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# Preaching To A Post Everything World Crafting Biblical Sermons That Connect With Our Culture Zack Eswine

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Reclaiming the Old  
Testament for  
Christian

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Preaching B&H  
Publishing Group  
Preaching is hard  
work. When I first  
felt called to  
ministry, I had no  
idea what I was  
getting myself  
into. I had never  
preached a sermon  
in my life. I never  
had a mentor walk  
me through the  
process. In fact, I  
was scared to  
death of public  
speaking. So I  
argued with God. I  
begged Him to let  
me do anything  
but preach. The  
thought of having  
to preach in front  
of a crowd every  
single week  
terrified me. But  
God didn't relent.  
I went to a Bible

college. I thought,  
"Surely, Bible  
college will teach  
me how to  
preach!" I applied  
myself. I graduated  
with honors with a  
ministry degree.  
But sadly, I was  
only forced to  
preach two times  
in the entire four  
years I was there.  
Since I was scared,  
I didn't go out of  
my way to seek  
preaching  
opportunities like I  
should have.  
Suddenly, I found  
myself in my first  
job as a youth  
pastor. I  
immediately had to  
preach at least  
once a week.  
PANIC! Bible  
college did not

prepare me for this.  
What should I do?  
My first attempts  
at sermons (if you  
could even call it  
that) were  
horrendous. I stood  
in front of my  
notes, shaking  
while reading the  
message word for  
word. This is not  
what I got into  
ministry to do! I  
needed to get  
better. So I hit the  
books. I read every  
book on preaching  
I could get my  
hands on. The  
books were alright  
but mostly  
theoretical. So I  
asked a lot of  
pastors a lot of  
questions and  
started listening to  
as many good

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preachers as I could find. Finally, I started getting some practical advice. Slowly, I began to get better with each message. This little book is the kind of resource I wish I had way back when I felt the call to ministry. There were good books on preaching, but most lacked the practical tips I needed. I knew why I preached and what to preach. What I didn't know was how to preach. I needed short, practical tips to get me started in the right direction. Writing a sermon

is not as complicated as it may seem. My hope is that this book will save you from the same panic attacks I had. However, if you are a well-seasoned preacher, don't think this book isn't for you. It never hurts to get back to the basics. Writing this book has been just as helpful for me, reminding me of areas I, myself, have strayed from. In this book, you will learn how to master sermon prep, save time, write better messages, build an amazing illustration

database, and more. Thanks for investing the time to read this. Your preaching will be better for it. Text Messages Wipf and Stock Publishers Different generations communicate differently. With fresh research from the Barna Group on how generations communicate, Darrell Hall sheds light on how each generation receives verbal messages, from Boomers and Xers to millennials and Gen Z. Discover how generational

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science can bridge the gap between speaker and listener so people of all generations can hear clearly.

Crossway

In this compelling and hard-hitting book,

respected preacher and teacher Thomas Long

identifies and responds to what he sees as the most substantive theological forces and challenges facing preaching today. The issues, he says, are fourfold: the decline in the quality of

narrative preaching and the need for its reinvigoration; the tendency of preachers to ignore God's action and presence in our midst; the return of the church's old nemesis, gnosticism--albeit in a milder form--evidenced in today's new "spirituality"; and the absence of eschatology in the pulpit. Long once again has his finger on the pulse of American preaching, demonstrated by his creative responses to these challenges. Whether he is

calling for theologically smarter and more ethically discerning preaching, providing a method of interpretation that will allow pastors to recover the emphasis on God in our midst, or encouraging a kind of "interfaith dialogue" with gnosticism, he demonstrates why he has long been considered one of the most thoughtful and intelligent preachers in America today. **Preaching Like the Prophets** Crossway "A perceptive and practical book about why our

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calendars so rarely reflect our priorities and what we can do to regain control. ” —ADAM GRANT

“ Carey ’ s book will help you reorganize your life. And then you can share a copy with someone you care about. ” —SETH GODIN

You deserve to stop living at an unsustainable pace. An influential podcaster and thought leader shows you how. Overwhelmed. Overcommitted. Overworked. That ’ s the false script an inordinate number of people adopt to be successful. Does this sound familiar: Slammed is normal. Distractions are everywhere. Life gets reduced to going through the motions. Tired of living that way? At Your Best gives you the strategies you need to win at work and at home by living in a way today that will help you thrive tomorrow. Influential podcast host and thought leader Carey Nieuwhof understands the challenges of constant pressure. After a season of burnout almost took him out, he discovered how to get time, energy, and priorities working in his favor. This approach freed up more than one thousand productive hours a year for him and you. At Your Best will help you replace chronic exhaustion with deep productivity break the pattern of overpromising and never accomplishing enough clarify what matters most by restructuring your day master the art of saying no, without losing friends or influence discover why

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vacations and sabbaticals don't really solve your problems develop a personalized plan to recapture each day so you can break free from the trap of endless to-dos Start thriving at work and at home as you discover how to be at your best.

