



The Sermon of Sermons

Acts 20:7

Sermons In The Scriptures



- Acts 20:7 - “Now on the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul, ready to depart the next day, spoke to them and continued his message until midnight.”
- 1Cor. 14:19 - “Yet in the church I would rather speak five words with my understanding, that I may teach others also, than ten thousand words in a tongue.”

Sermons In The Scriptures

- 1Cor. 14:26 - “How is it then, brethren? Whenever you come together, each of you has a psalm, has a teaching, has a tongue, has a revelation, has an interpretation. Let all things be done for edification.”
- 1Tim. 4:15-16 - “Meditate on these things; give yourself entirely to them, that your progress may be evident to all. 16 Take heed to yourself and to the doctrine. Continue in them, for in doing this you will save both yourself and those who hear you.”

What Is A Sermon?



- Bible names are “sermon, lesson, teaching, preaching,” all representing the same concept: a religious message presented in an instructive and persuasive lecture format; one person speaks while others listen.
- Not many directives given regarding format or subject of the lesson, nor the age or type of person preaching in the Scriptures.

What Is A Sermon?

- Women are not permitted to preach to men.
 - 1Tim. 2:9-10
- Any prepared, capable man can present a lesson.
 - 1Cor. 14:26
- Elders can preach lessons.
 - 1Tim. 5:17
- Most often the one who preaches the lesson is the evangelist, one who follows in the steps of Paul, Timothy, and Titus.

What Is A Sermon?

- 1Tim. 4:11 - “These things command and teach.”
- 1Tim 4:16 - “Take heed to yourself and to the doctrine. Continue in them, for in doing this you will save both yourself and those who hear you.”
- 1Tim. 5:7 - “And these things command, that they may be blameless.”
- 1Tim. 6:2 - “...Teach and exhort these things.”

What Is A Sermon?

- 2Tim. 1:11 - “To which I was appointed a preacher, an apostle, and a teacher of the Gentiles.”
- 2Tim. 2:2 - “And the things that you have heard from me among many witnesses, commit these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.”
- 2Tim. 2:24-26 - “And a servant of the Lord must not quarrel but be gentle to all, able to teach, patient, 25 in humility correcting those who are in opposition, if God perhaps will grant them repentance, so that they may know the truth, 26 and that they may come to their senses and escape the snare of the devil, having been taken captive by him to do his will.”

What Is A Sermon?

- 2Tim. 4:1-2, 5 - “I charge you therefore before God and the Lord Jesus Christ, who will judge the living and the dead at His appearing and His kingdom: 2 Preach the word! Be ready in season and out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching... 5 But you be watchful in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.”

What Is A Sermon?



- Titus 2:1 - “But as for you, speak the things which are proper for sound doctrine.”
- Titus 2:15 - “Speak these things, exhort, and rebuke with all authority. Let no one despise you.”
- Titus 3:14 - “And let our people also learn to maintain good works, to meet urgent needs, that they may not be unfruitful.”
- Make the message relevant for the needs of the audience and occasion; make the word clear!

Why A Sermon?

- Edification and encouragement of Christians
 - 1Cor. 14:26 - “How is it then, brethren? Whenever you come together, each of you has a psalm, has a teaching, has a tongue, has a revelation, has an interpretation. Let all things be done for edification.”
 - Heb. 10:24-25 - “And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, 25 not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.”

What Types Of Lessons Are To Be Preached?



