

Session 7

THE MAKING OF A MESSAGE & MESSENGER

We have learned to live with unholiness and have come to look upon it as the natural and expected thing.



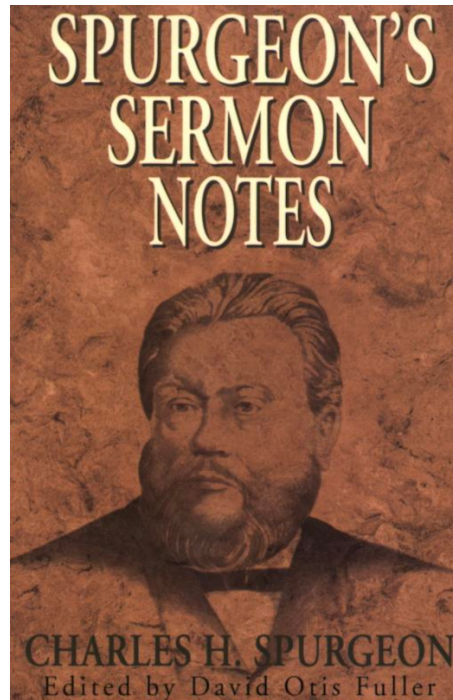
A W TOZER
1897-1963

DEO
GLORIA
ART

Refuse to be average. Let your heart soar as high as it will.

- I. OBSTACLES
- II. STYLE
- III. AIM
- IV. THEOLOGY
- V. PREPARATION
- VI. PRACTICALITY
- VII. ILLUSTRATIONS**
- VIII. MECHANICS**
- IX. BODY**
- X. SPIRIT**

Spurgeon's help for you on days with no study time



Kindle copy here has 194 sermon outlines and illustrations ISBN 0-8254-3768-7

KINDLING A FIRE

"And the barbarous people showed us no little kindness: for they kindled a fire, and received us every one, because of the present rain, and because of the cold" (Acts 28:2).

I. THAT WE ARE APT TO BE COLD.

1. The world is a cold country for gracious men.
2. By reason of our inbred sin, we are cold subjects, and far too apt to be lukewarm, or frozen.
3. Cold seasons also come, when all around lies bound in frost. Ministers, churches, saints, are too often cold as ice.
4. Chilling influences are now abroad. Modern thought, worldliness, depression in trade, depreciation of prayer, etc.

If we yield to the power of cold, we become first uncomfortable, next inactive, and then ready to die.

II. THAT THERE ARE MEANS OF WARMTH.

1. The Word of God is as a fire. Heard or read, it tends to warm the heart.
2. Private, social, and family prayer. This is as coals of juniper.
3. Meditation and communion with Jesus. "While I was musing the fire burned" (Ps. 39:3). "Did not our heart burn within us, while He talked with us by the way?" (Luke 24:32).
4. Fellowship with other Christians. (Malachi 3:16).

III. THAT WE SHOULD KINDLE FIRES FOR OTHERS.

Concerning a true revival, let it be remembered that it both resembles the fire in the text, and differs from it.

1. It must be lighted under difficulties,—“because of the present rain.” The sticks are wet, the hearth is flooded, the atmosphere is damp. It is not easy to make a fire in such circumstances; and yet it must be done.
2. The fire we need cannot, however, be kindled by barbarians: the flame must come from above.
3. Once get the flame, the fire begins with little.
Small sticks are good for kindling.
4. It is well to nourish the flame by going down on your knees, and breathing upon it by warm and hearty supplications.
5. It must be fed with fuel. Think of the great Paul picking up a bundle of sticks. Let each one bring his share.
6. The fire will be of great service, and yet it may warm into life more than one viper. Thank God, the fire which revived the creature into venomous life will also destroy it.

How to maintain spiritual warmth. Philip Henry's advice to his daughter was: "If you would keep warm in this cold season (January, 1692), take these four directions: 1. Get into the sun. Under his blessed beams there are warmth and comfort. 2. Go near the fire. 'Is not My Word like a fire?' How many cheering passages are there! 3. Keep in motion and action—stirring up the grace and gift of God that is in you. 4. Seek Christian communion. 'How can one be warm alone?'" —*Feathers for Arrows*.

