

We Must Preach It Experientially

by Arthur Vess

Arthur Vess emphasizes the necessity of experiential preaching rooted in personal sanctification and the empowerment of the Holy Spirit for effective ministry.

Scripture: Acts 1:8, Acts 2:4, Romans 8:14, Galatians 5:22, Ephesians 5:18, 1 Thessalonians 4:3, 2 Timothy 1:7, James 4:8, 1 Peter 1:15

Topics: "Holy Spirit", "Sanctification"

Description

Arthur Vess emphasizes the importance of preaching from a place of personal experience rather than mere experimentation, highlighting the need for spiritual knowledge proven in the laboratory of one's heart. He stresses the necessity of being sanctified and filled with the Holy Ghost before sharing this message with others, drawing from the example of the early Disciples who waited for empowerment. Vess encourages a deep, personal conviction of one's own sanctification to avoid weakness, compromise, and hypocrisy, and to stand boldly against opposition. He shares anecdotes of ministers experiencing revival after seeking sanctification, illustrating the transformative power of a personal encounter with the Holy Spirit.

Transcript

We must preach it experientially, not experimental, but as something proved by experience.[This distinction drawn between "experiential" and "experimental" here is not altogether welltaken, for the word "experimental" can mean "that which is known by experience" as well as "thatwhich involves an experiment or a test." While some may prefer the word "experiential" applied to spiritual knowledge, the word "experimental," used by many of the older writers, mayalso be used to denote the same thing. See the Oxford Dictionary -- DVM] It must be proved byspiritual science in the laboratory of your own heart. You cannot give to others something whichyou do not have yourself. If the early Disciples had to "tarry until they were endued with powerfrom on high," we must do the same.

You must KNOW that you have been and are still sanctified,or there will be a lameness in your own message like the one in your own soul. How long has itbeen since someone was sanctified under your own ministry? If it costs days, friends, positions,and shallow professions to know beyond a shadow of a doubt that you have been cleansed fromcarnality and filled with the Holy Ghost, "all the fullness of God." This will make your stepssteady, and you can offer to others what you are more certain of and more conscious of thananything else in this world. This will save you from cowardice, weak knees, compromise

and hypocrisy, and make you holy, valiant and fearless in the face of every foe. It will make you the most loved and hated person in all your community round about.

A. J.

Gordon said, "My ministry was fruitless for 20 years, until I went into my study and shut the door, and told God that I would never come out until He baptized me with the Holy Ghost." The mighty baptism came, and revivals followed him around the world. At our Iowa camp some years ago, a leading minister who fell at the altar to be sanctified, said to the evangelist that "I had lost the blessing, and because of the inconsistencies of others, I had wondered if there was such a thing as sanctification, but when I heard you preach it, I felt that you had it, and that I could have it." About seven preachers got sanctified in that camp, and revivals spread all over the conference after the camp. "Lord, send a revival and let it begin in me."

Source: <https://sermonindex.net/speakers/arthur-vess/we-must-preach-it-experientially/>

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