



# THE APOSTOLIC PENTECOSTAL ORATOR

ELDER KEITH J. WALKER



# THE APOSTOLIC PENTECOSTAL ORATOR

*A Brief Booklet on Calling,  
Craft, and Language*

*Written by*  
Elder Keith Joel Walker

[whpctuttle.com](http://whpctuttle.com)

# Introduction

The Apostolic Pentecostal Orator is the preacher who stands at the crossroads of apostolic authority and evangelistic urgency, the communicator who marries Pentecostal fervor with disciplined study of the Word. This booklet aims to define the orator (including its Greek root), explain the apostolic Pentecostal calling, outline homiletical styles and types of preaching, and clarify common rhetorical devices—metaphor, allegory, analogy and related terms—so the minister may preach with clarity, power, and spiritual discernment.

## Section 1 — Orator: Definition and Etymology

- English definition: An orator is a skilled public speaker — one who addresses an audience intentionally to inform, persuade, exhort, teach, or prophesy. In the Apostolic Pentecostal context, the orator is a fivefold minister who preaches with apostolic urgency, prophetic sensitivity, and pastoral compassion.
- Latin root: English “orator” comes from Latin *orator* (“speaker”), from *orare*, “to speak, plead, pray.”
- Greek equivalent: The classical Greek term most equivalent to “orator” is *ρήτωρ* (rh t r, pronounced “ray-tor”), meaning “a public speaker, rhetorician, or spokesman.” Related Greek words include *ρητόρικη*

(rhetorikē, “rhetoric”) and ρῆμα/ρῆσις (rhema/rhesis, “utterance, speaking”).

- Theological note: In Scripture the preacher’s role blends proclamation (kerygma), teaching (didache), exhortation (paraklesis), and prophetic declaration. The Pentecostal orator ministers out of both study and Spirit-given rhema (spoken word from the Throne).

## Section 2 — The Apostolic Pentecostal Calling

- The fivefold framework (Ephesians 4:11) stresses diversity in ministry: apostle, prophet, evangelist, pastor, teacher. The orator in Apostolic Pentecostal circles often carries elements of several of these: apostolic vision, prophetic declaration, evangelistic zeal, pastoral care, and teaching skill.
- A lifestyle of preparation: study of Scripture, prayer, fasting, and sensitivity to the Holy Spirit for rhema revelation is central to prophetic preaching.
- Responsibility: preach with integrity, shepherd hearts, and balance prophetic utterance with pastoral care and doctrinal soundness.

## Section 3 — Homiletics: Methods and Styles

Homiletics is the art and science of sermon-building. Common homiletical styles used by Apostolic Pentecostal ministers include:

## Expository Preaching

Definition: Unfolding a passage of Scripture verse-by-verse or paragraph-by-paragraph, drawing out the meaning in its context and applying it to life.

Strengths: Faithful to the text; builds doctrinal depth.

Typical structure: Text selection   Exegesis   Point-by-point explanation   Application.

## Topical Preaching

Definition: Treating a single subject or theme (e.g., prayer, holiness, the Holy Ghost) using multiple texts.

Strengths: Direct relevance to congregational needs; flexible.

Typical structure: Proposition   Scriptural support  
Main points   Application.

## Prophetic Preaching

Definition: Proclaiming timely, Spirit-led messages that call, correct, encourage, or warn—often with specific application to present circumstances.

Strengths: Immediate spiritual impact, spiritual guidance.

Caution: Must be rooted in Scripture and pastoral love; avoid sensationalism.

## Pastoral Preaching

Definition: Sermons shaped for care, comfort, correction, and encouragement of a congregation.  
Strengths: Builds trust and spiritual growth; attends to pastoral needs.

### Evangelistic Preaching

Definition: Focused on calling lost people to repentance and faith; clear presentation of the gospel and invitation.

Strengths: Urgent and accessible.

### Teaching Preaching (Didactic)

Definition: Systematic instruction on doctrine or Christian living; tends to be more detailed and explanatory.

Strengths: Deepens understanding, discipleship.

Other common sermon types:

- Narrative Preaching: Preaching through stories (biblical or contemporary) with inductive movement from story to truth.
- Exhortative Preaching: Calls to immediate action and response.
- Doctrinal/Apologetic Preaching: Defends doctrinal truths and answers objections.
- Biographical Preaching: Uses biblical characters as

models or warnings.

- Ceremonial/Occasional Preaching: Messages for weddings, funerals, dedications, etc.