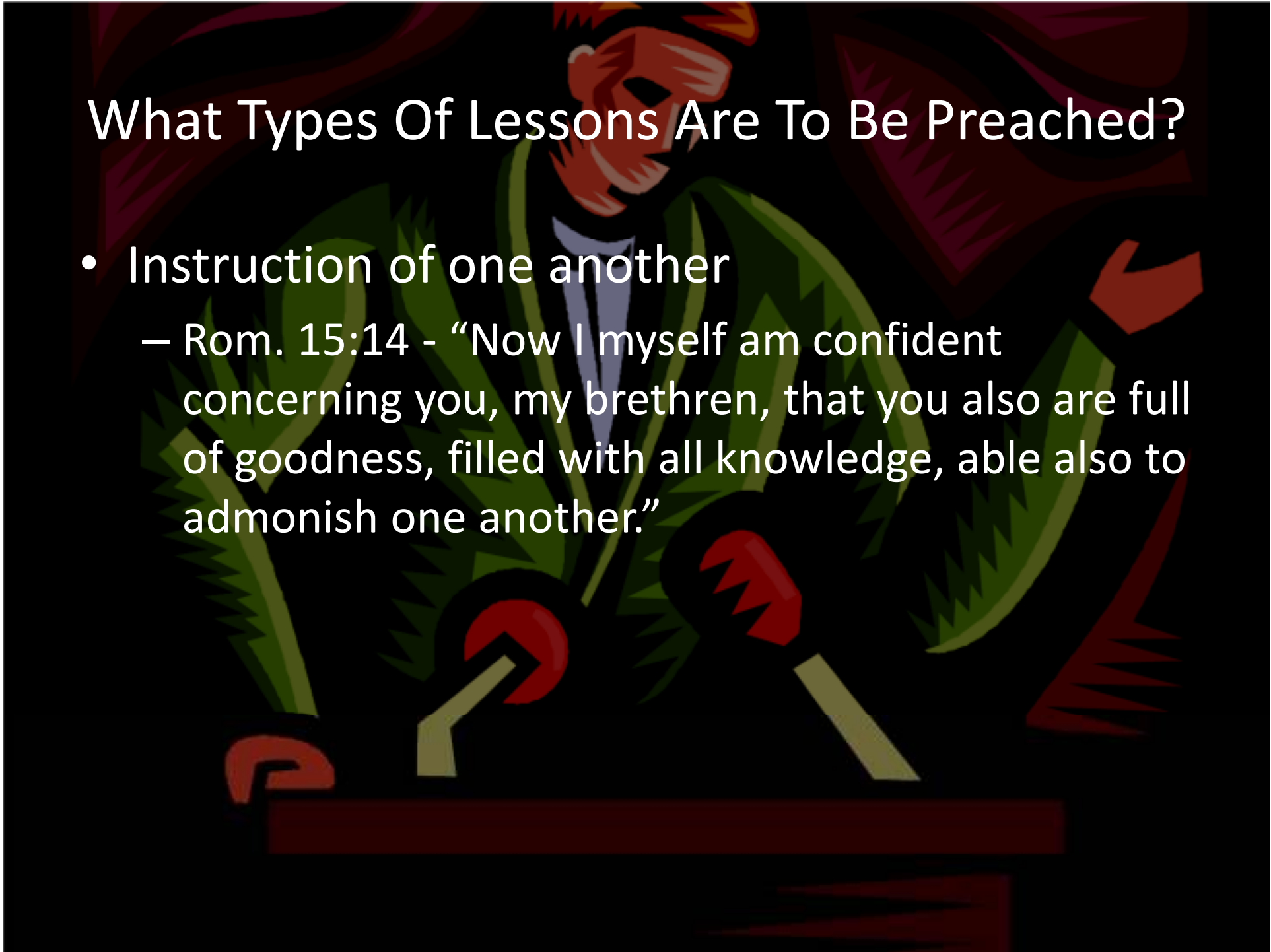
- Report of the work in other places
 - Acts 14:27 - “Now when they had come and gathered the church together, they reported all that God had done with them, and that He had opened the door of faith to the Gentiles.”

What Types Of Lessons Are To Be Preached?

- Exhortation to remain in the faith
 - Acts 14:21-22 - “And when they had preached the gospel to that city and made many disciples, they returned to Lystra, Iconium, and Antioch, 22 strengthening the souls of the disciples, exhorting them to continue in the faith, and saying, We must through many tribulations enter the kingdom of God.”
 - “Exhort: To incite by words or advice; to animate or urge by arguments to a good deed or to any laudable conduct or course of action. In a sense, pushing forward.” *(AV1611, KJV Dictionary)*

What Types Of Lessons Are To Be Preached?

- Instruction of one another
 - Rom. 15:14 - “Now I myself am confident concerning you, my brethren, that you also are full of goodness, filled with all knowledge, able also to admonish one another.”



What Types Of Lessons Are To Be Preached?

- Reproving and rebuking
 - 2Tim. 4:2 - “Preach the word! Be ready in season and out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching.”
 - An unpleasant lesson necessary to correct things that are not right. Rebukes are inherently negative, and do not lead to obvious encouragement, but are necessary to keep the faith in the long run.

What Types Of Lessons Are To Be Preached?

- Don't take a rebuke of an individual to the pulpit, ever!
 - Matt. 18:15-17
- Rebuking should be done gently and with the utmost respect.
 - 1Tim. 5:1-2 - “Do not rebuke an older man, but exhort him as a father, younger men as brothers, 2 older women as mothers, younger as sisters, with all purity.”
 - Gal. 6:1 - “Brethren, if a man is overtaken in any trespass, you who are spiritual restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness, considering yourself lest you also be tempted.”

