

He didn't know anything about today. What he spoke of is true but many many times more true today. Today the attention span is considered by TV to be just a few seconds. You rarely find a man who speaks on TV. He talks two minutes or half a minute and someone else speaks for a minute and they go back and forth. We're all to this jazzy sort of system. We've got TV, radio, everything to keep us pepped up and interested. The minister has to recognize it and how to meet this challenge and how to get his preaching in such a way that he can hold attention.

If you have two people speaking in a certain circumstances it tremendously increases the interest in the whole. Just how to work that into a service I don't know but I think that what you do that works a little bit in this direction can be helpful, in increasing interest and making it easier for people to follow. We have to think not of ways to change our message but of ways of making it hold people's attention. Making it (interesting) when there is so much distraction.

One hundred years ago they would work in the fields all day all week and on Sunday they would go to church and hear a two hour sermon and it was a tremendous pleasure to hear because it was a change. Today people don't go to church for a change or for entertainment and we've got to overcome it.

I used to hear it said, It takes a week or two to get the people revived in a church and get them to where they are ready to go out and reach the lost. Then we can have real evangelistic work. I remember when Billy Sunday had his campaign in Los Angeles for 6 to 8 weeks with the big tabernacle filled every day. Of course he was very interesting to listen to. He was full of life and of tremendous enthusiasm. He had good stuff too. Some people thought of him as sort of a funny fellow. Well, he had a brain. He really did, and he gave first class material. He gave it in a way that held people's attention.

Today you have so much to compete with. God didn't call us to sit back and wait for people to come to us. for the message of life. He called us to go into the highways and byways. He calls us to preach. And we have new tough problems in doing this. The challenge the preacher has-- that is the new challenge today. That is the challenge of presenting God's word in such a way that it will be understood.

If you have a church of any size, you are quite sure to have some people in your church who will think that if the KJV was good enough for St. Paul it surely ought to be good enough for us! I love the KJV. I used it constantly. Even after NIV came out, I practically always used the KJV. I helped in the NIV. But then I began reading NIV more. It is not a perfect translation. Neither is KJV. There are errors in both of them. There are weaknesses. But NIV comes nearer to getting something that is nearer to the beauty of KJV. It's not as beautiful as KJV, because the English language was much more beautiful 300 years ago than it is now. But it has something of that, and it has an accuracy that is very good. As I read it I am amazed at the things that I read simply