



The Challenges of Preaching

- Part I -
Examining the Lives
of Some Old Testament Bible Preachers

Prepared
by
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Preacher Challenges in the Bible

- This lesson covers the challenges of some preachers in the Old and New Testament
- Preachers today are just like the preachers in the Bible; we have the same Bible truth, we live in the same sinful world, we have the same nature and character (Jas. 5:17), and we face the same challenges today

Noah

- He was a preacher of righteousness (2 Pet. 2:5)
- He faced the challenge of preaching to a wicked world that did not want to listen to him (Mt. 24:37-38; Lk. 17:26-27; Heb. 11:7; 1 Pet. 3:20-21)

Moses

- He faced the challenge of making sure a new generation God's people heard the truth of God's law (Deut. 5:1)

Joshua

- He faced the challenge of teaching and encouraging the future generation to living faithfully to the Lord (Josh. 23-24)

Samuel

- He was a prophet preacher (1 Sam. 3:20)
- He faced the challenge of raising faithful children (1 Sam. 8:1-3)

Elijah

- He faithfully preached God's word (I K. 17-18)
- He faced the challenge of getting discouraged and depressed in difficult times (I K. 19)

Elisha

- He faced the challenge of preaching the truth while caring for the poor and those who were need (2 K. 2-13)

Micaiah

- He faced the challenge of preaching the truth to people who did not like him (1 K. 22)

Amos

- He faced the challenge of his message not being accepted because he was just a “country” preacher (Amos 7:10-17)

Hosea

- He faced the challenging of sacrificing (in marriage) to do what the Lord wanted him to do (Hos. 1; 3)

Jonah

- He faced the challenge of doing what the Lord wanted him to do, not what he wanted to do (Jonah 1-4)

Isaiah

- He faced the challenge of carrying out specific missions in the Lord's plan (Isa. 6:8; 8:1-4)

Micah

- He faced the challenge living right while surround by wicked people (Mic. 3:1-8; 7:1-10)

Habakkuk

- He faced the challenge being patient (living by faith) while trying to understand God's plan for his people (Hab. 1:5 – 2:3)

Jeremiah

- He was the weeping prophet preacher (Jer. 9:1; see the book of Lamentations)
- He faced the challenge of getting discouraged in difficult times (Jer. 20)

Ezekiel

- He faced the challenge of being rejected (Ezek. 2-3) and losing his wife without being able to mourn (Ezek. 24:16)

Daniel

- He faced the challenge of living a consistent faithful life to God in a foreign environment (Dan. 1; 3; 6)

Haggai and Zechariah

- They faced the challenge of stirring up God's people (including the leaders) to get back to work after they had stopped (Ezra 5:1-2; Haggai 1; Zech. 4)



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John the Baptist

- He faced the challenge of speaking the truth to religious people who did not want to listen (Mt. 3; Lk. 3) and it eventually got him beheaded (Mt. 14; Mk. 6)

Jesus

- He faced the challenge of unbelief and rejection from his own people (Jn. 1:10-11)

Barnabas

- He faced the challenge of being patient as he worked with other preachers who had special problems; and, his patience paid off (Acts 9:27; 15:39; 2 Tim. 4:11)

Paul

- He faced the challenge of being constantly criticized by others (2 Cor. 1-13) and undergoing many sacrifices and hardships along the way in order to save others (2 Cor. 11:23-28)

Apollos

- He faced the challenge of being corrected when he found out that he was not preaching the whole truth (Acts 18:24-28)

Peter

- He faced the challenge of living hypocritically (Gal. 2:11-14)

Timothy and Titus

- They faced the challenge of preaching and not allowing others to despise them (1 Tim. 4:12; Tit. 2:15)

John

- He faced the challenge of being imprisoned for the cause of Christ (Rev. 1:9)