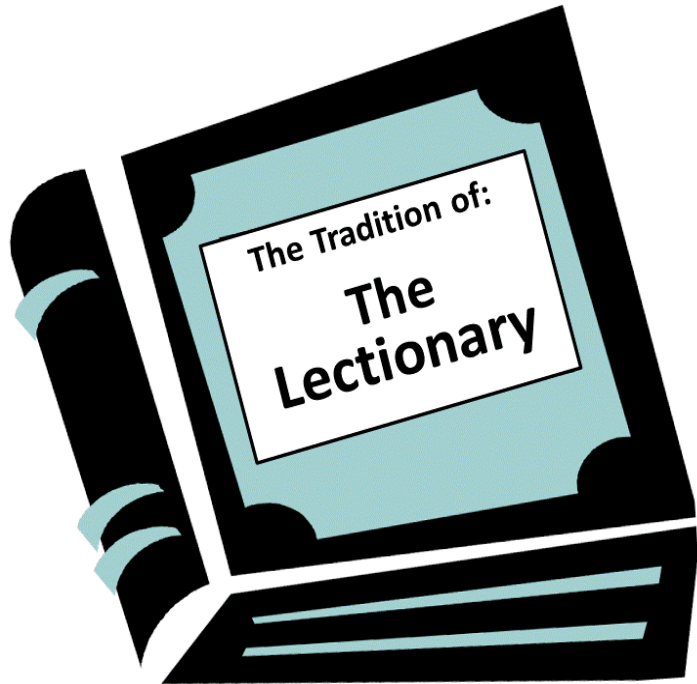


CLERGY SECRETS of the Lectionary



**“Tradition”
that leaves
92.28% of the
Bible largely
ignored.**

**See “The 7.72% Sermon
Bamboozle” on Page 12.**

The three-year lectionary has helped church officials to seek adulation, praise, and power by the easiest means available, which includes easily reusing many sermons and conducting rote repetitive services – even though some 92.28% of the Bible’s verses remain largely ignored.

You will likely never see church services in the same way again!

**Learn more from insights into
this accounting of the lectionary.**

The Inside Cover

**This publication, CLERGY SECRETS of the Lectionary,
is associated with the book
Clergy Secrets – They Don't Want You To Know,
particularly the “Ministry” Segment 1 part of the book.**

November 16, 2017

**Also visit
www.ClergySecrets.com**

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Warren Vitcenda

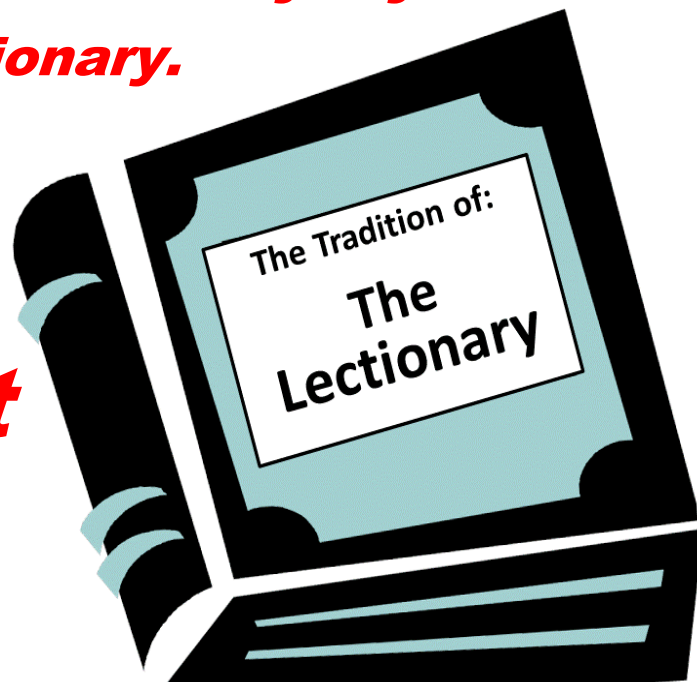
The Wicked Side of the Lectionary

Behold the bureaucratic way to most easily:

- (1) Repeat the same sermons over and over again,**
- (2) Conduct services from rote memory, and**
- (3) Avoid the study of scriptures that would challenge the “Establishment” to not seek adulation, praise, and power by the easiest means available in religion and government.**

***“Religious authority” has bolstered
“Establishment authority” by
using the lectionary.***

***Find out
more!***



“Ministry” Segment 1



Corrupt government is overlooked in the study of the Biblical Story... as if it were a loophole for coveting and stealing that "religion" protects. Lectionary use is a key strategy!

