

Expounding the Word of God

Nehemiah 8:1-12 (Especially verse 8)

A definition

1. To give a detailed statement of; set forth.¹

2. To explain in detail; elucidate

v.intr.

To make a detailed statement

verb

to explain or set forth in detail²

verb: add details, as to an account or idea; clarify the meaning of and discourse in a learned way. / set forth one's reasons³

- Notice that there is no statement concerning *FORM*.

Spiritual Response

1. Unity (1)
2. Understanding [information - meaningful] (3)
3. Reverence (5)
4. Worship (6)
5. Understanding [knowledge - useful] (8)
6. Conviction (9)
7. Joy (10-12)

Physical Preparation

1. Appropriate venue (1)
2. Appropriate tools (4)

¹ expound. (n.d.) *The American Heritage® Dictionary of the English Language, Fourth Edition*. (2003). Retrieved June 5 2012 from <http://www.thefreedictionary.com/expound>

² expound. (n.d.) *Collins English Dictionary – Complete and Unabridged*. (1991, 1994, 1998, 2000, 2003). Retrieved June 5 2012 from <http://www.thefreedictionary.com/expound>

³ expound. (n.d.) *Collins Thesaurus of the English Language – Complete and Unabridged 2nd Edition*. (1995, 2002). Retrieved June 5 2012 from <http://www.thefreedictionary.com/expound>

3. Multiple teachers (8-9)

Expounding

To expound on the Word of God is to explain in detail what the Bible is telling us.

Expounding is not:

1. Simply reading (tautology)
2. Cross referencing without explanation
3. Defining (simple)

To expound includes the following elements:

1. Clarification
2. Illustration
3. Historical background
4. Literary background
5. Cross reference serves as a point of comparison
6. Define & relate back to the passage
7. Application -- make useful knowledge out of meaningful information.

Exegesis⁴

- I. Sense of Sacred Scripture;
 - Literal Sense (what is actually intended by the author, regardless of language)
 - Plain language
 - Figurative language
 - Derivative / Consequent Sense (what can be inferred from the passage in keeping with scriptural principles.)
 - Accommodation (analogy which is not originally meant by the writer)
 - Extensive (applied to a new subject) [Benediction]
 - Allusive (applied to a new context) [Jesus quoting the Psalms]
 - Typical Sense (based on the figurative or typical relation of Biblical persons, or objects, or events, to a new truth--not the same as metaphor/allegory/parable)
 - Verifiable persons
 - No direct reference between the Type & Antitype by the Type itself.
 - God establishes the reference of the Type/Antitype in scripture.
 - Typical Senses Based on Character
 - Allegorical (a truth to be believed)
 - Anagogical (a boon to be hoped for)
 - Tropological (a virtue to be practised)
 - EX: Jerusalem = *literal* the holy city, *allegorical* the church,

⁴ Maas, A. (1909). Biblical Exegesis. In The Catholic Encyclopedia. New York: Robert Appleton Company. Retrieved June 6, 2012 from New Advent: <http://www.newadvent.org/cathen/05692b.htm>

tropological the just soul, *anagogical* triumphant church

- Real (events & objects)
 - Personal (people)
 - Legal (mosaic law & ritual)
-
- II. Hermeneutics;⁵
 - Investigates intent of the writer, not veracity
 - any meaning not in keeping with Scriptural grammar, context, or the concrete conditions of the Biblical writers, or not in harmony with the fact of inspiration and the spirit of the Church's interpretation, cannot be the true sense of Scripture.
 - III. Sacred Rhetoric; *use of writing rather than diction to expound on the word of God.*
 - The Version (translation of the bible from original version to vernacular, requires knowledge of the two languages & the genuine meaning of scripture)
 - The Paraphrase (expresses the genuine sense of Scripture in continuous and more expansive form)
 - The Gloss & Scholion
 - Gloss = Explanation of a single word
 - Scholia = deals with variant readings, verbal difficulties, unknown persons, countries, and things, and with the connection of thought
 - The Dissertation (topical essay written to describe an important doctrinal point)
 - The Commentary (continuous, full, learned, well-reasoned, and complete explanation, touching upon not merely the more difficult passages, but everything that stands in need of elucidation.)

SCORRE⁶

Subject: Limited by intent of scripture

Central Theme: Focuses talk to a manageable portion

Object: *Why do I want to talk about it?* --defines purpose

Rationale: Organization & logic

Resources: Color & clarification

Evaluation: Relevance & application

⁵ Maas, A. (1910). Hermeneutics. In The Catholic Encyclopedia. New York: Robert Appleton Company. Retrieved June 6, 2012 from New Advent: <http://www.newadvent.org/cathen/07271a.htm>

⁶ Preaching and SCORRE. Davis, Ken; Hyatt, Michael. © 2012 SCORRE Conference. Retrieved from <http://www.scorreconference.com/>