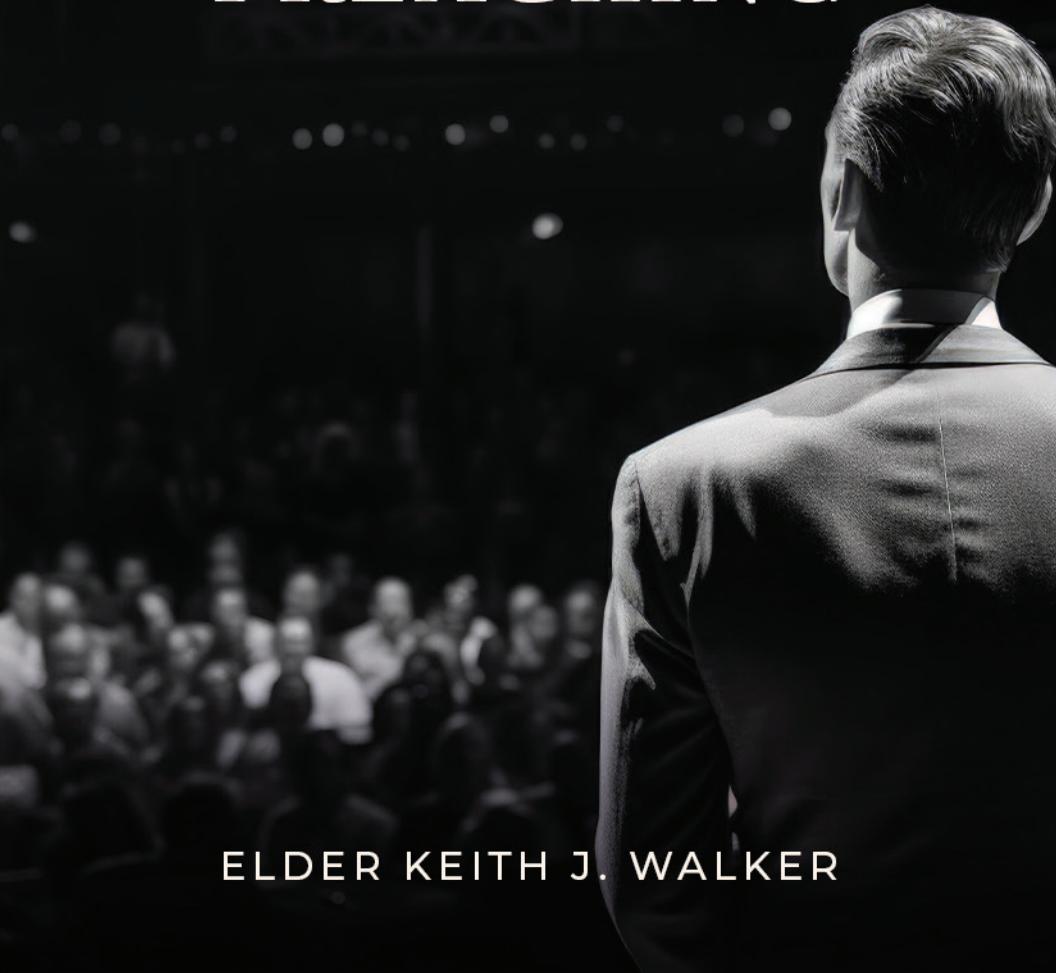


THE ART &
CRAFT OF
APOSTOLIC
PENTECOSTAL
PREACHING



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Introduction

Apostolic Pentecostal preaching is a unique and powerful form of communication that emphasizes the anointing of the Holy Ghost, the message of the cross, and the transformative power of faith. This style of preaching combines fervent passion, scriptural truth, and a deep reliance on the Holy Ghost to convey messages that inspire, challenge, and uplift congregations. In this exploration, we will delve into the key elements that define Apostolic Pentecostal preaching, including the role of anointing, the significance of the message, and the persuasive language used to communicate divine truths.

The Anointing of the Holy Ghost

The anointing of the Holy Ghost with the evidence is central to Apostolic Pentecostal preaching. It is believed that the Holy Ghost and fire with the evidence of speaking in tongues empowers the preacher, enabling them to deliver messages with authority and conviction. This anointing is characterized by:

- Divine Empowerment: Preachers rely on the Holy Spirit to guide their words and actions, ensuring that their messages resonate with the hearts of the listeners.

- Spiritual Insight: The anointing provides preachers with a deeper understanding of Scripture and the ability to apply biblical truths to contemporary life.
- Transformational Impact: When the Holy Ghost anoints a message, it has the power to change lives, heal hearts, and draw people closer to God.

