The Principle New Testament Texts for Preachers (from Acts and the Epistles)

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Principles NT Texts

- These texts should be read and studied regularly by the preacher to remind him of his proper attitude and work
- These texts can be used by preachers in preacher training programs

- Acts 2–3: Peter's sermon
- Acts 7: Stephen's sermon
- Acts 8: Philip's sermon
- Acts 10: Peter's sermon
- Acts 13: Paul's sermon

- Acts 14: Paul's sermon
- Acts 15: Paul, Peter, James's response
- Acts 17: Paul's sermon
- Acts 22: Paul's sermon (defense)

- Acts 24: Paul's sermon (defense)
- Acts 26: Paul's sermon (defense)
- Acts 28: Paul's sermon

- Consider the audience and circumstance that gave rise to the sermon
- Look for how the speaker used Old Testament scripture: for defense, for illustration, for history, etc.

- Identify the main flow of thought and theme of the sermon
- Identify the different responses to the sermon and the speaker's response to the audience's response

- ▶ 1 Cor. 1-4: preachers are not to be followed; they are merely fellow-servants
- 1 Cor. 9: be willing to give up and sacrifice personal liberties to do the Lord's work

- ▶ 2 Cor. 1-7; 10-13: live an upright life before others and be willing to defend your actions
- Gal. 1:6 2:10: preach the truth of the gospel only
- ► Gal. 2:11–14: do not act hypocritically

- Gal. 4:12-19 be willing to sacrifice and care deeply for your brethren
- Phil. 1:12-18: do not preach with the wrong motives or to hurt others

Phil. 3:1-3: sometimes it is important to remind your brethren of what they already known (see 2 Pet. 1:13)

- ▶ 1 Thess. 2:1- 3:13: do not enrich yourself, but have great love and care for the brethren (see also Gal. 6:1-5)
- ▶ 1 Tim. 1-6: care properly for yourself and for the local church

- ▶ 2 Tim. 1-4: maintain a right relationship with the word of God at all times
- ▶ Titus 1-3: direct the various local church members in their duties and responsibilities

Epistle of Hebrews

- Note how the "sermon" theme is put together (we call it an epistle)
- Note the author's use of OT scripture
- Note the use of logical argument to show that Jesus is "better"

Epistle of Hebrews

Note the references to the "word" of God

Note what is written to encourage the audience (13:22)

Peter's Epistles

- Peter 4:11: speak only what God wants spoken
- Peter 1:12-14; 3;1-2: remind your brethren of what they already know when necessary
- ▶ Jude 3-4: consider your audience and change the topic if necessary