



THE THEOLOGICAL CORE

W|M Sermon Preparation

Exodus 32:1-5

Baptist Ministers of Houston and Vicinity

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The question was asked amongst preachers this week, “What is the crisis of preaching today?” Ironically my answer to that question is the very motivation for this “Theological Core” series of sermon prep lessons.

I'm not talking about a preacher who is not saved or does not pray. If you are not saved or you have no prayer life, then sermon prep is not what you need. The crisis of preaching today is the lack of a “theological framework”. **A sermon that has no theological core is empty of divine power.** One must create your homiletic from theological presuppositions about God (Rooted in #1 scripture, #2 church history, and #3 personal experiences with God.) This is important because **“The theological core answers people’s faith issues.”**

PREACH POINT: A preacher can preach the events of a text and fail to expose God in the text. You can turn a sermon into an exercise in humanism rather than theism. A sermon must ultimately be about God.

Let’s look at Exodus 32:1-5

TITLE: Serving the God of Your Imagination – Devotional/Personal
(Alternative: Imaginary Gods – Apologetic/Cultural)

SERMONIC THESIS: Apart from God’s law, people’s propensities leads to idolatry.

THEOLOGICAL CORE: There is a need for God’s law to restrict our propensity for idolatry

SERMONIC AIM: HEART – I want the people to love God’s law above fleshly desires

1And when the people saw that Moses delayed to come down out of the mount, the people gathered themselves together unto Aaron, and said unto him, Up, make us gods, which shall go before us; for as for this Moses, the man that brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we wot not what is become of him.

HERMANUTICAL: The people became impatient with Moses’ way (e.i. Moses’ God) and employed Aaron to do things their way.

THEOLOGICAL: God has a way of delaying long enough to let what is in you come out of you.

THINK YOURSELF EMPTY, READ YOURSELF FULL, WRITE YOURSELF CLEAR, PRAY YOURSELF HOT AND GO PREACH JESUS

HOMELTIC: The first ingredient in the pot of idolatry is **#1 THE PEOPLE'S DESIRE**

2And Aaron said unto them, Break off the golden earrings, which are in the ears of your wives, of your sons, and of your daughters, and bring them unto me. 3And all the people brake off the golden earrings which were in their ears, and brought them unto Aaron. 4And he received them at their hand, and fashioned it with a graving tool, after he had made it a molten calf:

HERMANUTICAL: Aaron was led by the people's desire.

THEOLOGICAL: This action offended the God they had experienced

HOMELTIC: The second ingredient in the pot of idolatry is **#2 PREISTLY PARTICIPATION**

4b and they said, These be thy gods, O Israel, which brought thee up out of the land of Egypt.

HERMANUTICAL: The people developed their own theology.

THEOLOGICAL: God has created man so that he will always worship something.

HOMELTIC: The third ingredient in the pot of idolatry is **#3 THE PERVERTION OF THE TRUTH**

5And when Aaron saw it, he built an altar before it; and Aaron made proclamation, and said, To morrow is a feast to the LORD. 6And they rose up early on the morrow, and offered burnt offerings, and brought peace offerings; and the people sat down to eat and to drink, and rose up to play.

HERMANUTICAL: Aaron led the people to worship an idol gods

THEOLOGICAL: Folk will give to idols what they will not give to God

HOMELTIC: The forth ingredient in the pot of idolatry is **#4 THE PRACTICE OF A LIE**