

Topic: Idolatry

Basic Text: 1 John 5:21 (plus many other biblical passages warning about the subject.

Introduction: define the subject, show its importance in the light of the ten commandments and perhaps a New Testament passage 1 Corinthians 10.

A Theme: (*put positively*) Let Nothing Be More Important in Your Life than the Lord.

Outline: topical

or

Outline: thematic

- 1. The nature of idolatry**
- 2. The effects of idolatry**
- 3. The cure for Idolatry**

- 1. Idolatry is a sin against God.**
- 2. Idolatry ruins life and testimony**
- 3. Idolatry is cured by worship and love.**

Conclusion: Little children, etc.

4. Parting Advice:

If one does a lot of this sort of speaking it is easy to fall into a pattern that can be predictable and boring. Variety in outline and treatment is always in order so long as it does not interfere with the reception of the message. Topical speaking is probably the easiest of all but it may not lay a consistent biblical foundation for in moving from topic to topic one may miss a great deal of Bible teaching. The advice in this quarter is....deal more with text and exposition and bring out topics as they arise within those contexts. But there are times when a particular problem or occasion may arise and only a topic will quickly meeting the challenge.

C. An Expository Message or Talk.

1. By definition an expository message or talk is one that seeks to propound an extended passage of Scripture and explains the text as a display of a particular concept or truth. It is often referred to as a "verse by verse" presentation and is a very useful form of preaching although it is widely abused as well. It is not a running commentary but an explanation of a passage based on the understanding of the material it covers. It requires great in-depth study of the Scripture and is not the easiest type of ministry but is probably the best in the concept of fuller treatment of the totality of the Word of God. I am not sure how thoroughly we can treat this subject in the brief time of this seminary but...we move bravely onward.

2. The Procedure:

- a. Select a passage for exposition.