

Moral Physicians

by A.W. Tozer

A.W. Tozer's sermon highlights the critical need for skilled moral physicians who can discern and address the spiritual needs of the community with tailored truth.

Scripture: Proverbs 27:17, Isaiah 61:1-3, Ezekiel 34:16, Matthew 9:12-13, 1 Corinthians 9:22, Galatians 6:1, 2 Timothy 4:2, Hebrews 5:14, James 1:5, 1 Peter 5:2-3

Topics: "Spiritual Discernment", "Moral Guidance"

Description

A.W. Tozer emphasizes the role of moral physicians in preaching, highlighting that truth must be tailored to the specific needs and circumstances of the audience. He draws on examples from prophets, apostles, and Jesus, who adapted their messages to address the moral and spiritual conditions of their people. Tozer argues that today's religious landscape requires skilled leaders who can discern the current spiritual ailments and prescribe appropriate remedies, rather than merely repeating doctrinal statements. He stresses the importance of being attuned to the Holy Spirit's guidance to effectively communicate God's message in a relevant way.

Transcript

In the previous chapter I said that truth should not be passed out indiscriminately, but suited to the circumstances and needs of the hearers.

From the prophets we learn this and from the apostles, as well as from our Lord Himself. These were never bound by a mechanical religious ?curriculum? which dictated unintelligently that certain doctrines were to be taught at certain times regardless of conditions. They prescribed truth as a divine medicine to be proclaimed with emphasis when the needs of the people called for it. They preached hope when the morale of the nation was low, obedience when the people grew careless, purity when their morals began to sag, humility when they became proud and repentance when they fell into sin. All was in accord with the total body of revealed truth, but the moral skill of these men of God enabled them to fit the message to conditions. Otherwise a vast amount of truth could have been wasted and a world of prayer and hard labor rendered ineffective.

Today the religious situation cries out for the skilled moral physician who can diagnose our ills and prescribe wisely for our cure. It is not enough simply to repeat correct doctrinal cliches. It is imperative right now that we have the benefit of the piercing discernment of the Spirit. We must not only know what God has said; we must hear what God is now saying.

Source: <https://sermonindex.net/speakers/aw-tozer/moral-physicians/>

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