1. THE NEVER ENDING NEED FOR AUDIENCE ANALYSIS

A. HOLIDAYS PREOCCUPY THEM
PREACH TO THEIR PREOCCUPATION!

B. DISTURBING GLOBAL EVENT

C. SIGNIFICANT EVENT IN THE CHURCH

D. WHO ARE THEY?

1) GUEST SPEAKER ... WHO IS THEIR PASTOR? HOW DOES HE TEACH?

2) LEVEL OF BIBLE KNOWLEDGE

EXAMPLE: Pastor Bob and I in Philippines
*taught whole book of Romans one setting to biblically ignorant church! *In one hour!*

POINT: audience analysis is so very important

VII. THE ILLUSTRATIONS IN A MESSAGE

Illustrations in a message are like windows letting light into a room.

KEEP YOUR EYES ON TECHNOLOGY & BUILD WITH SPIRIT LED CREATIVITY
BUILD YOUR "ARMORY" GATHER YOUR TOOLS & USE THEM ASKING, SEEKING, KNOCKING

IDEA: use it to do what was never possible before—
completely **Soli Deo Gloria – Glory to God Alone**

1. PROOF TEXTS

IDEA: Proof that the Bible teaches, what you are saying the verse or passage in front of you means
*as you let scripture interpret scripture 😊

EXAMPLE: Peter's sermon on Pentecost
*unique day of Jesus pouring out the Holy Spirit
*every one hearing the glories of God & he explains

Acts 2:14 But Peter, standing up with the eleven, raised his voice and said to them, "Men of Judea and all who dwell in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and heed my words.

Acts 2:15 "For these are not drunk, as you suppose, since it is *only* the third hour of the day.

Joel 2:28-32a

Acts 2:16 "But this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel:

Acts 2:17 'And it shall come to pass in the last days, says God, That I will pour out of My Spirit on all flesh; Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, Your young men shall see visions, Your old men shall dream dreams.

Acts 2:18 And on My menservants and on My maidservants I will pour out My Spirit in those days; And they shall prophesy.

Acts 2:19 I will show wonders in heaven above And signs in the earth beneath: Blood and fire and vapor of smoke.

Acts 2:20 The sun shall be turned into darkness, And the moon into blood, Before the coming of the great and awesome day of the LORD.

Acts 2:21 And it shall come to pass *That* whoever calls on the name of the LORD Shall be saved.' ←stops mid vs

Acts 2:22 "Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a Man attested by God to you by miracles, wonders, and signs which God did through Him in your midst, as you yourselves also know;

Acts 2:23 "Him, being delivered by the determined purpose and foreknowledge of God, you have taken by lawless hands, have crucified, and put to death;

Acts 2:24 "whom God raised up, having loosed the pains of death, because it was not possible that He should be held by it.

Psalm 16:8-11

Acts 2:25 "For David says concerning Him: 'I foresaw the LORD always before my face, For He is at my right hand, that I may not be shaken.

Acts 2:26 Therefore my heart rejoiced, and my tongue was glad; Moreover my flesh also will rest in hope.

Acts 2:27 For You will not leave my soul in Hades, Nor will You allow Your Holy One to see corruption.

Acts 2:28 You have made known to me the ways of life; You will make me full of joy in Your presence.'

Acts 2:29 "Men *and* brethren, let *me* speak freely to you of the patriarch David, that he is both dead and buried, and his tomb is with us to this day.

Acts 2:30 "Therefore, being a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him that of the fruit of his body, according to the flesh, He would raise up the Christ to sit on his throne,

Acts 2:31 "he, foreseeing this, spoke concerning the resurrection of the Christ, that His soul was not left in Hades, nor did His flesh see corruption.

Acts 2:32 "This Jesus God has raised up, of which we are all witnesses.

Acts 2:33 "Therefore being exalted to the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, He poured out this which you now see and hear.

Psalm 110:1

Acts 2:34 "**For David did not ascend into the heavens, but he says himself:** 'The LORD said to my Lord, "Sit at My right hand,

Acts 2:35 Till I make Your enemies Your footstool.'"

Acts 2:36 "Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly that God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ."

WHAT IS THE EFFECT OF HIS SPIRIT FILLED MESSAGE WITH SPECIFIC PROOF TEXTS?

Acts 2:37 **Now when they heard *this*, they were cut to the heart**, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Men *and* brethren, what shall we do?"

Acts 2:38 Then Peter said to them, "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Acts 2:39 "For the promise is to you and to your children, and to all who are afar off, as many as the Lord our God will call."

Acts 2:40 And with many other words he testified and exhorted them, saying, "Be saved from this perverse generation."