When did God command that religion not actively keep government honest about coveting & stealing? Hmmm?

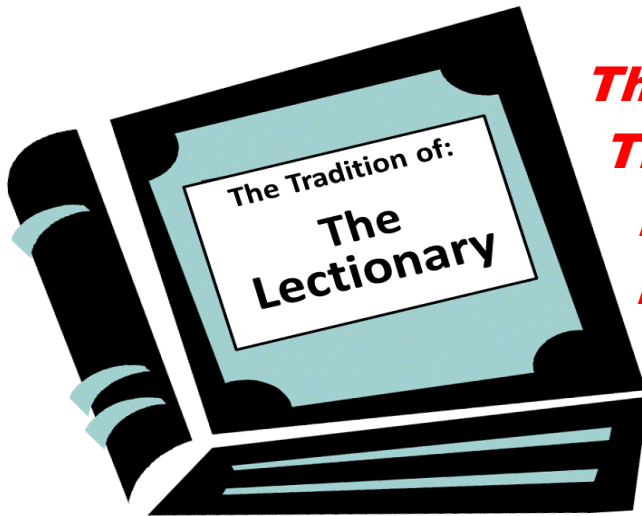
“Religious officials” won’t typically tell you about the maliciously wicked side of the three-year lectionary like CLERGY SECRETS does!

Caution:

Reading this could make your church officials ***nervous!***

- 1) Knowledge awakens your own authoritative abilities and choices!
- 2) Be known as someone who sees “behind the curtain” at church!
- 3) Begin maximizing your potential! More effectively use the Bible’s knowledge and wisdom to live your life better.

Honesty about church can only improve it!



***Think Again About “Ministry”
That Slyly Seeks Adulation,
Praise, and Power by the
Easiest Means Available!***

The three-year lectionary omits huge amounts of the Bible and dishonestly presents “ministry” as being “officially complicated.”

The three-year lectionary has helped church officials to seek adulation, praise, and power by the easiest means available, which includes easily reusing many sermons and conducting rote repetitive services – even though some 92.28% of the Bible’s verses remain largely ignored.

Know Where Sermons Often Easily Come From!

- 1. DesperatePreacher.com**
- 2. Lectionary.org**
- 3. SermonMall.com**
- 4. Previous ministry**
- 5. Numerous journal sources that are available both online and in print.**

Read & Get Grounded!

Only rare clergy have been honest with churchgoers about lectionary practices!



Visit ClergySecrets.com for the articles' links.

These articles, in particular, inspired the writing of CLERGY SECRETS.

1.) “Limitations of the Lectionary”

By Dr. Walter Sundberg (ELCA - Lutheran)

“Limitations of the Lectionary” is most recommended as it details rather imprudent patterns that are inherent in modern church practices. Almost all church officials have preferred not to publicize this information.

2.) “Questions about the Lectionary”

By Dr. James C. Goodloe IV (PCUSA-Presbyterian)

3.) “A Canon Within a Canon?”

By Pastor David Flavell (United Kingdom – Methodist)

4.) “Old Testament-Statistics-Compared” & “New Testament-Statistics-Compared”

By Dr. Felix Just (Roman Catholic)

5.) “Trends Among Lutheran Preachers”

By Dr. David Luecke (LCMS - Lutheran)

While “Trends Among Lutheran Preachers” investigates Lutheran denominations, the information is mirrored in other mainline “traditional” denominations as well.

This information could educate you & your congregation - or it could provide you with good reason to go elsewhere for inspiration!

Lectionary Introduction

Is it really possible that most traditional mainline Christian denominations, both Protestant and Roman Catholic, are programmed to regularly ignore over 90% of the Old Testament and almost 50% of the New Testament? Shocking/Surprising? YES it is!

There is more to the Bible and less to “ministry” than what “religious officials” usually reveal.

Many questions are now answered!

Have you ever wondered?

- 1. Why many people have not learned much about the Bible even though they have regularly attended church?**
- 2. Why sermons are often short in traditional Mainline Christian denominations?**
- 3. How clergy use “tradition” to control and to avoid controversy?**

It is due to traditional denominations (Protestant and Roman Catholic) being programmed to ignore much of the Bible for worship and preaching!! Church members are hardly ever taught about how scriptures are assigned for their worship services. Many clergy will not question their denominational “traditions” and bureaucracy. Biblical illiteracy, complacency, and wasted values are the results.

