



Messenger Project Newsletter

The Messenger

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A NONPROFIT CORPORATION PROMOTING THE BIBLE THROUGH THE ARTS

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Messenger Notes

Cathy Alonzo recorded violin and Dan Waterman added lead guitar for *Apple of His Eye* (Deuteronomy 32:1-10). Our newest CD is slated to have 15 songs on it, with three foreign language songs (Spanish, French and Hebrew).

Early Preachers in America



Jonathan Edwards (1703-1758) was the most powerful and most effective preacher ever heard on the American continent. He is regarded as America's first "great mind." He was a scientist, philosopher, author, educator, and preacher. Edwards embodies puritanism to most people today and his sermons are still published and read widely. "Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God" was one of his most famous sermons preached. It is used in American high school and college English courses as an example of Puritan literature. Oliver Wendell Holmes described his sermons as "barbaric." Mark Twain called him "a drunken lunatic."



George Whitefield (1714-1770) was one of the most original preachers in the history of the church with a powerful and dramatic style. He's called the greatest preacher since the Apostle Paul. From England, his preaching in America was a main cause of the *Great Awakening*. He was a master of imagination, metaphor, and drama. Though he died at 56 years old, the world is still feeling the impact of his life.



Alexander Maclaren (1826-1910) was known as the 'Prince of Expositors' and "the supreme example of the Protestant expository preacher." His emphasis on examining the text was a lifelong hallmark. He

refused many preaching engagements in order to further his studies in the Word. He was fundamental in his doctrine, and never veered off the path of the historic truths. Along with Spurgeon, his sermons are the most read of the 19th century.



John A. Broadus (1827-1895) is called the father of American expository preaching. He was a great scholar, and academic, fluent in eleven languages, and versed in the classics and in Greek. He was a personal friend

of both Stonewall Jackson and Robert E. Lee, and ministered to the Southern troops in the War Between the States. He founded Southern Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky for the training of preachers. His book on preaching, *On the Preparation and Delivery of Sermons*, is still in print over 100 years after his death.

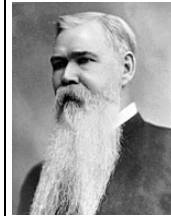


T. DeWitt Talmage (1832-1902) was born in New Jersey. Converted at eighteen years old in a revival meeting, he pastored in Brooklyn and was known as an emotional and passionate preacher. When warned that his gospel message might deny him the best pulpits, he said, "If I cannot preach in America, I will go to the heathen lands and preach." His sermons were published weekly by a syndicate in over 3,000 newspapers. He became editor of the *Christian Herald* in 1890, and after 1899 devoted all of his time to it.



Charles H. Spurgeon (1834-1892) was a one-of-a-kind preacher. There was never a preacher like him before or since. He was a master with word pictures and illustrations. His delivery was like music or Poetry and his written word remains as powerful today as it was during his life. Spurgeon's sermons are still printed today and sell as well or better than any contemporary preacher. His thought process was deep, but his preaching was understandable to even the most simple minds.

It has been said that his hearers listened as one who was hearing a will read or hearing his sentence given by a judge.



Benajah Harvey Carroll (1843-1914) was a soldier for the Confederate army and later a general in God's army as pastor of the First Baptist Church of Waco and the founder of the Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Carroll was a genuine student of Scripture and a prolific writer. His 13 volume *Interpretation of the English Bible* is still used by Bible students today. He believed that preaching was the essence of the pastor's duty; he was an expositor in the truest sense. He believed in the authority and the inspiration of the Bible first and foremost. He criticized and chided the "Higher Criticism" teachers as being false brethren.



Billy Sunday (1862-1935) was a colorful and powerful preacher who preached to hundreds of thousands at the turn of the 20th century. He was as well known as any man in America, including the president. He had been a baseball

player before his conversion, and was known in his early ministry as "the baseball evangelist." Massive crowds and hundreds of decisions followed him to every town. His preaching against "booze" was a main reason for prohibition. He was an arch-conservative and fundamentalist. Because he was direct in his style and often uncouth, he was accused of being somewhat of a buffoon. But no one could gainsay his results! Though he used homey illustrations and backyard metaphors, his preaching was filled with the Bible.

For sermon manuscripts from these famous preachers, please visit:

<http://www.newsforchristians.com/classics.html>

These "Messengers" opened the eyes and hearts of many to the gospel of Christ. Their sermons still speak to us today and are important contributions to the body of Christ (the church).