was specific. “...of whom is Hymenaeus and Philetus; Who concerning the truth have erred, saying that the resurrection is past already; and overthrow the faith of some” (2 Timothy 2:17-18).

When the Lord Said “Go”

John Isaac Edwards

The word “go” occurs 1492 times in the Bible, and is used to direct our course of action. This short writing calls attention to some occasions when the Lord said, “Go.”

Go Be Reconciled. The Lord taught, “Therefore if thou bring thy gift to the altar, and there rememberest that thy brother hath ought against thee; Leave there thy gift before the altar, and go thy way; first be reconciled to thy brother, and then come and offer thy gift” (Matthew 5:23-24). The Lord will not accept our worship when we are at odds with our brother.

Go The Second Mile. Again the Lord said, “And whosoever shall compel thee to go a mile, go with him twain” (Matthew 5:41). The religion of our Lord is the second mile religion.

Go and Learn. Christ told the Pharisees, “They that be whole need not a physician, but they that are sick. But go ye and learn what that meaneth...” (Matthew 9:12-13). Spiritual learning is important. Jesus said, “...Every man therefore that hath heard, and hath learned of the Father, cometh unto me” (John 6:45).

Go and Tell Him His Fault. The Lord gave instruction in Matthew 18 that, if heeded, would solve a multitude of problems. “Moreover if thy brother shall trespass against thee, go and tell him his fault between thee and him alone: if he shall hear thee, thou hast gained thy brother” (v. 15).

Go Work. In teaching a lesson about doing the Father’s will, Jesus told this story: “A certain man had two sons; and he came to the first, and said, Son, go work to day in my vineyard” (Matthew 21:28). The Lord’s church is the Lord’s vineyard (Matthew 20:1-16), and there is a great need for us to go work! (1 Corinthians 15:58).

Go Teach. The Lord gave a great commission to His disciples when He uttered these words: “Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world” (Matthew 28:19-20).

Let’s get up and go!

The Terre Haute Speaker is published weekly by the church of Christ at Terre Haute, Indiana.

Assembling At:

Holiday Inn Express
2633 Indiana 46
Terre Haute, IN 47803
(Exit 11, I-70 & SR 46)

Assembling Times:

Sunday @ 10:00 a.m. & 3:00 p.m.
Wednesday @ 7:00 p.m.

Come Be With Us!



**The Bible Is Our
Only Guide!**

www.churchofchristatterrehaute.com