Acts 2:41 Then those who gladly received his word were baptized; and that day about **three thousand souls** were added *to them*.

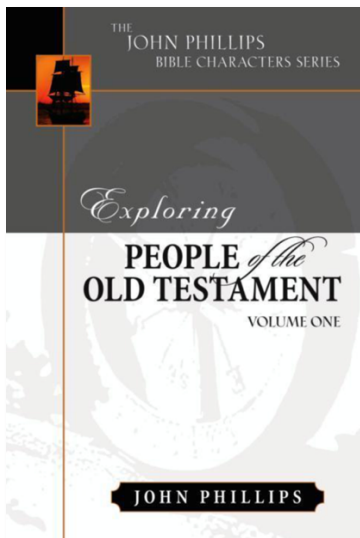
1. PROOF TEXTS

2. STORIES

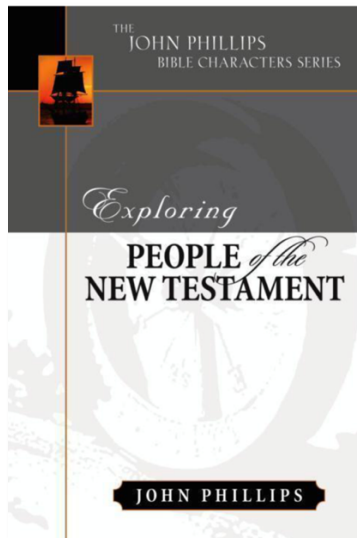
A. THINK OF CHARACTERS & STORIES
SURROUNDING THEM IN THE BIBLE1) CULTIVATE THE ART OF *CHARACTER
DEVELOPMENT*

IDEA: we value character development in movies
*in a novel this is divides okay from at times stellar

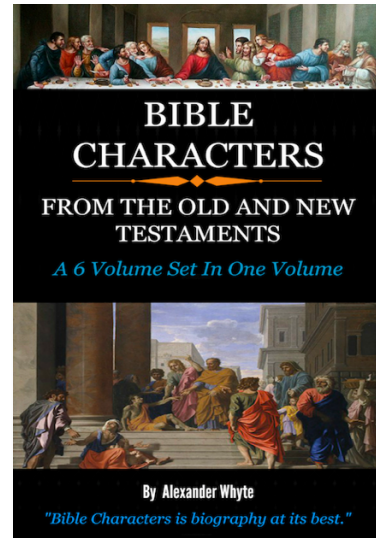
NOTICE: it will make a huge difference in the way
you bring in characters from the Old or NewTest!



3 volumes



1 volume



6 volumes this is Kindle version

POINT: Look into the Word for events, stories & people whose lives still speak to us

EXAMPLE: what Paul does as he is teaching on the **danger** of “**over confidence**” presumption—Israel thought they were so special God would not judge them severely for things they did

1 Cor NIV 10:11 These things happened to them as examples and were written down as warnings for us, on whom the fulfillment of the ages has come.

1 Cor 10:12 So, if you think you are standing firm, be careful that you don't fall!

B. THINK OF STORIES STAYED WITH YOU
FROM SERMONS YOU'VE HEARD ETC

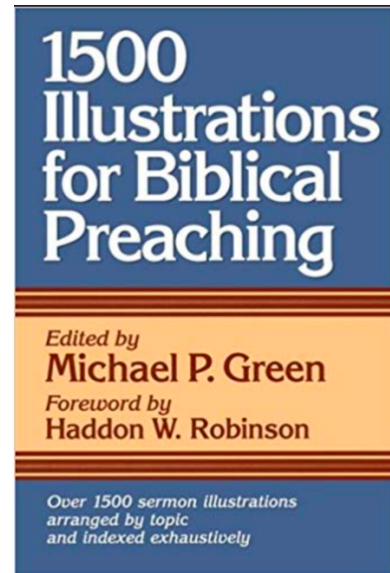
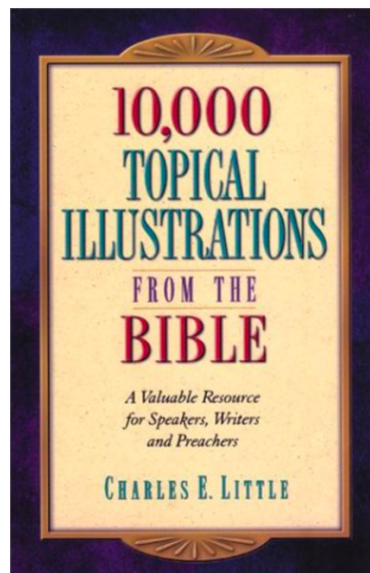
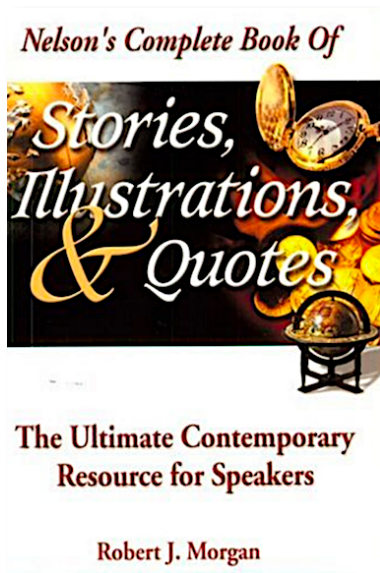
C. BEGIN A COLLECTION OF BOOKS WITH ILLUSTRATIONS

