Schola Prophetarum: Prophetic Preaching Toward a Public, Prophetic Church

David Schnasa Jacobsen
Waterloo Lutheran Seminary and Toronto School of Theology

ABSTRACT

Prophetic preaching has for much of the last century been dominated by a classically liberal, Lone Ranger view of Hebrew Bible prophecy that is both a distortion of the past and increasingly problematic in the present. In this article, the author reconsiders the social shape of Hebrew Bible prophecy and joins to it the unusual contours of New Testament prophecy and its accompanying ecclesial practice of “discernment.” These become resources for rethinking prophetic preaching theologically as an ecclesial task for a disestablished church desiring to move beyond post-liberal “resident alien” models and embracing prophetic preaching as a public form of shared ecclesial engagement for the sake of the world God so loves. In doing so, he seeks to connect with models of prophetic preaching as a shared, public task articulated most recently by scholars such as McClure, Andrews, Ottoni Wilhelm, and Ramsey.

License:

For articles: All articles published in Homiletic are the exclusive property of the Journal. All copyright rights to the article shall be owned by and be in the name of the Academy of Homiletics. The Academy of Homiletics in turn grants all authors the right to reprint their articles in any format that they choose, without the payment of royalties, subject to giving proper credit to the original publication with Homiletic. The Academy of Homiletics also permits articles to be copied for non-profit educational use provided proper credit is given to Homiletic. Authors may self-archive their articles in an institutional repository or other online location, provided proper credit is given to Homiletic.

For reviews: All reviews commissioned by Homiletic are the exclusive property of the Journal. Reviews are considered a work made-for-hire, and, as such, all copyright rights to the review shall be owned by and be in the name of the Academy of Homiletics. The Academy of Homiletics in turn grants all review authors the right to reprint their reviews in any format that they choose, without the payment of royalties, subject to giving proper credit to the original publication with Homiletic. The Academy of Homiletics also permits its reviews to be copied for non-profit educational use provided proper credit is given to the review author and the Journal. Authors may self-archive reviews in an institutional repository or other online location, provided proper credit is given to Homiletic.
Thought Be assured that the prophet-preacher will not be welcomed by all those in the church pews. He is blunt and straightforward, seeking not to please people but God. Used with Permission.

Prophetic preaching strengthens and encourages the church. The outcome of prophetic preaching, just as with all prophetic ministry, is that the church and its leadership is built up, strengthened and empowered. (1 Cor 14:3-4). Notes