What The Sermon Is Not



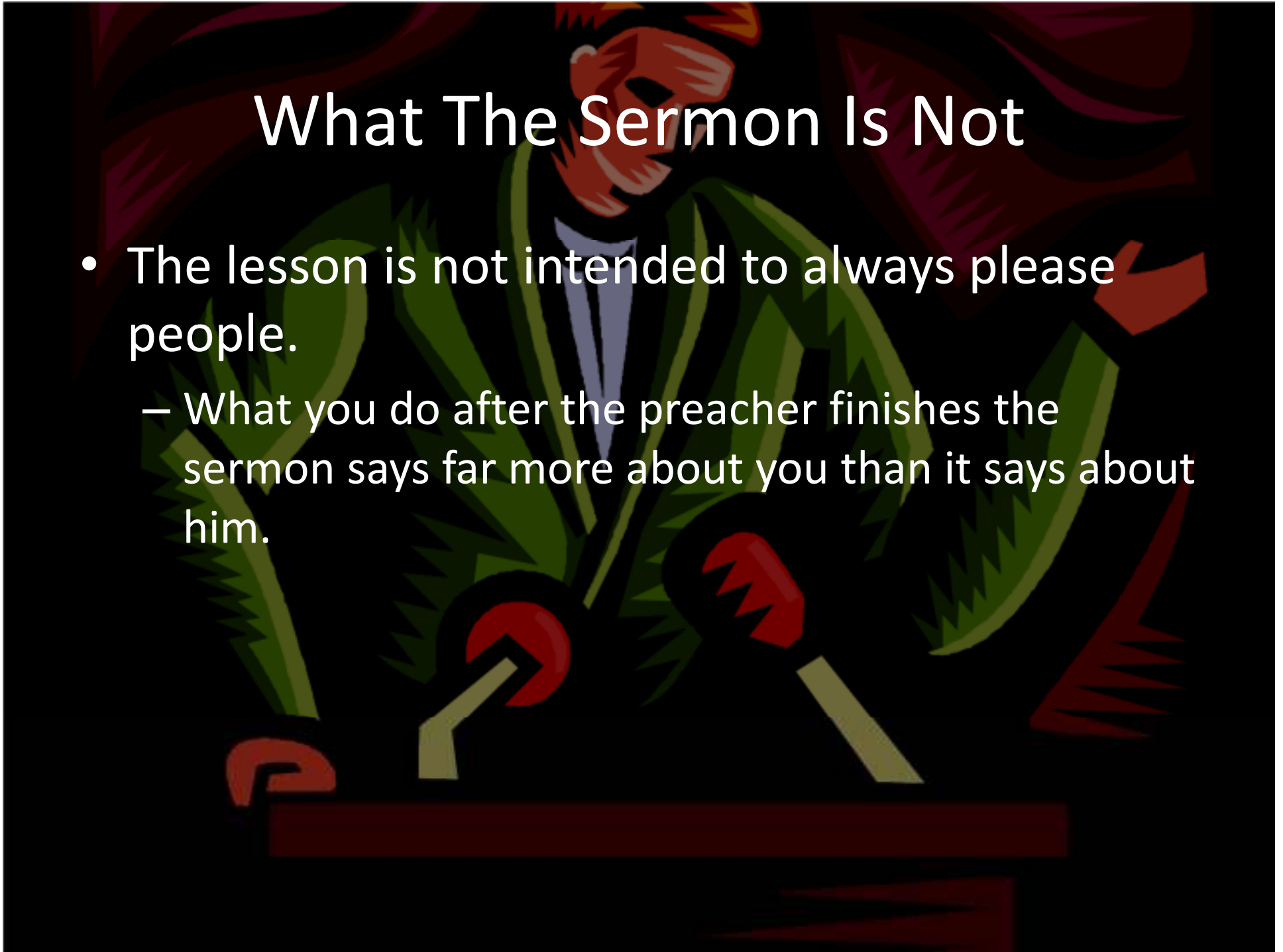
- The sermon is not entertainment.
 - 2Cor. 10:10 - “For his letters, they say, are weighty and powerful, but his bodily presence is weak, and his speech contemptible.”

What The Sermon Is Not

- The sermon is not designed to be the time of the assembly where one person gets up and talks and everyone waits patiently for him to be done so they can go home.
 - The lesson is designed for the benefit of everyone else, so that you can acquire the same understanding I received.
 - Eph. 3:4 - “When you read, you may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ.”
 - You can only get from the lesson what you invest in it in terms of focus.

What The Sermon Is Not

- The lesson is not intended to always please people.
 - What you do after the preacher finishes the sermon says far more about you than it says about him.



What The Sermon Is Not

- The sermon is not perfect and infallible.
 - 1Cor. 1:12-13 and “preacheritis”
 - Acts 17:11 - “These were more fair-minded than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness, and searched the Scriptures daily to find out whether these things were so.”
- No teaching is right just because the preacher says it; it is only right if God says it. But if God said it, don't make the self-destructive mistake of dismissing it as the ramblings of an overly conservative preacher.



The Sermon of Sermons

- “People have an idea that the preacher is an actor on a stage and they are the critics, blaming or praising him. What they don't know is that they are the actors on the stage; the preacher is merely the prompter standing in the wings, reminding them of their lost lines.” *(Søren Kierkegaard)*

The Sermon of Sermons

- 2Cor. 5:11 - “Knowing, therefore, the terror of the Lord, we persuade men...”
- “It was strictly forbidden to preach to other prisoners. It was understood that whoever was caught doing this received a severe beating. A number of us decided to pay the price for the privilege of preaching, so we accepted their (the communists’) terms. It was a deal; we preached and they beat us. We were happy preaching. They were happy beating us, so everyone was happy.” *(Richard Wurmbrand, Tortured for Christ)*

The Sermon of Sermons



- “The Gospel is preached in the ears of all men; it only comes with power to some. The power that is in the Gospel does not lie in the eloquence of the preacher; otherwise men would be converters of souls. Nor does it lie in the preacher’s learning; otherwise it could consist of the wisdom of men. ... We might as well preach to stone walls as preach to humanity unless the power be with the word to convert the soul.” *(Charles Spurgeon)*