Lecture 17

Methods of Sermon Presentation

[This lecture corresponds to assigned Reading #17: Christ-centered Preaching, 346-349.]

For mid-term review:

What are some basic functions of transitions?

What is a dialogical transition?

What is the key wording beaconing behind "logical connection" transitions?

What is a "billboard" in a sermon; and, how is it used?

Goal for this lesson: To understand the options a preacher has in preparing the materials’ (notes, outlines, manuscripts, or ideas) necessary to present a sermon effectively.

Introduction: With so much to consider, what should you actually take with you into the pulpit when you preach?

I. Types of Presentation Described:

— Broadus lists three basic types of presentations, but sub-divides these:

A.

B.

C.

— Louis Paul Lehman’s more comprehensive list:

A.

B.
II. Strengths and Weaknesses of the Types of Presentations Discussed:

A. Preaching with the impromptu method:

B. Preaching extemporaneously from outlines:
   1. Advantages
   2. Disadvantages

C. Preaching from written manuscripts:
   1. Advantages
   2. Disadvantages

CAUTION: If you write, do so in "speaking style." This does not make sermons ready for publication, but it does ready them for pulpit presentation--which should be your primary goal.
III. What Method Will We Follow?

IV. Possible Approaches to Writing Manuscripts and Converting to a "Pulpit" Outline:

After writing out a manuscript . . .

A. Put outline in key-word form in margin

B. Put outline in the manuscript
   using highlighting, underlining, margin variation,
   and visual symbols to show main points and key words or passages
   within the manuscript.

C. Put outline on another piece of paper, after extracting it from the manuscript
   — Extensive
      --try to use consistent eye-catchers
      --keep main points from starting at the bottoms of pages (keeping main
      points on separate pages is a good idea)
      --keep lots of white space
      --write as large as you need to see, and to see distinctions
      --use margins well to indicate subordinate ideas in the outline
   — Bare-bones (most easily placed in Bible, on note cards, or on middle-fold
      sheet)

D. Put outline in your mind (for most this requires memorizing concepts, not words)
   **Hints on How To Preach from Memory** (WHEN USING OUTLINE):

**Conclusion:**

**Assignment for Next Class:**
Reading Assignment #18: *Christ-centered Preaching*, pp. 329-337.