



Session 1.2
Expository and Topical
Preaching: Can They
Co-Exist?

Can Expository & Topical Co-Exist?

- Yes they can ... and they must!
- Because they exist together,
I intend to show:

We should be topical sometimes.

We should be expository at all times.

Can Expository & Topical Co-Exist?

Types of Expository Preaching:

- Sequential
- Sectional
- Biographical
- Deep-Drilling
- Seasonal
- Funeral
- Polemic
- Apologetic
- Current Events
- Doctrinal/Topical

Can Expository & Topical Co-Exist?

- Advantages of Topical Preaching
 - (Some) People like it
 - It can bring complicated subjects into focus
 - It reveals the unity of Scripture
 - It can address timely issues

Can Expository & Topical Co-Exist?

- Disadvantages of Topical Preaching
 - (Some) People don't like it
 - It can oversimplify difficult subjects
 - It reveals unity, but not always practicality
 - It allows preachers to focus on pet issues

Can Expository & Topical Co-Exist?

- Method of Topical Preaching
 - Prayerfully choose a topic
 - Identify passages to study
 - Study passages in their own context

Can Expository & Topical Co-Exist?

- Method of Topical Preaching
 - Identify which passage contains the greatest theological value for your sermon
 - Ask yourself if a single passage would be just as effective

Can Expository & Topical Co-Exist?

- Method of Topical Preaching
 - Write a proposition or “big idea” statement
 - Draw as much as you can from the chosen text, using others for support, illustrations, etc.

Can Expository & Topical Co-Exist?

- Topical Preaching Case Study
 - I wanted to preach a message on Jesus being the “Light of the World”
 - Step one was to assemble possible passages ... and there were a LOT!

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- Topical Preaching Case Study

Genesis 1:1-3 Isaiah 9:2

Matthew 5:14-16 John 1:4-5, 9

John 3:16-21 John 8:1-12

John 12:35-36 Acts 26

2nd Corinthians 4:6 Revelation 21:23

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- Topical Preaching Case Study
 - I saw the following choices:
 - Develop a sermon showing John’s use of “Light” to describe Jesus.
 - Use John 8:12’s clear declaration “I am the Light of the World.”
 - John 3’s text presented the most to work with.

John 3:19-21

19 And this is the condemnation, **that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.**

20 For every one that doeth evil hateth the light, neither

Can Expository & Topical Co-Exist?

- Topical Preaching Case Study
 - I chose John 3's text and wrote the following proposition statement:

“Jesus Christ is the loving light of World, shining in the darkness of sin and bringing life to those He enlightens.”

Can Expository & Topical Co-Exist?

- Topical Preaching Case Study
 1. The Eternal Light
 2. The Ministry of the Light
 3. The Light Extinguished
 4. The Light In Your Life

Can Expository & Topical Co-Exist?

- Two Questions To Ask Before Preaching a Topical Sermon:
 1. Could this be done from a single text with the same result?
 2. Will this sermon leave the church with a better understanding of the chosen text?

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sometimes.**

**We should be expository
at all times.**