IDEA: Want to stay fresh for the long haul?

*Then use every quality means available to you

*Get familiar with the tools—use them *as needed*

BUILD AN ARMORY SO YOU CAN STAY FRESH & BE INTERESTING TO LISTEN TO



1. PROOF TEXTS

2. STORIES

3. STATISTICS RESEARCH INDICATES

So, what really is the divorce rate in 2018?

Paul Amato a top divorce rate researcher, believes that between 42% and 45% of marriages in the US will end in divorce when all of these different measurements are taken into account.

So, 50% of marriages don't end in divorce as previously reported. It's more likely now that 42%-45% of marriages will end in divorce in the US. **The main factor that has caused this decrease is that marriage rates have declined. Fewer people in the U.S. are getting married, opting for co-habitation or remaining single.**

4. SCENARIOS

EXAMPLE: "Imagine if you will ...

You are on a large cruise ship with 2,000 other passengers. You have been blessed with a beautiful room in 1st class. The thought of arriving at your fixed destination in New York is thrilling. You've been spending your days freely roaming about doing what ever you please—great food and endless ways to be entertained. Naps on your deluxe upper deck lounge leave you warmed and extremely relaxed. Before you know it you are suddenly arriving at at your destination in New York.

Question- Were you free to roam around making your choices as you pleased on the journey? Yes!

Question- Was the ship moving steadily toward New York the whole time? Yes!

IDEA: so it is with God taking us all together to our fixed destination in Heaven. He is in complete control
 *And yet you have been moving about making your choices and living your life the whole time!

POINT: Scenarios are a great tool you can pull out an use anytime. Your listeners are pulled in as their minds are filling in the details ...
 *It is especially effective when your listeners are drifting and dozing ... This will bring them back

5. QUOTATIONS

A. AS YOU ARE PLOWING DEEP READ THOSE WHO WORTH QUOTING

IDEA: deep rich Bible teachers from days gone by are in a sense *the opinion of the experts*
 *quote those who have taken you to a new level in the heights of heavenly thought, *you have never been before* ... and maybe never would have!

A. W. Tozer chapter on the Holiness of God

Neither the writer nor the reader of these words is qualified to appreciate the holiness of God. Quite literally a new channel must be cut through the desert of our minds to allow the sweet waters of truth that will heal our great sickness to flow in.

Tozer, A.W. Knowledge of the Holy: Knowing God Through His Attributes (p. 78). Kindle Edition.

Richard Baxter 1615-1691

"I preached as never sure to preach again, and as a dying man to dying men."

Matthew Mead 1661 London

Any dead dead fish can float downstream—but it takes a live one to swim upstream."

The Almost Christian Discovered; or, The False Professor Tried And Cast

- Gathered Gold *More Gathered Gold *Sifted Silver—John Blanchard *Complete Gathered God
- Puritan Golden Treasury
- **Nelson's Complete book of Illustrations, Stories & Quotations**
- **Let Me Illustrate** Donald Grey Barnhouse (Barnhouse on anything you can find)
- 2,200 Quotations: From the Writings of Charles H. Spurgeon by Tom Carter
- *The Quotable Tozer

1. PROOF TEXTS
2. STORIES
3. STATISTICS
4. SCENARIOS
5. QUOTATIONS

6. ANALOGIES "It's like this ..."

IDEA: you go from the known to the unknown

NOTICE: keep your eyes and ears open! Everyday... everything a potential sermon **analogy** or illustration

