

The Gospel Herald

“As the truth is in Jesus” (Ephesians 4:21)

For The LORD’S PILGRIMS, STRANGERS & SOJOURNERS

by

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Preaching

*“Therefore they were scattered abroad went every where PREACHING the word”
(Acts 8:4)*

I am reminded of an old analogy that I read years ago in some early writings. A man was walking along with his son and a mule on their way to town. As they arrived near the small rural community, the ten-year-old son was a sit’n on the mule as it was being led by the father. They stopped to greet a man of the community, and he commented, “Why, you should be a sit’n on the beast of burden and have the son leading it along, as he’s a much younger than your dear neighbor”.....Well, as the man was a tad tired of the lengthy journey, he traded places with his son and proceeded on their way. As they were greeted by another man along the way, he said, “why friend, you ought not be a rid’n that mule as big a man as you”.... Well, the father think’n that he may be scrutinized further by others that may have thought he made his son walk all the way to town, he gets off the mule and the father and son both walk along into the community when another acquaintance greeted them and commented, “why, you mean y’all walked all this way a-leading that mule along?, why at least one of ya should have rode him.”

*The moral of the story is, **you cannot please all people no matter what you do.....** How often have brethren and sisters scrutinized a preacher of the Gospel because they did not have a **preaching style** that they were used to or brought up under?*

*I have been around the block a few times visiting among the habitation of Zion over the years, and have heard many variations of delivery styles. Some from geographical areas where preachers have a “sing song” rhythm in their oratory style, while others from another region of the country would have a “spiritual cry holler” or a sentence pause with a quick “ah” as one grabbing a breath. It has even been determined by some that if the preacher does not demonstrate a **certain style**, that the preachers gift is even questioned.*

*“Therefore, judge nothing before the time, until the Lord come, who both will bring to light the hidden things of darkness, and will make manifest the counsels of the hearts; and then shall every man have praise of God. And these things, brethren, I have in a figure transferred to myself and to Apollos for your sakes; that ye might learn in us not to think of men above that which is written, that no one of you be puffed up for one against another. **For who maketh thee to differ from another? And what has thou that thou didst not receive? Now if thou didst receive it, why doest thou glory, as if thou hadst not received it**” (I Corin. 4:5-7)?*

*Oh how often brethren judge another by a **style** rather than the **message**. I have of late heard a rumor that a certain brother did not appear “**suitable**” for a certain Church’s ministry because he did not line up with what the assembly deemed as a style that some desired to hear. God’s people had better be listening to the words of the preacher that they be sound in doctrine and rightly dividing the word of God. It has been proven that a man can stand and preach in an accustomed **style** and speak contrary doctrine and it be received by the hearers. Oh! the traditions of man and the pitfalls that they provide.*

*Dear brethren, **LISTEN** to the preacher’s message that it **only** in overall content exalt the person of our Lord Jesus Christ, who alone bought us with His precious blood and redeemed us from the curse of the legal law, and brought us into HIS kingdom Church here below. If this be the preachers message, who can stand in judgment of a **style**?*

*He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith through his ministers. “For they that **be of God** heareth Gods word, and they that be not of God hearth not the word of God”.... O God bless us to **hear** thy word and be free from being tuned to a certain method of delivery for Christ’s sake.*

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