



CONTRIBUTING TO SCHOLARSHIP

SCOTT M. GIBSON

General Editor

There is a rich and informative production of scholarship that continues to be produced by members of the Evangelical Homiletics Society. One demonstration of this prodigious work is the journal. We are in our nineteenth year of publishing the *Journal of the Evangelical Homiletics Society* and have almost two decades of quality research that has been placed in print.

In addition to the journal are the papers presented at the conferences over the years. Hundreds of scholars have written papers and then led discussions on their work in sessions at the conferences.

Many of our members have produced books and chapters in books, as well as presented papers at other conferences, all the while advancing the field of homiletics. We are rich, indeed.

This edition of the journal continues to push our shared field of homiletics further with the articles included for our readers' pleasure and stimulation.

The first article is one that I composed following the 2018 textbook survey that the society conducted among its membership. The paper explores the background of the history of textbook surveys and concludes with how the 2018 Evangelical Homiletics Society Legacy Textbook Survey fits into the development of such surveys. The conclusions provide insight on the place of textbooks in the teaching of preaching in the past—today—and in the future.

A similar study conducted by Chris Rappazini on textbooks accompanies the first article as it provides a more textured historical background for providing perspective on the

function and place of textbook surveys. Rappazini examines the quantitative studies that have been conducted on homiletics textbooks. Taken side-by-side, both articles will provide the reader with a greater appreciation for homiletics textbook use over the years.

The third article is written by Stuart Blythe. In this article, Blythe explores Luke 4:16-30 and its implications for preaching. Too often, notes Blythe, in the study of Luke 4:16-30 focuses either on mission or preaching, and that mission and preaching “are not always considered in relation to one another.” Blythe engages the reader in demonstrating that Spirit-empowered preaching is integral to mission.

Eric Price explores in the fourth article the historical distance between the original readers of Scripture and Christians today. Emphasizing the overarching theological continuity between God and his people throughout redemptive history, Price proposes “a more integrated approach to application.” Readers can appreciate the task to which Price calls them as preachers and teachers of preaching.

Book reviews follow the final article. There is a treasure-trove of information and analysis present in these reviews. Readers will appreciate the breadth and variety of the books provided in this section, reviews often written by our own members. A word of thanks to Abe Kuruvilla, Book Editor, for providing a rich array of books to read about and potentially purchase for our own library or the library of the institution in which we teach.

Finally, a sermon is provided for our mutual edification. The sermon is by Jonathan Moreno, at the time of submission a student at Detroit Baptist Theological Seminary, and first-place award winner of the 2018 Evangelical Homiletics Society’s Haddon W. Robinson Preaching Award. He graduated in 2018. The sermon is based on Psalm 73.

Enjoy reading this edition of the journal. As you do, you will be able to appreciate the contribution to homiletics scholarship that this edition provides.

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