## Section 4 — Rhetorical and Literary Devices: Definitions and Uses

A skilled orator uses figurative language and comparative devices to illuminate truth. Definitions:

### Metaphor

**Meaning:** A figure of speech that describes something by asserting it is something else (e.g., “Christ is the rock”). Metaphors create strong, vivid connections and invite deeper reflection.

**Use:** Clarifies spiritual truth by linking the unfamiliar to the familiar.

### Simile

**Meaning:** A comparison using “like” or “as” (e.g., “faith is like a mustard seed”).

**Use:** Similes make comparisons explicit and often more accessible.

### Analogy

**Meaning:** A reasoned comparison showing how two

different things are similar in relevant respects (e.g., comparing a church to a body to explain unity and diversity).

Use: Helpful for logical explanation and teaching complex doctrines.

## Allegory

Meaning: A sustained, extended metaphor where elements in a story represent larger spiritual realities (e.g., the Parable of the Sower as having representative elements).

Use: Powerful for layered meanings but must be handled carefully to avoid forced interpretations.

## Parable

Meaning: A short, simple story drawn from everyday life used by Jesus to reveal moral or spiritual truths.

Use: Encourages reflection and personal application; invites listeners to “see” their own condition.

## Symbol / Symbolism

Meaning: An object, action, or phrase that stands for a spiritual reality (e.g., baptism as a symbol of death and resurrection).

Use: Anchors doctrine in visible acts.

## Typology

Meaning: Interpreting people, events, or institutions in the Old Testament as foreshadowings (types) of New Testament realities (e.g., Jonah as a type of Christ's burial and resurrection).

Use: Deepens biblical unity and prophetic connections.

## Imagery

Meaning: Use of descriptive language that appeals to the senses to create vivid mental pictures.

Use: Makes sermons memorable and emotionally resonant.

## Insight (Spiritual/Exegetical)

Meaning: A sudden or matured understanding (often Spirit-given) about a text's meaning or application; the "light bulb" moment that shapes application.

Use: Drives the sermon's unique angle—rhema insight should be weighed by Scripture and tested by prayer.

## Section 5 — Practical Homiletical Steps for the Apostolic Pentecostal Orator

### 1. Prayer & Fast: Seek rhema and spiritual clarity

before study.

2. Text Selection: Choose a text or theme guided by Scripture and the Spirit's leading.
3. Exegesis: Study grammar, context, parallel passages, original language where possible.
4. Theological Check: Ensure alignment with apostolic doctrine and sound theology.
5. Homiletical Outline: Prepare Introduction (hook), Proposition (central idea), Main Points (3–4), Illustrations (metaphor, parable, testimony), Application (clear calls to action), Conclusion (seal with a word of power/prayer).
6. Rehearse & Pray: Practice delivery, tone, and transitions. Pray for conviction and clarity.
7. Deliver with Spirit and Truth: Let Scripture lead; allow the Spirit to quicken the Word to hearts.
8. Follow-up: Pastoral care, discipleship pathways, and accountability for prophetic words.

## Section 6 — Warnings and Encouragements

- Balance prophetic fervor with pastoral love and

doctrinal fidelity.

- Avoid over-interpretation of allegory or typology—let Scripture speak for itself.
- Prophetic declarations should be tested by Scripture and validated by mature leadership.
- Keep the congregation edified, not merely impressed. The orator's greatest aim is transformation.

## Conclusion — A Charge to the Orator

You are called to both art and altar. You are an orator (ρήτωρ), an ambassador of truth who must combine disciplined study with Spirit-led utterance. Preach with metaphor and clarity; teach with logic and love; prophesy with humility and Scripture as your standard. Prepare, pray, and step into your deployment—there are lives that must hear your voice and rounds of ministry yet to fight. Finish strong; the prophetic song in you is not finished.

## Appendix — Quick Glossary

- Orator: Skilled public speaker (Latin orator; Greek ρήτωρ, *rhētōr*).
- Expository: Text-centered, verse-by-verse preaching.
- Topical: Theme-centered preaching.
- Prophetic Preaching: Spirit-led, timely

proclamation.

- Pastoral Preaching: Care-centered sermon for the flock.
- Evangelistic: Gospel-urgent preaching to win souls.
- Teaching Preaching: Didactic instruction in doctrine and life.
- Metaphor/Simile/Analogy/Allegory/Parable/ Symbol/Typology/Imagery: Figures of speech and interpretive tools defined above.
- Rhema: A spoken, Spirit-given word (balanced with Logos, the written Word).

Written By Elder Keith Joel Walker