

Eunjoo Mary Kim, *Preaching in an Age of Globalization*, Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox, 2010. 168 pages. \$25.

Preaching in today's context is becoming more complicated. There are so many diverse factors among people and in the world that can influence preaching. With these complexities and challenges in mind, Eunjoo Mary Kim aptly addresses this broad context in *Preaching in an Age of Globalization*. Dr. Kim is Professor of Homiletics at Iliff School of Theology in Denver.

The author proposes "transcontextual preaching" which is "thoroughly contextual by transcending the local context in an effort to embrace the larger world as the context for preaching" (xii). She develops this preaching paradigm by critically reviewing current approaches to contextual preaching (chapter 1); describing the context for preaching (chapter 2); providing a theological foundation, particularly interacting with theologian Paul Lehmann (chapter 3); developing a hermeneutical strategy to read the text and context from the perspective of Others (chapter 4); and supplying various strategies for transcontextual preaching (chapter 5). Eunjoo's four sermons at the end of the book are examples of this form of preaching.

Kim develops her content well with logical progression and well-documented material. Her endnotes demonstrate a grasp of relevant literature and she interacts with material from fields such as the social sciences, philosophy, theology and homiletics.

The intended audience for this book is preachers whether they are in local churches, teaching preaching or studying preaching (xv). In this she does address her target audience in providing instruction and rationale to introduce and substantiate transcontextual preaching.

The author's four sermons at the end of the book are some of the most beneficial features of the book. They help to flesh out the theory in the book. The sermons have the occasion and some commentary by the preacher. They are also commented on at various parts of the book for illustrative purposes. I like how Prof. Kim draws from her own experiences as a first generation immigrant and reflects on her time in Korea and in the United States.

While the sermons do demonstrate the methodology, this reviewer was longing for more practical ideas for transcontextual preaching after finishing the book. Some valuable suggestions appear in the text such as having a pre-sermon group and expanding our understanding of others in the congregation. I was left with questions such as how does the congregation's perception of the preacher affect the preaching and how to analyze the specific context for preaching.

The metaphor of the kaleidoscope is a helpful aesthetically pleasant image. The image represents the "diversity of the listeners but also the dynamic interaction of different experiences among them toward their new shared identity" (106-7). However, metaphors do have their limitations. While the pieces shift and there is a new view each time one peers into the kaleidoscope, there is no change in the individual pieces themselves. We see that there are personal dynamic changes and changes such as those brought about by physical aging of the church members. Still this is a worthwhile metaphor and does grasp many of the dimensions of the variegated church in its context. I will look for a kaleidoscope to purchase as a visual aid for classroom use.

This book is a welcome addition to homiletics. It is an excellent contribution to preaching in context. It is recommended for preachers who need to expand their horizons to see the broader context. It is also recommended for preaching classrooms to assist students to see beyond the usual dimensions of preaching.

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