### Sensing Jesus

Crossway

Pastors aren't superheroes—they have fears and limitations just like everyone else. Zack Eswine knows this from personal experience and has a wealth of wisdom to offer those who feel like they don't measure up. Written in a

compelling memoir style, *The Imperfect Pastor* is full of insightful stories and theological truths that show how God works unexpectedly through flawed people. By talking honestly about the failure, burnout, pain, and complexities that come along with church ministry, Eswine helps pastors accept their human limitations and experience the freedom of trusting God's plan for their church and life. *Preaching the Whole Counsel of God* Zondervan Academic With enthusiasm and intelligence, professor Robert Smith steps up the interest in doctrinal preaching and

teaching with *Doctrine That Dances*. Recapturing the Voice of God BookRix Speaking clearly and generously from an evangelical perspective, Blayne Banting has written a thoughtful, and thought-provoking book on biblical preaching. The sections on textual analysis and interpretation are deeply refreshing and worth the price of the book alone. Thomas G. Long, Ph.D. Bandy Professor of Preaching Candler School of Theology Emory

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University Blayne Banting has provided a needed, focused treatment of the foundational segment of the preaching task. He has insightfully explored the movement from text to sermon outline. With a concise treatment of the motives and theology of preaching, he has helpfully clarified the movement from the biblical text to the sermon focus (dominant thought) and structure. He concludes with two valuable appendices (sermon forms and textual forms). Chuck Sackett, D.Min. Past-President of the Evangelical Homiletics Society Having joyfully worked alongside Dr. Banting as a colleague, having sat under his faithful preaching, and now having read his engaging homiletic primer, I can testify that *Take Up and Read* offers a welcome balance on both the theology and practice of preaching. Banting's creative appropriation of the "Bridge" metaphor keeps both biblical and contemporary contexts firmly in mind during the preparation of the sermon. I can only hope that many copies of this book will eventually become dog-eared from continual use and find their place of honor on the desks of many aspiring and experienced preachers alike. David Guretzki, Ph.D. Dean of the Seminary, Associate Professor of Theology Briercrest College and Seminary Blayne Banting, D.Min., Ph.D. is pastor of Caronport Community Church in Caronport, SK as well as an adjunct professor at

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Briercrest College and Seminary. Dr. Banting is married to Peggy and they have four children. *Expository Preaching in Africa* B&H Publishing Group  
When you stand before your congregation, what do you hope to accomplish when you preach the Word? If people have Bibles and the freedom to read and pray on their own—why do they need you? In short, what do you bring to the table? Author, pastor, and professor John Koessler answers those questions and many more.

Why does one sermon have a powerful effect on the audience while another falls flat? Why should listeners heed what the preacher says? Is human language adequate for facilitating an encounter with God? What is the point of preaching a sermon? *Folly, Grace, and Power* is a must-read for pastors, seminarians, and lay leaders charged with the task of preaching God's word. This essential book is both a stern reminder of the sacredness of the awesome "job" of being a preacher,

as well as a how-to that reveals the key to speaking powerfully on God's behalf. [Preaching to a Postmodern World](#) Wipf and Stock Publishers  
In *Recapturing the Voice of God*, veteran preacher Steven W. Smith teaches how to preach genre-sensitive, text-driven sermons—to allow the structure of the text to be the structure of the sermon. [Preaching from the Old Testament](#) Xulon Press  
Because the baptized people in a congregation are called peculiar,



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the preacher needs to address them with "peculiar speech", letting the Biblical text call them to live a transformed life in keeping with the baptism. Includes three powerful baptismal sermons.

*Faithful Preaching*

Baker Books

“God has appointed preaching in worship as one great means of accomplishing his ultimate goal in the world.” —John Piper John Piper makes a compelling claim in these pages about the purpose

of preaching: it is intended not merely as an explanation of the text but also as a means of awakening worship by being worship in and of itself. Christian preaching is a God-appointed miracle aiming to awaken the supernatural seeing, savoring, and showing of the glory of Christ. Distilling over forty years of experience in preaching and teaching, Piper shows preachers how and what to communicate from God’s Word, so that God’s purpose on earth will advance

through Biblesaturated, Christ-exalting, God-centered preaching—in other words, expository exultation.

*Topical Preaching in a Complex World*  
Zondervan

"Some may object to my dogmatic assertions; but I do not apologize for them. Every preacher should believe strongly in his own method; and if I cannot persuade all of the rightness of mine, I can at least stimulate them to think and to consider other possibilities. I can say quite honestly that I would not cross the road to listen to myself preaching, and the preachers whom I

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have enjoyed most have been very different indeed in their method and style. But my business is not to describe them but to state what I believe to be right, however imperfectly I have put my own precepts into practice. I can only hope that the result will be of some help, and especially to young preachers called to this greatest of all tasks, and especially in these sad and evil times. With many others I pray that 'The Lord of the harvest may thrust forth' many mighty preachers to proclaim 'the unsearchable riches of Christ!'"

