

PULPIT SINS COMMITTED BY PREACHERS

By Pastor Del Wray

Even in the pulpit we preachers practice sin, we carry our human natures into the pulpit with us and our natures are fallen, it, our nature is incurably depraved, tainted with sin. Our sermons are dirty and unless the Holy Spirit takes the message and efficaciously works upon the hungry heart of the hearer causing it to breed there, all preaching is in vain. Watch out preachers, Jesus is the source of all truly inspired preaching, not you or me.

Where is the old time unction that preachers used to have, that Holy Ghost unction? “Of all the places where a man might commit sin, the worst possible place, in my estimation, would be from the Pulpit.” And yet, across this land sins are being committed by preachers from their pulpits all the time. Lies are told; the gospel is misrepresented; Christ is dishonored. But that’s “them” and not “us.” Right! Well, I’m here to confront you brothers and to warn you of the sins that might be committed from the pulpit.

As a disclaimer, in no way should this treaty be considered as an indictment or a personal vendetta against any God called Bible believing Baptist preacher who is under the control of the Holy Spirit holding the King James Bible as His final authority in all faith and practice for the local church believer. As to those outside of our ranks, you best believe it is an indictment against any preacher who believes he can pastor and serve God without being endued from on high by the power of God. I hold no grudge nor do I have a dispute with any preacher that I know of, God knowing my heart, unless there may be a preacher out there who chooses to dispute or hold a grudge against this preacher and this writing. I never have preached to be popular with men, money, and meetings nor have I ever sought to win any popularity contest as most preachers who today come together in meetings to see who may be the big rooster in the barnyard. Although, I expect there will be those who choose to unfriend me over the Word of God and my writings. Let me say before I continue, if there is one who reads this thesis “without sin, let him cast the first stone.” I’ve chosen to only enumerate a few of the sins that Baptist preachers commit while in their own pulpits. If, I would go to the heart of the matter and expose the corruption that goes on in our pulpits we all would haft to condemn ourselves and deservingly be in Hell. One verse should be sufficient to tell you what God thinks of all of us. Isaiah 64: 6

“But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousness are as filthy rags, and we all do fade as a leaf; and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away.”

Thank God for the revelation of Jesus Christ, for He alone is the only one that pleases God and as we allow Him to live through each of us does He carry on His ministry of

reconciliation. Just a few of the serious but subtle sins committed from the pulpit by Baptist preachers: That's right! It is possible for you and me to be standing behind what my pastor Dr. Harold B. Sigtler always called "the sacred desk," standing there with your Bible open in a sanctuary filled with saints and sinners who need to hear from heaven, and you stand there and commit sin. Serious sin against God! And serious sin against God's people! Now, I will be the first to admit that the word "sin" may be too strong. The word implies intentional immoral wicked behavior. And those items on my list are probably not done intentionally or wickedly by you or me. They may be done ignorantly and well-intentioned. Perhaps I am overstating it; maybe there is some overstatement, intentional exaggeration in my choice of the word "sin." But I have chosen that word because I want to communicate to you that these sins are wrong, seriously wrong. They need to be stopped. Immediately! And completely! Misusing God's Word is sinful. Manipulate the audience is sinful. To preach hypocritically is sinful. To be self-reliant in preaching is sinful. To be self-indulgent when preaching is sinful. Failure to include the gospel is sinful. Being judgmental when preaching is sinful. Preaching without the fear of God is sinful. Lack of self-submission to the power of God is sinful.

"These are the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the Law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms, concerning me. Then opened He their understanding, that they might understand the scriptures..."

When we are preaching, we must follow the advice of Spurgeon when he said,

"Take every text and make a beeline for the cross." C. H. Spurgeon

In a way that is not contrived, that is not clumsy and forced, in a way that is natural, we must connect every text and every sermon to Jesus Christ and His cross. Otherwise, we will be preaching moralism, ethics, philosophy, etc. and failing to preach Christ crucified buried and resurrected. It is wrong not to include the gospel every time we preach. Make an intentional and natural connection with the gospel, with Christ and the cross, regardless of text or topic. You ask pastor, what is your point? Just this, if it's being missed: When a man steps behind the sacred desk if Jesus Christ Himself is not stepping behind that desk too it is high treason against the God of the Bible! If Jesus Christ is not speaking through you it is sin against God! If the Holy Spirit cannot take what is spoken and work in the heart of those believers and sinners assembled it is treason. Jesus Christ must be the preacher, He alone must be the soul winner, and it is He that regenerates life in the dead man. Christ and Christ alone! These sins, "wrongs" may not actually be evil in the fact that they are committed intentionally and wickedly by preachers. But they are serious warnings to be heeded when preaching.

May God the Holy Spirit make us preachers put our eyes where they belong, back on Jesus Christ!