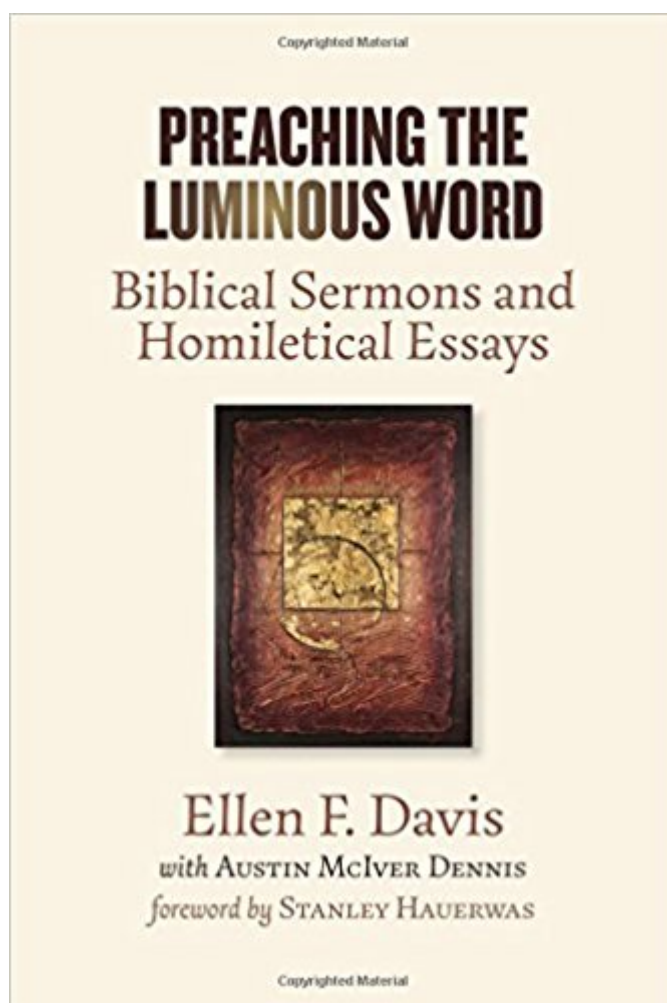


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Preaching The Luminous Word: Biblical Sermons And Homiletical Essays



Synopsis

Insights from one of the most distinctive and eloquent scholar-preachers of our time. Inviting serious theological engagement with texts from all parts of the Christian Bible, *Preaching the Luminous Word* is a collection of fifty-one sermons and five related essays from noted preacher and biblical scholar Ellen F. Davis. A brief preface to each sermon delineates its liturgical context and theological themes as well as distinctive elements of structure and style. Arranged in canonical order, the sermons treat a wide range of texts: Torah, Prophets, Writings, Gospels, Epistles, and Revelation. They are complemented by essays on various aspects of biblical interpretation for preaching. At once accessible, theologically informed, and rhetorically rich, this volume will engage preachers, teachers, seminarians, church leaders, and serious lay readers.

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Customer Reviews

Krista Tippett "executive producer and host of *On Being*" "Ellen Davis is the rare academic "a brilliant academic "who takes seriously the art, craft, and calling of preaching. I am grateful that this book is in the world, in a moment in which the world so urgently needs the discerning, luminous word." Fleming Rutledge "author of *The Crucifixion: Understanding the Death of Jesus Christ*" "Davis's biblical interpretations have been widely admired for decades, but this volume exceeds even those that have gone before in its usefulness for preachers. If preachers pay attention to these essays, they will be shaken to the foundations, but when their foundation is the true Word of the living God, they "and their congregations" will be renewed from the Source. This

book deserves the much-overused word 'prophetic'; and should be close at hand on every preacher's shelf." Samuel Wells is "coauthor of *Eucharistic Prayers and Shaping the Prayers of the People*" Ellen Davis's preaching has a fierce intimacy, a deft poetry, a profound playfulness, and a rigorous passion. Just like the Bible. And just like God."

Ellen F. Davis is the Amos Ragan Kearns Distinguished Professor of Bible and Practical Theology at Duke Divinity School, Durham, North Carolina. Her previous books include *Wondrous Depth: Preaching the Old Testament* and (with Richard B. Hays) *The Art of Reading Scripture*. Austin McIver Dennis is senior pastor of First Baptist Church of Asheville, North Carolina. He has extensive prior ministry experience and recently earned a ThD degree in homiletics and reconciliation from Duke Divinity School.

I am savoring this book. Each time I dip into it, I learn something I can use in preparing a sermon, and I've been at it since seminary 40+ years ago. More importantly, each sermon is a joy to read, opening up new ways of looking at the texts that inform one's life, not just one's preaching. One caveat: don't begin reading the essays in this volume when you are in the midst of preparing a sermon because you may find you want to start over! As a disclaimer, I was sent a review copy, but when I came to the page on to order a copy for a friend and saw no one had yet reviewed it I realized a word here was definitely called for. I'm still working on the longer review, no less enthusiastic, just more detailed..

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