*Expository*

*Exultation* Wipf

and Stock Publishers  
How can expository preaching, rooted in a textual analysis of Scripture, be effectively utilized in oral cultures? In *Expository Preaching in Africa*, Ezekiel A. Ajibade engages this challenge directly, offering practical techniques for integrating African oral elements – such as myths, proverbs, folklore, dance, drama, poetry, and storytelling – into preaching

that is both biblical and African. Alongside numerous examples and tools, Ajibade provides a rich overview of the nature of orality, the history and development of African preaching, and the reason biblical exposition must be central to gospel proclamation. He reminds us that it is the word of God, incarnated among us, that has the power to transform lives and revitalize nations.

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Contextualized expository preaching is not, therefore, one technique to be utilized among many; it is, rather, the heart of biblical teaching and the future of the African church. While contributing significantly to studies in contextualization and homiletics, this book is immediately applicable to practitioners, especially African preachers and those working in oral contexts. The Christ-

Centered  
Expositor Baker  
Academic  
In this complete guide to expository preaching, Bryan Chapell teaches the basics of preparation, organization, and delivery--the trademarks of great preaching. This new edition of a bestselling resource, now updated and revised throughout, shows how Chapell's case for expository preaching reaches twenty-first-century readers. The Imperfect

Pastor Baker  
Books  
Preaching to a Post-Everything World  
Baker Books  
Persuasive  
Preaching  
Zondervan  
This book is a comprehensive guide and a one-volume handbook on Spirit-led ministry in the twenty-first century. Written for ministry students, seasoned pastors, and anyone dealing with a sense of calling, this is an inspiring read on Spirit-empowered ministry that expresses itself in word and deed through

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preaching, teaching, healing, and leadership. In these pages, a pastor, chaplain, and seminary professor who has trained people for ministry in multiple nations addresses the most important aspects of effective Christian ministry. Read this book to encounter biblically sound and theologically balanced information and transformational instruction. Discern, discover, or reaffirm a call to ministry, seek the empowerment of the Holy Spirit, and develop excellence in contemporary ministry.

Sensing Jesus  
B&H Publishing Group  
Preaching is dramatic. Through it, we hear the voice of the living God as he speaks to us both through the reading and the preaching of the word of God. But where do the hearers of sermons fit into the drama? This book suggests ways in which the drama metaphor may help to address age old questions about the centrality of the gospel and the place of the hearer in preaching. As God in Christ is the central character in the

biblical drama of redemption, he also calls hearers to understand their role in creatively, yet faithfully living according to the biblical script. Thus, no sermon is complete until God's redemptive work is powerfully proclaimed, and his people are instructed in how they too are participating in the Missio Dei. In this work, Hebrews 11 is employed as a means of showing how God not only reveals his redemptive work to his people, but also through them. As postmodernism sets the stage of contemporary preaching, The

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Drama of Preaching interacts with some of the particular challenges preachers face in engaging postmodern listeners, that they might not only be hearers, but doers of the preached word.

Honoring the Wise Westminster John Knox Press  
There are many books on the market that address how culture, race, gender, or economic status affect the way preachers preach and congregations hear sermons. This is the first

book to address preaching that promotes solidarity across these differences. Preaching needs to be targeted to specific contexts. But how can a preacher handle specific contexts when we live in a globalized world? What does local context mean and who defines it? Kim develops the concept of "trans-contextual preaching" to show how preachers can respect diversity and global connections. She develops a new theology of preaching, examines the modes of biblical

interpretation appropriate for trans-contextual preaching, and explores designs for sermons. Sample sermons from the author provide excellent illustrations. *Peculiar Speech* InterVarsity Press  
2011 Preaching Today Magazine Book Award winner! The Old Testament is filled with intriguing characters, stories and themes. But preaching from its remote historical context wrapped in sometimes unfamiliar literary genres and narrative devices can be daunting. Based on the conviction that the Old Testament texts are a vital and

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dynamic part of the Christian canon and pertinent to Christian practice, this stimulating volume offers guidance for expository preaching and practical suggestions for understanding the message of its diverse literature. The chapters cover narrative, plot, characters, genre and preaching from difficult texts. The book concludes with a vital chapter on preaching Christ from the Old Testament, which offers a theological account of biblical interpretation without unnaturally forcing the texts. The contributors are internationally respected evangelical Old

Testament scholars, from a wide range of church traditions and global regions, who are also active in preaching: Daniel I. Block, David G. Firth, Grenville J. R. Kent, Paul J. Kissling, Alison Lo, Tremper Longman III, Ernest C. Lucas, R. W. L. Moberly, Laurence A. Turner, Frederico G. Villanueva, Gordon Wenham, H. G. M. Williamson and Christopher J. H. Wright. Here is a book that will help you use all of the Bible's rich resources in preaching the good news of the global kingdom of God.

**Spirit-Led Ministry in the Twenty-First Century Revised and Updated Edition**

Westminster John

Knox Press  
This book provides theological insights as well as practical sermon suggestions for preachers and seminary students. It treats the reader to a thorough examination of how to approach and interpret any portion of the Old Testament.