Critical Speeches

Tony Mauck · Isaiah 50:4–9

INTRODUCTION

- He gives me the tongue of disciples that I may know how to sustain the weary one with a word.
- Preaching the word is never disgraceful, regardless of how the message of truth or its messenger are treated.
- Ultimately, everyone who stands opposed to God wears out like a garment.

1 Critical Speeches at Critical Junctures

Deuteronomy 32:3–4; Joshua 24:14–15; 1 Samuel 12

- At critical junctures in the history of the nation of Israel, God sent spokesmen who made an impassioned appeal to God's people in those critical moments to remember their covenant commitment to God.
- Some of these Old Testament examples show us the significance of preaching.
- They were to sing this song in their homes and in their lives. And it would be a continual reminder of the covenant that they had with God.
- Fear the Lord and serve him in sincerity and truth. If it is disagreeable in your sight to serve the Lord, choose for yourself today who you will serve.
- Ezra delivered the words of the law and gave the sense of the reading. And the people wept because of their sins and transgressions.

2 It Rivets Our Attention to the Unseen Realities

- What is it that the preaching of the gospel does for us?
- There is so much in our world that militates against thoughts of this realm.
- Every time we come to this place your thoughts and your mind are directed to the unseen realities that are ultimate in our existence.

3 It Solidifies the Foundation for Successful and Godly Living

1 Timothy 4:8

- Sometimes we're not told anything that we didn't already know before, but those convictions are emboldened.
- This is the most successful way to live our lives.
- It has promise of the life that now is and the life that is to come.
- We're continually being reminded here of the wisdom that works in relationships.

4 It Yields Sobriety in Thinking and Conduct

- Sobriety is about a proper perception of myself and of others and the world in which I live.

- I’m reminded that this isn’t permanent. That the Lord could well return. His coming could be imminent, and I need to be ready.
- The preaching of the gospel, whether it’s a message we’ve heard a hundred times before, is sobering.

5 Preaching Stimulates Us in the Direction of Productive Action

Colossians 3:2

- Preaching challenges me to act. It doesn’t allow me to remain in neutral spiritually or on autopilot.
- At the essence of the message of preaching is that we need to change.
- The greatest, most monumental work we ever do in the kingdom has to do with the way our mind thinks.

6 Preaching Stabilizes Us With Memorable Messages

Psalm 119:11; Psalm 119:9

- The importance of preaching is that it provides memorable messages.
- Thy word have I hidden in my heart that I might not sin against you.
- How shall a young man keep his way pure by keeping it according to your word?

THE CHALLENGE

And I commend to you the message of the gospel. And is it producing in your heart and in your life the obedience of faith?

MY NOTES