Sermon Notes and Outlines II

"The Relevance of the Holy Spirit"
A very good sermon esp for preachers
For central points see DeWolf TLC, 272 F

"The Meaning of Salvation"
Salvation implies three things:
(1) It brings about a new relationship with ourselves
(2) It brings about a new relationship with God
(3) It brings about a new relationship with other persons
See DeWolf, TLC, 287 F

"The Mission of the Church"
See DeWolf, TLC, 322 F

"The Kingdom as Present and yet to Come"
Use a double text "The Kingdom of God is within you"
the kingdom will come in the future
I Definition of the Kingdom
II The Kingdom As Present
III The Kingdom not yet
See DeWolf TLC, 299 F

God Is A Spirit
Text "God is a spirit ."
The assertion has three meaning

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1 King refers to a subsection of chapter 32 in L. Harold DeWolf's book *A Theology of the Living Church* titled "Significance of Belief in the Holy Spirit." DeWolf wrote: "The doctrine of the Holy Spirit is a guarantee within the ancient Christian tradition itself of every man’s right and obligation to look beyond tradition. For there is always ‘new truth yet to break forth,’ not only through new study of the Bible, but also through other channels, from the God in whom is all truth and who speaks anew in every age" (A Theology of the Living Church, p 273). This document is dated based on the publication date of DeWolf’s 1953 book. He was King’s dissertation advisor at Boston University.

2 King refers to chapter 34, titled “The New Birth” (DeWolf, A Theology of the Living Church, pp 287–296). DeWolf examined the importance of being “born anew” from psychological, ethical, and theological perspectives. Each of these, he argued, revealed that salvation “involves change within the individual, change in his relation to God and change in his relation to other persons” (pp 287–288).

3 King developed a full sermon with this title (see King, “The Mission of the Church,” 1953–1956).

4 King refers to a section of chapter 37 titled “Purpose of the Organized Church.” DeWolf critiqued false conceptions of the church’s purpose, bemoaning those who equate it with “the whole kingdom of God,” while noting the church exists to nurture and express Christian love (DeWolf, A Theology of the Living Church, pp 322–326).

5 Cf Luke 17:21

6 King refers to chapter 35, titled “The Kingdom as Present and Growing.” DeWolf discussed a “Definition of the Kingdom,” “The Kingdom Present,” and “The Kingdom Not Yet.” He defined the Kingdom as the “reign of God” in which the “supreme uniting principle is love.” "The kingdom is, in some respects and in some human experience, already present" for God is present and active even now. He cautioned, however, that the continued presence of sin is "gmm evidence that the kingdom has not come" (DeWolf, A Theology of the Living Church, pp 299–305).

7 Cf John 4:24
"The Relevance of the Holy Spirit"
A very good sermon for preachers.
For central points see De Wolf TLC 272E.

"The Meaning of Salvation"
Salvation implies three it is:
1. It brings about a new relationship with oneself
2. It brings about a new relationship with God
3. It brings about a new relationship with other persons

See De Wolf, TLC 287E

"The Mission of the Church"
See De Wolf, TLC 322E
"The Kingdom as Present and yet to Come"

1. Use a double test: "The Kingdom of God is within you." The Kingdom will come in the future

II Definition of the Kingdom

III The Kingdom as Present

III The Kingdom not yet

See De Wolf TLC 199F

God as A Spirit

Test: "God is a spirit..."

The assertion has three meanings
1. God is above that which is material and physical
2. God is not impeded by the confines of flesh
3. Either is an eternal and material soul

See Knudsen, KTOT 111
1948–1954

1. God is above that which is material and Physical
2. God is not impeded by the weakness of flesh
3. There is an ethical and rational side to his nature
   See Knudson, RTOT, Ch IV

AD CSKC Sermon file, folder 50, Sermons Not Preached

8. In Albert Knudson’s book *The Religious Teaching of the Old Testament*, chapter 4 is titled “The Spirituality of God.” He wrote “The word ‘spirituality’ as applied to God has at least three distinct meanings. It means that God is a spirit distinguished from material or physical existence. It means that he is free from the weakness of flesh, and is a supramundane power, superior to the forces of nature. It means also that there is an inner side to his personality, a rational and ethical side, and that it is here that his essential nature is to be found” (Knudson, *The Religious Teaching of the Old Testament*, p. 93)

Wedding Prayer and Marriage Ceremony

King may have prepared the following two documents early in his career to use as a standard prayer and ceremonial text for weddings throughout his ministry. He may have used them to officiate in one of his first marriage ceremonies, the 22 August 1948 wedding of Samuel P. Long and Ruth Bussey at Thankful Baptist Church in Decatur, Georgia.

"Wedding Prayer"

O God our gracious heavenly father, who art the originator of all life, whose presence brings happiness to every condition, whose favor sweetens every relation. We beseech thy blessings upon these thy servants as they embark upon the great sea of matrimony. Grant that the ship of their marriage will be well anchored and guided by the proper compass, so that they will be able to emerge successfully into the great harbor of peace, happiness, and oneness. Give them a deep awareness of the sacredness of this venture. In an age when so many men and women would make marriage a mere perfunctory act with no divine and sacred value, when myriad Hollywood would arise to make of marriage a mere seasonable plaything which must occur at least four or five times in a lifetime, in such an age help them to realize that marriage is man’s greatest prerogative, for it is in and through it that thou hast given man the privilege to add thee in thy creative activity. Help them to see the primacy of love in this venture. Grant that they will realize that without it a marriage can be dropped into the abyss of...

1. "Bussey-Long Wedding of Wide Interest in Atlanta, Decatur," *Atlanta Daily World*, 4 September 1948