EXAMPLE: my surf story literally grabbing the little boy and hoisting him up out of harms way and we both were surfing on my board all the way to the shore!
 *discipline of god for our protection
 *analogy/testimony

7. PERSONAL TESTIMONY

A. KEEP YOUR EARS OPEN IN LIFE IN CONVERSATIONS WITH PEOPLE

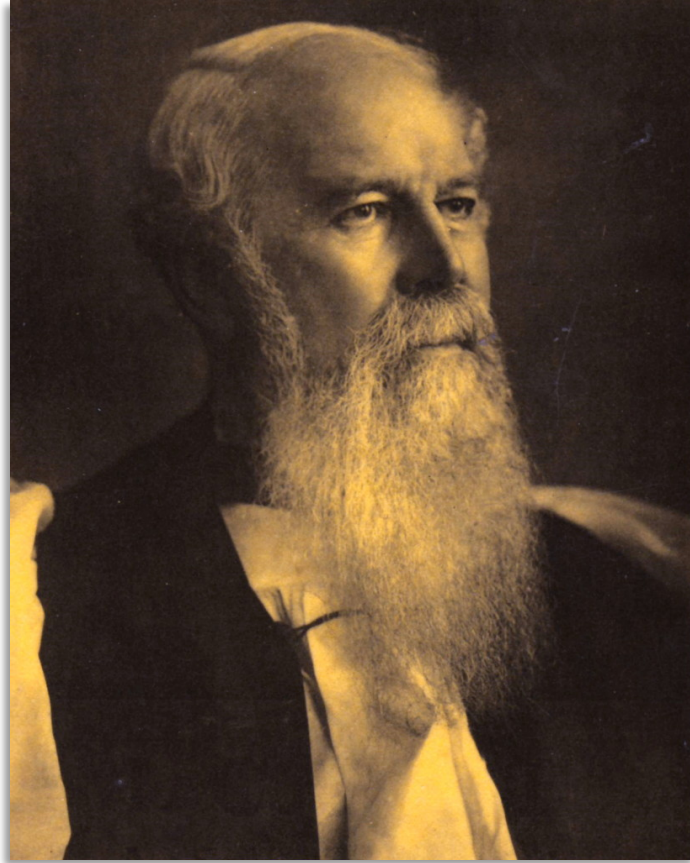
B. CULTIVATE A CONSCIOUSNESS OF WHAT GOD HAS DONE IN YOUR LIFE

EXAMPLE: you have the old & the new 😊

Mat 13:52 Then He said to them, "Therefore every scribe instructed concerning the kingdom of heaven is like a householder who brings OUT OF HIS TREASURE . . . **things new and old.**"

Session 8

THE MAKING OF A MESSAGE & MESSENGER



J. C. Ryle
1816 – 1900

No man was ever sorry that he served the Lord. No man ever said at the end of his days, "I have read my Bible too much, I have thought of God too much, I have prayed too much, I have been too concerned about my soul. Oh, no! The people of God would always say, "Had I my life over again, I would walk far more closely with God than ever I have done. I am sorry that I have not served God better—but I am not sorry that I have served Him. The way of Christ may have its cross. But it is a way of pleasantness, and a path of peace."

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- VIII. MECHANICS**
- IX. BODY**
- X. SPIRIT**

VIII. THE MECHANICS OF A MESSAGE

1. ELEMENTS IN THE MESSAGE THAT KEEP PEOPLE LISTENING

A. ESTABLISH COMMON BOND

B. INTRODUCTORY THOUGHTS

C. REASONS FOR LISTENING

IDEA: create a case that revolves around the issues in the passage

1) REWARD

2) PENALTY

D. RHETORICAL QUESTIONS

E. SIGNPOSTS

F. INTERNAL SUMMARIES

G. CONCLUSION... TIE IT ALL TOGETHER

H. CALL TO ACTION

1. ELEMENTS IN THE MESSAGE THAT KEEP PEOPLE LISTENING

2. ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES THAT KEEP PEOPLE LISTENING

A. TAKE A COMPLETE, THOUGHTFUL CONTROL OF YOUR ENVIRONMENT!

IDEA: look around your meeting room.... and seek to eliminate all the potential distractions
*crying babies *talking children *animals
*too hot? *too cold? sound system?
*seating arrangement *lighting ...