

Prophets of the Bible



Words to

Find:

- Ahijah
- Azariah
- Elijah
- Elisha
- Enoch
- Gad
- Iddo
- Jacob
- Jehu
- John
- Judas
- Nathan
- Noah
- Obed
- Shemiah
- Silas
- Simeon
- Zacharias

A Tall-enough Preacher

Baptist Bulletin Service



A steward came to the presiding elder and asked for a preacher. "How big a man do you want?" asked the elder.

"I do not care so much about his size," said the steward, "but I want him to be tall enough to reach heaven when he is on his knees."

"Every Christian occupies some kind of pulpit and preaches some kind of sermon every day" — *The Methodist Story*

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The Doctor, the Lawyer, and the Preacher

Ron Meldrum

I have noticed a curious phenomenon. When we visit the doctor, we expect the doctor to be frank and forthright with his or her diagnosis. If we have cancer, we expect them to tell us so without beating around the bush. We want to know everything about the disease; and although we want a doctor who speaks with some grace, we don't want any sugarcoating on it. Our life is at stake, and we need all the information we can get; as well as the doctor's frank opinion about what we should do. What good would a doctor be if he thought, "I know John has cancer, but I can't tell him, because he wouldn't want to hear the news. He might get upset."?



When we go to a lawyer, we want the same frankness. We want him to accurately articulate the law and our options. We

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A Dull Year and Discouraged!

Young People's Weekly

It had been a dull year in the church where Moffat was converted. The deacons finally said to the old pastor, "We love you, pastor, but don't you think you had better resign? There hasn't been a convert this year."

"Yes," he replied, "it has been a dull year, sadly dull to me. Yet, I mind me that one did come, wee Bobby Moffat. But he is so wee a bairn, that I suppose it is not right to count him."



*Missionary
 Robert Moffat,
 1795-1883*

A few years later Bobby came to the pastor and said, "Pastor, do you think that I could ever learn to preach? I feel within me that I ought to. If I could just lead souls to Christ, that would be happiness to me."

The pastor answered, "Well, Bobby, you might. Who knows?"

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The Doctor, the ...

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don't want him to beat around the bush. Our livelihood and maybe even our freedom are at stake.

But, when we go to the preacher, our expectations change. At stake is nothing less than our eternal soul and our eternal rewards in Heaven. Yet, when the preacher is blunt; or when the preacher is frank, people get upset. There seems to be an expectation that the preacher will sugarcoat sin or hold back. What the preacher has to say is far more important than what the doctor has to say, and many times more important than what the lawyer has to say; but when he speaks in specifics and calls sin, "sin," folks get upset.

Can you imagine getting mad at the doctor, because he tells you that you have cancer? Yes, you may be upset that you have cancer, but why be upset with the messenger that told you about it? Instead, we are grateful to the messenger for telling us about the disease and how to fix it.

Let's give the preacher the same respect we give to the doctor and lawyer. Let's go to him expecting him to be frank and specific. Let's not give him the impression that he has to be vague or avoid certain subjects in order to keep us in church.

**Have you talked to God
about your preacher, or
just someone else?**

A Dull Year and ...

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At least you can try!"

He did try, and years later when Robert Moffat came back from his wonder-work in Africa the King of England rose, and the British Parliament stood as a mark of respect. The humble, old preacher, who had but one convert, and who was so discouraged, is dead and forgotten, and yet that was the greatest year's work he ever did, and few have equaled it.

Road to Irreverence

Young People's Standard



I met a man; and the music of God had gone out of him. With great honesty, he told me how the glory had departed him. First, he had disliked a preacher's style of preaching. Then he grew to dislike the preacher himself. Irreverence for the minister and his message expanded in the man's heart. Finally, he found himself feeling irreverent toward the church where the preacher spoke Sunday after Sunday.

You see how it is? It is all a sad pattern. We cannot lose reverence for things spiritual without losing reverence for the Author of spirituality — God.

The road to irreverence usually does not begin with disrespect toward God, but disrespect toward the things of God.

Qualifications of a Preacher

Not just anyone is qualified to be a preacher. Here are some of the qualifications God requires for a man to be a preacher as described in I Timothy 3:1-7:

"This is a true saying, If a man desire the office of a bishop, he desireth a good work. A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, vigilant, sober, of good behaviour, given to hospitality, apt to teach; Not given to wine, no striker, not greedy of filthy lucre; but patient, not a brawler, not covetous; One that ruleth well his own house, having his children in subjection with all gravity; (For if a man know not how to rule his own house, how shall he take care of the church of God?) Not a novice, lest being lifted up with pride he fall into the condemnation of the devil. Moreover he must have a good report of them which are without; lest he fall into reproach and the snare of the devil."

"Too Much Time Winning the Lost!"

Young People's Weekly

An old saint kept grumbling because a preacher did not come to see her often enough. Finally, he said, "Sister, I am too busy trying to save the unsaved among us to spend too much time with the saints. But, I promise you that when we get to heaven, I will drop in some morning and stay a thousand years!"

The Preacher's Wife

Author Unknown

*There is one person in your church
Who knows your preacher's life.
She's wept and smiled and prayed
with him,
And that's your preacher's wife!*

*She knows one prophet's weakest
point,
And knows his greatest power.
She's heard him speak in trumpet
tone,
In his great triumph hour.*

*She's heard him groaning in his
soul,
When bitter raged the strife,
As hand in his she knelt with him,
For she's the preachers wife!*

*The crowd has seen him in his
strength,
When gleamed his drawn sword,
As underneath God's banner folds
He faced the devil's horde.*

*But, she knows deep within her
heart
That scarce an hour before
She helped him pray the glory
down
Behind a closed door!*

*You tell your tales of prophets
brave,
Who walked across the world,
And changed the course of history,
By burning words they hurled.*

*And I will tell how back of them
Some women lived their lives,
Who wept with them and smiled
with them —
They were the preacher's wives!*