The Foolishness of Preaching the Cross

Apostolic Pentecostal preaching often centers around the message of the cross, which may appear foolish to the world but is, in fact, the power of God for salvation. Key aspects of this message include:

- The Centrality of the Cross: The cross represents the sacrifice of Jesus Christ and the foundation of salvation. Preachers emphasize the importance of the crucifixion and resurrection as the core of the Christian faith.
- A Call to Repentance: Preaching the cross involves calling individuals to repentance and a personal relationship with Jesus. This message challenges listeners to confront their sins and seek redemption.
- Hope and Restoration: The message of the cross is ultimately one of hope. It assures believers that through Christ, they can experience forgiveness, healing, and new life.

The Apostolic Message of Acts 2:38

The preaching of the Apostle Peter on the Day of Pentecost serves as a cornerstone of Apostolic Pentecostal preaching. In Acts 2:37-38, we see the profound impact of his message:

- Conviction of the Heart: After Peter's powerful sermon, those present were “pricked in their hearts” and asked, “What must we do to be saved?” This moment illustrates the anointing and effectiveness of Peter's preaching.
- The Call to Salvation: Peter responded with the imperative message found in Acts 2:38: “Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.” This call emphasizes the necessity of repentance, water baptism in Jesus' name, and the baptism of the Holy Ghost with the evidence of speaking in tongues.
- The Outpouring of the Holy Ghost: Peter, filled with the Holy Ghost and fire, preached with conviction, leading to the baptism of approximately 3,000 souls that day (Acts 2:41). This event marks the birth of the Apostolic Church and the fulfillment of Jesus' promise regarding the Holy Spirit.

The Persuasive Speech and Language of Apostolic Pentecostal Preaching

Effective Apostolic Pentecostal preaching employs

persuasive speech and language that captivates the audience and communicates spiritual truths. Key elements include:

1. Emotional Appeal (Pathos):

- Preachers often share personal testimonies and stories that evoke emotions, helping the congregation connect with the message on a deeper level.
- Use of passionate and heartfelt language to stir the emotions of the listeners, encouraging them to respond to the message.

2. Rhetorical Devices:

- Metaphors and Similes: Preachers use figurative language to create vivid images that help the audience grasp complex spiritual concepts.
- Repetition: Key phrases and themes are repeated for emphasis, reinforcing the core message and making it memorable.

3. Scriptural Foundation (Logos):

- Apostolic Pentecostal preaching is deeply rooted in Scripture. Preachers cite biblical passages, such as Acts 2:38, to support their messages, providing a logical basis for their claims.
- The use of well-structured arguments helps listeners understand the relevance of biblical truths in their lives.

4. Call to Action:

- Preachers often conclude their messages with a clear call to action, inviting listeners to respond to the message through prayer, repentance, or commitment to Christ.
- This call is framed as an urgent and necessary step in their spiritual journey, encouraging immediate response.

5. Engagement with the Audience:

- Preachers strive to create a dynamic interaction with the congregation, encouraging participation through amens, clapping, and other forms of affirmation.
- Questions and challenges posed to the audience invite them to reflect on their own lives and spiritual journeys.

The Study of Apostolic Pentecostal Preachers in the 20th and 21st Century

The 20th and 21st centuries have seen a remarkable rise in influential Apostolic Pentecostal preachers who have left an indelible mark on the world through their powerful oratory and commitment to the message of salvation. The greatest preachers in this tradition are often characterized by:

- Adherence to Biblical Standards: They uphold the

full biblical standard, emphasizing the importance of Acts 2:38 as the foundation of true salvation.

- Experience of the Holy Ghost: These preachers have personally experienced the baptism in the Holy Ghost and fire, evidenced by speaking in tongues, and they encourage their congregations to seek this transformative experience.
- Water Baptism in Jesus' Name: We stress the necessity of being baptized in Jesus' name, ensuring that our congregants are fully aligned with Acts 2:38 is the only bible plan of Salvation and teachings of Scripture.
- Anointing and Authority: The anointing that accompanies their preaching makes a significant difference, allowing them to effectively communicate the message of the Gospel and inspire life-changing decisions.

Conclusion

The art and craft of Apostolic Pentecostal preaching is a profound expression of faith that combines the anointing of the Holy Ghost, the powerful message of the cross, and persuasive speech. Through emotional appeal, scriptural foundation, and a clear call to action, preachers aim to inspire transformation and foster a deeper relationship with God among their congregants. This unique style of preaching not only communicates truth but also brings the presence of

God into the hearts of those who hear it, making it a vital aspect of the Apostolic Pentecostal tradition. As exemplified by Peter's message in Acts 2:38, the call to repentance, water baptism in the name of Jesus Christ, and the infilling of the Holy Ghost with the evidence of speaking in tongues remains central to the life-changing power of Apostolic Pentecostal preaching. The ongoing legacy of Apostolic Pentecostal preachers in the modern era continues to affirm the relevance and power of this message in a world that desperately needs hope and salvation.

