

How to Teach the Bible

The Importance of Teaching

I. THE EMPHASIS OF TEACHING

A. Understanding the Concept

1. The passing of information
 - a. The examples given
 - (1) Consider Moses' teaching ministry (Deuteronomy 4:9-10).
 - a) From Moses
 - b) To the fathers
 - c) To the sons
 - d) To the sons' sons
 - (2) Consider Paul's teaching ministry (2 Timothy 2:2).
 - a) From Paul
 - b) To Timothy
 - c) To faithful men
 - d) To others also
 - (3) Note: In both of these examples, four generations are given through which the information is to be passed. No information passes to the next generation apart from teaching.
 - b. The accountability declared (Exodus 20:5; Exodus 34:7; Numbers 14:18; Deuteronomy 5:9)
2. The building of people
 - a. The responsibilities in the student-teacher relationship (Proverbs 5:13)
 - (1) The teacher is to offer the student instruction.
 - (2) The student is to incline his ear to and obey the voice of his teacher.
 - b. The understanding of the student-teacher relationship gained by defining three associative words
 - (1) Inform: To inform someone is to train or instruct that person in some specific subject.
 - (2) Instruct: To instruct a person is to tell, inform, impart knowledge or information to him.
 - (3) Edify: To edify another person is to build that person up.
 - (4) With each of these words, consider their connection to building.
 - a) Inform = in + form (Romans 6:17; 2 Timothy 1:13)
 - b) Instruct = in + struct (structure)
 - c) Edify = see edifice
 - d) All things considered, teaching someone would be likened to building the person up by placing a form or structure (in our case, a form or structure of doctrine) within.

B. Examining its Usage

1. Consider the appearances of teaching and companion words and contrast that with the word *preach* and its various forms.
 - a. In the Old Testament
 - (1) In the law
 - a) Teaching—Total (26)
 - i) Inform and its various forms (1)
 - ii) Instruct and its various forms (3)
 - iii) Teach and its various forms (22)
 - b) Preaching—Total (0)
 - (2) In the writings
 - a) Teaching—Total (114)
 - i) Instruct and its various forms (40)
 - ii) Teach and its various forms (74)
 - b) Preaching—Total (9)
 - (3) In the prophets
 - a) Teaching—Total (46)
 - i) Inform and its various forms (1)
 - ii) Instruct and its various forms (11)
 - iii) Teach and its various forms (34)
 - b) Preaching—Total (3)
 - b. In the New Testament
 - (1) In the gospels
 - a) Teaching—Total (64)
 - i) Instruct and its various forms (3)
 - ii) Teach and its various forms (61)
 - b) Preaching—Total (38)
 - (2) In the book of Acts
 - a) Teaching—Total (26)
 - i) Inform and its various forms (5)
 - ii) Instruct and its various forms (1)
 - iii) Teach and its various forms (20)
 - b) Preaching—Total (38)
 - (3) In the epistles
 - a) Teaching—Total (53)
 - i) Instruct and its various forms (7)
 - ii) Teach and its various forms (46)
 - b) Preaching—Total (64)
 - (4) In the book of Revelation
 - a) Teaching—Total (2)
 - b) Preaching—Total (1)
 - c. Note: It should also be understood that much of the difference made between preaching and teaching has been made upon the basis and authority of culture and not of the word of God. It has been said that all good teaching should contain an element of preaching and all good preaching should contain an element of teaching.

2. Consider the appearances of teaching as found in the lives of some key men from the New Testament.
 - a. Christ (Acts 1:1)
 - (1) Consider His emphasis on teaching.
 - a) Teaching—Total (46)
 - b) Preaching—Total (19)
 - (2) Consider the emphasis made by His titles.
 - a) Master (Matthew 10:24-25)
 - b) Rabbi (John 1:38; John 3:2)
 - c) Rabboni (John 20:16)
 - d) Prophet (Matthew 21:11)
 - b. Paul—Both times where Paul specifically identified himself as a preacher, he followed that up by identifying himself as a teacher (1 Timothy 2:7; 2 Timothy 1:11).
 - (1) “I am ordained a preacher...a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and verity” (1 Timothy 2:7).
 - (2) “I am appointed a preacher...and a teacher of the Gentiles” (2 Timothy 1:11).

C. Considering its Importance

1. For the pastor
 - a. The qualifications of a bishop
 - (1) A bishop is required to be “apt to teach” (1 Timothy 3:2).
 - (2) The servant of the Lord is to be “apt to teach” (2 Timothy 2:24).
 - (3) A bishop is to have been taught and then “by sound doctrine...exhort and...convince the gainsayers” (Titus 1:9).
 - b. Set forth in the pastoral epistles
 - (1) To Timothy
 - a) Timothy, as a pastor, was to “command and teach” (1 Timothy 4:11).
 - b) He was to “teach and exhort” (1 Timothy 6:2).
 - c) He was to “commit...to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also” (2 Timothy 2:2).
 - (2) To Titus—He was to speak the things which become sound doctrine (Titus 2:1).
2. As an office
 - a. At the church at Antioch (Acts 13:1)
 - (1) There were in the church that was at Antioch certain prophets and teachers.
 - (2) Barnabas and Saul (later called Paul) are notable men that were of that number.
 - b. Gifts to the body (1 Corinthians 12:27-28; Ephesians 4:11-15)
 - (1) God set forth TEACHERS in the church (1 Corinthians 12:27-28).
 - (2) God gave some pastors and TEACHERS (Ephesians 4:11-15).