

I. Text: Exodus 18:13-23

II. Major Objective: Promotional

III. Central Idea: The work of judging Israel was too much
as any world for one man to do effectively.

IV. Subject: Sharing the Work of Christ

V. Thesis and Goal:

1. Proposition: The work which was given to God's
people is the responsibility of all God's
people, not just a few.

2. Specific Goal: That the members of the church
will gladly bear their part of the work of the
Church, and will do that work to the best of their
ability.

VI. Introduction: Before Christ left His disciples he spoke
some very meaningful words to them regarding the mission
of their discipleship. These words were, "Greater works
than these, shall he (the believer) do; because I go unto
my Father." Perhaps I should have said, "These words are,"
and not to have put them into the past tense. For Christ
not only spoke these words to his disciples, but also to us
today. Greater works shall you do; these words have been

fulfilled literally. There is no greater work than the
carrying on of the Gospel. The Gospel is big business.
Thousands of churches across the world are devoted to the
great work. Billions of dollars have been and are being
spent for the propagation of the Gospel of Christ. The
Church is today more than ever a mighty concern; a mass
organization. It only follows that with the magnitude

Love

of the work which is being¹ there comes responsibilities for administering that work. At this point is a great need. The church by its very nature, ought to be run as efficiently as any worldly business concern. But this is not always the case. In too many churches the people leave most of the church work to the pastor. A pastor must be many things to be successful. He must be a good preacher, a professional visitor, a good pastor, a counselor, a comforter, a cabbie, a business man, a financier, an architect, and in many instances, a nurse-maid to 200 pound babies who get their feelings hurt. Now it is obvious that this is too much for one man to do effectively, so something suffers. The tragedy is that usually it is his preaching and witnessing that must suffer. Immediately one can see that some correction must be made.

Moses was faced with a problem similar to this. He alone was trying to hear and answer all the problems of all Israel. From sunrise until sunset he would minister. His father-in-law saw that neither Moses nor the people were fairing well with this arrangement. So he gave Moses some good advice which we should take: Share the responsibility.

(Exodus 18:21)

VII. Body:

4. The work is to be done by useful followers.

I. The Work of Christ Suffers Under Insufficient Leadership. (Exodus 18:13-18)

positions for deacons and pastors; see how closely these correlate with the requirements in the Exodus passage.

1. The work is hindered by draining the few who labour of all energy. (Exodus 18:18)

The physical strain is too much and unhealthy for the pastor alone. He cannot give his best under such circumstances.

2. The work is hindered by causing the people to be neglected. (Exodus 18:18)

Ill--In early church as recorded in Acts the Greek widows were neglected because of lack of leaders.

II. The Work of Christ Is To Be Shared By The People. (Exodus 18:19-22)

The greatest privilege afforded man apart from salvation is that of being co-labourer with Christ.

1. The work is to be done by able followers.

"able men": (Exodus 18:21)

2. The work is to be done by reverent followers.

"fear God" (Exodus 18:21)

3. The work is to be done by truthful followers.

"men of truth" (Exodus 18:21)

4. The work is to be doen by unselfish followers.

"hating coveteousness" (Exodus 18:21)

Ill-- Examine the qualifications for deacons and pastors; see how closely these correlate with the requirements in the Exodus passage.

EXODUS 20:7

III.1. The Work of Christ is Advanced When The People Work

(1) Our translation makes the third commandment bear upon any Together. (Exodus 18:23)

1. God's under-shepherd is able to give more time to more important matters. (Exodus 18:23)

2. God's people are cared for properly, filling them with contentment. (reference)

VIII. Conclusion: All Christians are in a sense called by God to give full time in His service. None can honestly

(3) pull away from the responsibility of being faithful in

(4) the work of Christ through the church. Such work is not

a burden to be borne, but a blessing to be received. To

the one who loves his master, it matters not whether the

job is small, large, hard or easy. The thing that matters

is that he is service his Lord. He longs for the day

when, standing in His Presence, he may hear Him say,

"Well done, thou good and faithful servant."

It is hard to preach on the Church in an expository sermon based upon an Old Testament passage.

this tells as subtle but stated point as it could be.

vague

Every point in an expository sermon is to be based upon text