

How to Write a Sermon

Part 5 – The Message for All Time

Review:

Three Islands: The Original Message, The Theological Message, The Message for Today

The First Island – Original Message

The question – What _____ God say?

We're trying to understand what God's message was to this _____ group of people at this time.

Answer questions about author, audience, literary and historical context, grammar and language, as well as where the story fits in redemptive history.

Use Biblical and systematic theology to better understand the _____ to the rest of Scripture.

The First Bridge – Correlation

Assessing continuities and discontinuities between the _____ audience and _____ of God's people.

Translating the _____ original specific message into more _____ terms.

The Second Island – The Theological Message

The question – What _____ God saying?

We're trying to determine what God's message is to all _____ at all _____.

The Theological Message Needs to:

1) Be true to the _____

The message cannot say something that is _____ being said by the text,
even if the message is something _____.

2) Be consistent with God's _____ throughout Scripture

(God's Word does not contradict itself.)

3) Be true for all redemptive _____

A message that is just as true in _____ Israel as in the _____ church under Rome, as it is today.

4) Point to some aspect of the _____ of Jesus Christ

Christotelic view – The Scriptures are about God, and Jesus is God, so yes, he's in every passage.

But as for the gospel of Jesus, it's only present because Jesus _____ what it's all moving towards.

Christocentric view – Sometimes only in _____ and hints, sometimes in _____.

But it all of Scripture points to him, though not necessarily to the _____.

At the least, "every story whispers his name."

See also: *Luke 24:27, 44-47; John 5:39; John 1:45; Colossians 3:16-17; Hebrews 8-10*

Applying it to our text (Jeremiah 29:1-14)

One Possible Original Message: As God's people wait for him to fulfill his promises to restore them from exile, they are to seek God by living faithfully before him.

Note the discontinuities and continuities (see Nov 23rd lesson)

Our exile is not a result of _____ judgment on our _____.

Restoration, therefore needed to include visible _____ and _____ to the Lord.

But we are nevertheless living in a land that is not our _____.

The restoration we wait for is the _____ of _____.

God always expects that our hearts will be loyal to his _____ and not to the kingdoms of this _____.

God's promises in Jeremiah have a specific _____ for the exile.

The promise we wait for comes at a time we _____ know.

God always desires for his people to _____ him, and in doing so, to bless the _____ around them.

One Possible Theological Message: As God's children await the fulfillment of his good promises at the return of Christ, they are to continue living faithfully before Him.

1) *Is it true to the passage?* (Is this faithful to the message Jeremiah preached?)

2) *Is this consistent with the message of Scripture?*

3) *Does this apply to all of God's people, regardless of time and place?*

4) *Does it point to some aspect of the gospel of Jesus Christ?*