

INTRODUCTION. Mark 4:24; Luke 8:18. Feb 4:2

1. It is possible that a sermon may be far under par to begin with. Some reasons for this:
 1. The preacher may not have had time for study.
 2. Maybe he just didn't study...too lazy.
 3. Some one may have made a belittling statement of one kind or another ~~just~~ before the service, and to the preacher.
2. Brother Matthews who ^{will} preach (ten sermons in all) very likely will preach some sermons that will have greater appeal to me than some others he will preach.
 1. Just because a certain sermon made no special appeal to me does not necessarily mean that it was not a good sermon. HOW MANY SERMONS BE RUINED?:

SERMONS MAY BE RUINED AS FOLLOWS:

1. Many sermons are ruined for an individual listener before he ever reaches the building.
 1. He may attend with the wrong attitude.
 2. An attitude devoid of worship and a desire to learn will ruin any sermon.
 3. "I didn't get anything out of the sermon." Maybe you didn't bring anything to get it in, or it may be that your bucket was half filled with something else by the time you got there.
2. Sermons are ruined by a noisy audience.
 1. Quietness should reign before the sermon begins.
 2. A noisy, restless, sleepy audience will ruin sermons
 3. Talking among members.
3. Often sermons are ruined when the invitation extended
 1. The preacher begins his exhortation...Members all jump for song books...drag them across the book rack making an awful noise...the rustling of page
 2. It is time for some to make their exit from the building...THE SERMON IS RUINED.
4. Sermons are sometime ruined by the lives of some members of the church.
 1. When lives belittle the preaching of the gospel the sermon is ruined. The gospel must be lived.

4. Sermons are sometime ruined by the lives of some of the members, CONTINUED:
 1. Some members are always looking for peace, GREENER PASTURES, somewhere else but they never find it.
 2. BECAUSE: They are forced to take themselves along.

 5. Some sermons are ruined by the songs that are led. Songs that at some more appropriate time are really wonderful songs.
 1. By singing a song that audience does not know.
 2. Song to high too low...to slow to fast.
 3. An invitation may be ruined by slowness in the leader starting. He may be, could be two or three seats back, takes his own time to walk up into the pulpit, slow turned around, makes an effort at pitch and finally starts the song.
 4. READY TO SUFFER, may be led just ahead of the sermon.
- THE FIGHT IS ON ETC.