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PREACHING AND TEACHING ARE PRESENTATIONS

a continuing study of NT words for preaching and teaching

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In previous articles concerning New Testament words used for the sharing of truth, we have observed two facts. First, teaching involves instruction from one who knows something. This instructor bridges that information to a listener through their teaching method, bringing that learner over the bridge to understanding. Second, teaching concerns the acquisition of the material by the learner. This suggests the importance of the hearer having a desire to receive what has been offered.

Consequently, for a pupil to receive knowledge and the experience benefited from it, truths must be carefully placed before him, prayerfully leading to the intended purpose of understanding and acceptance. Teaching, therefore, provides a “presentation” of the teaching material.

The Greek word for “presentation” is *para-tithami* which means placing beside or setting before. As an extension, one who presents truth before another entrusts that person with the provided subject matter. It’s giving someone information as a trust, something to be respected and accepted. Of course, such can come through various methods and approaches.

Such instruction might be as simple as a mother or father giving a child correction concerning behavior. It would include information for the child’s knowledge, but with the expectation of



a change in conduct. Also, the lessons educators provide within the school system daily present information to students. Some of those pupils will never understand the end purpose of the education, much less the particular lesson being presented. Regardless, those courses all combine to prepare students for life. It is never merely the accumulation of facts but presenting the facts to build a competent person ready for adult life and

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livelihood. Following my years as a college professor, I occasionally heard a previous student state years later, “They never taught me that in college.” The truth was that I remember teaching them that; however, at the time, they were not interested enough to listen and take to heart what was being said. Also, the college education was never meant to be the end; it was given to prepare them for further advancement within their ministries.

Therefore, the presentation of information is not merely that of bland facts with no connection to understanding and practical wisdom because of it. And in the case of teaching or preaching, the same is true in both cases.

An example Scripture using the word *paratithami* is 2 Timothy 2:2, “And the things that thou has heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to **teach** others also” [emphasis mine]. In this case, this information from Paul was carefully placed before others so that it might be entrusted to others as well. The thought is that of entrusting to someone else’s care the same which has been entrusted.

The sharing of God’s Word is a trust given to every believer by the Lord Himself. As God has placed what is most precious to Him before us, it is our responsibility to commit the same to others who will receive it just as seriously. Teaching and preaching function within the same approach and seek a similar purpose. Therefore, the proclamation of God’s Word is a presentation seeking the reception and trust of the truth shared. That’s preaching and teaching!

VAFWB ON THE CALENDAR

- APRIL 8: Southwest Virginia Minister's Conference, Central FWB Church, Norton, VA
- APRIL 9: East Wise Quarterly Conference
- APRIL 10 (Palm Sunday): PR Director, AM Service, First FWB Church, Richmond
- APRIL 17 (Easter): PR Director, AM Service, First FWB Church, Richmond
- APRIL 22-23: East Coast God's Man's Conference, Gateway FWB Church, Virginia Beach
- APRIL 24-27: PR Director, Forgiveness Conference, Woodland Heights FWB Church, Martinsville
- APRIL 29: John Wheeler Annual Association Meeting



Pre-Registration to Open

Pre-Registration for the 2022 National Convention opens Friday, April 1. The convention will be held **July 24-27***.

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*The convention is one week later than usual.

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Saturday Morning

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10:15am Split Session

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