

Greek and Hebrew

by Thomas Brooks

A holy minister's primary goal is to bring glory to God, not to impress with eloquence or external qualities.

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 2:4

Topics: "Glory Of God", "Plainness in Preaching"

Description

Thomas Brooks emphasizes that a holy minister's primary aim should be the glory of God, avoiding any display of personal excellence that might overshadow divine glory. He argues for the importance of plainness in preaching, asserting that true power comes from the Spirit rather than human wisdom. Brooks cites Mr. Dod's view that excessive use of Greek and Hebrew in sermons can lead to fleshly ostentation, advocating instead for clear and straightforward doctrine that effectively informs and transforms the heart. He concludes that the most impactful sermons are those that prioritize simplicity and spiritual depth over intellectual complexity.

Transcript

A holy minister aims at the glory of God in all that he does.

He labors to hide and conceal all his human excellencies, which may in any way tend to obscure, eclipse, or darken the glory of God.

"My message and my preaching were not with wise and persuasive words, but with a demonstration of the Spirit's power, so that your faith might not rest on men's wisdom, but on God's power." 1 Corinthians 2:4-5

Mr. Dod was accustomed to say that "so much Greek and Hebrew in a sermon--was so much fleshly ostentation in a sermon!" When men come to pulpit-work, all plainness

must be used. Starched oratory may tickle the brain--but
it is plain doctrine . . .
which informs the judgment,
which convinces the conscience,
which bows the will, and
which wins the heart.

That sermon has most learning in it--which has most
plainness in it. And therefore a great scholar was
accustomed to say, "Lord, give me learning enough
that I may preach plain enough."

Silly, ignorant people are very apt to dote upon that most,
and admire that most--which they understand least! But
prudent Christians judge of ministers . . .
not by their throats--but by their hearts and lives;
not by their voices and tones--but by the plainness,
spiritualness, suitableness, and usefulness of their matter.

Source: <https://sermonindex.net/speakers/thomas-brooks/greek-and-hebrew/>

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