

1 Cor. 14:6:

1. "And now, brethren, if I come unto you speaking with tongues, what shall it profit you?
2. A LESSON FOR PREACHERS. Consider:
  1. THE OBJECT OF PREACHING.
    1. Preaching is not display...IT IS PROFIT.
  2. THE MODE OF PREACHING.
    1. It supposes the plain teaching of Divine truth.
    2. The teaching of Divine truth means the communication of Divine knowledge.
    3. Proper preaching - teaching must aim at edification by instruction in righteousness. THAT WHICH IS RIGHT.
      1. "For the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness and righteousness and truth". (Eph. 5:9)
      2. "Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness." (Eph. 6:14)
        1. The girt of truth is a part of the arm that must be worn.
        2. The girt in armor worn in battle kept the armor in place and supported the sword.
      3. TRUTH serves as the supporter for our armor including the sword of the spirit which is the word of God. (Eph. 6:17)

3. INEFFECTIVE PREACHING

1. When preaching is ineffective. Consider its forms:
  1. When the preacher surpasses the understanding of his audience.
  2. When the preacher is indefinite in his statement of truth.
    1. Almost apologetic for the truth.
    2. When no application is made of the verse or verses referred to.
2. Consider the folly of ineffective preaching and teaching.

Four points:

  1. It is a waste of energy.
  2. It profits exactly nobody.
  3. It does occasion a fearful responsibility.
  4. In effective preaching does not communicate wisdom to others.
    1. "For no man understandeth him". 1 Cor. 14:2

4. THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE PULPIT. Consider:

1. ITS POWER
  1. It should be a sounding board for warning.
  2. Should arouse people to a greater work
  3. Its message should be one of right direction.
  4. Its message should encourage people to a greater work.
2. ITS DISASTROUS RESULTS
  1. If a halting uncertain sound, "Who shall prepare himself for the battle?" 1 Cor. 14:8
  2. We see the worthlessness of mere sounds, apart from their meaning.
5. THE NEED OF THE PULPIT
  1. Plain preaching of the gospel of Christ preached in love.
  2. The old time preacher may not have been given a new car by the church as a reward for not offending anybody but when he finished his sermon the people knew the difference between:
    1. God's Word and the rantings of men.
    2. They knew the difference between sin and right living.



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