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**PAUL'S MISSIONARY PREACHING  
METHODS AND THE IMPLICATIONS FOR  
MISSION OF CHURCH IN AFRICA.**

**AN ESSAY PRESENTED TO THE FACULTY  
OF THE NIGERIAN BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL  
SEMINARY  
OGBOMOSO, NIGERIA**

**IN PARTIAL FULFILMENT OF THE  
REQUIREMENTS FOR THE AWARD OF THE  
MASTER OF DIVINITY (THEOLOGY) DEGREE.**

*BY*

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## ABSTRACT

This project is intended to find out Paul's missionary preaching methods in his missionary enterprises and is aimed to be a model for the contemporary churches in Africa today. On the other hand, it is motivated by the desire to have biblical preaching strategies that will be contextual to the lives of the people in our missions activities.

The methods employed in this work is analytical, descriptive and comparative by investigating the various circumstances of preaching opportunities opened to Paul. In addition the writer consulted a number of relevant books on missions and preaching approaches from Pastors.

The work is divided into five chapters. Chapter one deals with the challenge of preaching, motivations, significance, and methodology, scope of the study and definition of key terms. Chapter two talks on Paul's background, life, and ministry. Chapter three looks at foundations of missions. Chapter four speaks about Paul's missionary preaching methods while chapter five deals with the implications of Paul's missionary preaching methods for the church in Africa.

It is found that Paul employed various approaches to his preaching depending on the enlightenment of his audience. These includes apologetic defense of Christian beliefs; theological explanation of new life in Christ; social concerns of the church; and the meaning of the gospel to diverse people the Jews, the Gentiles and philosophers.

## CONCLUSION

Having seen the many challenges that confront Christian missions in Africa today, the churches in Africa can pattern their missions activities after Paul's missionary preaching methods to reach the millions of unreached people of Africa with goodnews of Jesus Christ.

From this study we have shown the differences in some Christian methods of preaching, some preachers adopted antagonistic approach which led to their being expelled from their mission fields whereas others adopted a persuasive and logical presentation of the gospel with consequent result of establishing churches in their areas.

The main concern of this work however is to study Paul's preaching methods which led to the establishment of churches among the Gentiles, the conversion of Jews from Judaism to Christianity and establishment of churches among the philosophically oriented Greeks.

Paul was concerned with the situations of the people to the Jews he addressed them according to the culture of the Jews, sometime making reference to their history to open up their minds to the gospel. For the Gentiles he made references to the natural phenomena, which are well known to them. Thus linking Jesus Christ to the divine power that is in operation on the universe, that is the "cosmic Christ" when Paul however, address philosophically oriented Greeks he employed some Epicurean philosophy of the

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<sup>31</sup> Enyinnaya

divine relation with the mundane creations to demonstrate Christ power over the forces of evil by his death on the cross. Thus demonstrating the reality of the cross rather than justice of the cross. He claimed that God has used the foolishness of this world to convince the wise men of this world.

*Missionary Methods: St. Paul's*  
Dutton Press, 1953

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**THE SIGNIFICANCE OF PREACHING IN CHURCH  
GROWTH: A CASE STUDY OF BAPTIST CHURCHES IN  
OGBOMOSO BAPTIST CONFERENCE**

*A THESIS  
PRESENTED TO*

THE FACULTY OF THE NIGERIAN BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY  
OGBOMOSO, OYO STATE, NIGERIA

IN PARTIAL FULFILMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR  
THE AWARD OF THE DEGREE  
MASTER OF DIVINITY IN THEOLOGY  
(M. DIV. TH.)

*BY*

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## ABSTRACT

The significance of preaching in Church Growth: A case study of Baptist Churches in Ogbomoso Baptist conference is a research work designed to know the effects of preaching in relation to church Growth having observed that many of the preachers of the word of God takes preaching for fun, or as a normal routine that involves reading of Bible passage(s) and find something to say to the congregation or as an avenue to lambaste certain people in the congregation without taking the entire needs of the congregation into consideration, and that many Church Growth experts placed little or no value to preaching as a factor to Church Growth.

Hence, chapter One, is an introduction to the work that revealed the problem of the paper, i.e. to find out the effects of preaching in Church Growth, it's thesis statement that effective preaching is determining factor to Church Growth, method to be used in carrying out the research and the limitation of the study including the clarification key terms.

Chapter Two shows the ideal effects of preaching in Church Growth obtained from literatures that preaching that is biblical; fully prepared for; relevant to meet the audience needs; and well delivered under the guidance of the Holy Spirit is a factor to Church Growth.

Chapter Three, presents the results of the field research that biblical, illustrative, instructive, interesting, warm, logical and positive preaching is one of the most attracting factor causing the members to first attend their respective Churches and that it is the most influencing factor responsible for their continual coming to the church based on it's aforementioned points.

Chapter Four, presents the analysis of the result where it was found that though there is a room for improvement on it but the effect that preaching has in Church Growth is a positive one.

Chapter Five concludes the work with some recommendations that if they were taking into consideration by the preachers of the word would make preaching to be a determining factor to Church Growth.

Above all, its synopsis is that effective preaching is a decisive factor to Church Growth.