“Ministry” Segment 1

General Overview of the Lectionary:

CCT Membership Based in Nashville, TN

How is over 90% of the Old Testament and almost 50% of the New Testament in the Bible systematically and regularly ignored? It is because of something that is generically called a “lectionary,” or more specifically, The Revised Common Lectionary (RCL) and the related Roman Catholic Lectionary. The RCL is the main focus of Clergy Secrets. The lectionary is the set of assigned readings from the Bible which are read during worship services in most traditional churches. It repeats every 3 years. The lectionary is often found in hymnals and followed by denominational publications. The denominations which use either the Revised Common Lectionary (RCL) and/or the closely related Roman Catholic Lectionary (from which the Revised Common Lectionary is derived) include the Roman Catholic Church and Protestant churches that emerged from the Reformation period in the 16th century. (See Wikipedia for more information.)

The denominations listed below belong to the Consultation on Common Texts (CCT) organization, which is based in Nashville, TN. The CCT promotes the use of the two main lectionaries, the Revised Common Lectionary (RCL) and the closely related Roman Catholic Lectionary by way of association with the National Conference of Catholic Bishops. The CCT’s website is www.CommonTexts.org. The main CCT membership includes these organizations in alphabetical order:

- | | |
|---|--|
| *Anglican Church in Canada | *Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod |
| *Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops | *Mennonite Church |
| *Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) | *National Conference of Catholic Bishops of the United States (i.e. The Roman Catholic Church) |
| *Christian Reformed Church in North America | *Polish National Catholic Church |
| *Church of the Brethren | *Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) |
| *Episcopal Church | *Presbyterian Church in Canada |
| *Evangelical Lutheran Church in America | *Reformed Church in America |
| *Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada | *Unitarian Universalist Christian Fellowship |
| *Free Methodist Church in Canada | *United Church of Canada |
| *International Commission on English in the Liturgy | *United Church of Christ |
| *Liturgy and Life: American Baptist Fellowship for Liturgical Renewal | *United Methodist Church |
| | *Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod |

These organizations differ widely concerning many theological “whos,” “whats,” “hows,” “whens,” “wheres,” and “whys.” They also vary greatly in their political aspects. The CCT membership has however colluded to use only the scriptures that are assigned by the lectionary for use in services and for sermons. Since many things separate these church organizations, something must be bringing them together. That “something” is the repeating pattern the lectionary which provides opportunity to simply repeat and rerun both past services and sermons with ease. This provides church officials with repeating adulation, praise, and power by the easiest means available. The CCT remains the single agency most responsible for the limited view that many Christians have of the Bible.

Lectionary History Overview

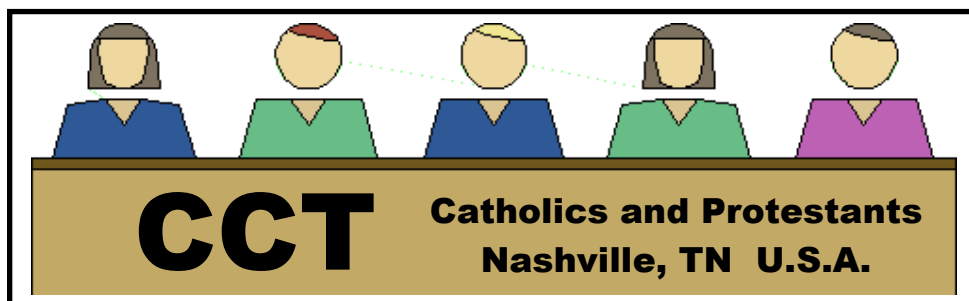
Long before Jesus was born, ancient Hebrew/Jewish religious authorities created pre-assigned scripture schedules for worship and preaching from the Old Testament. Jesus likely read from one of these pre-assigned scripture readings when he read from Isaiah 61:1-2 during a service, as recorded in Luke 4:16-21. Jesus claimed his Divinity in the service by saying, “Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your presence.”

Pre-assigned scripture readings are also traceable back to parts of the early Christian Church. Not all of the Christian Church used lectionaries, but most parts did, including those parts that ultimately formed the Roman Catholic Church.

Both Hebrew (Jewish) and Christian lectionaries hop and skip through the Torah/Bible and include verses which are generally favored by “the bureaucracy” that created each lectionary version. Verses which promote particular theological positions and/or just seem easiest and safest (and have ready-made sermons available) are definitely the most frequent in lectionaries.

Prior to the 1960s, many Protestant denominations simply borrowed the Roman Catholic Lectionary, making small changes to suit their own circumstances. Following the changes that took place in the Roman Catholic Church after the Second Vatican Council (Vatican II) in the early 1960s, many Mainline Protestant denominations began to have a greater interest in the newly approved Roman Catholic Lectionary from Vatican II. Soon after Vatican II, a multi-denominational organization was formed in the late-1960s and called the Consultation on Common Texts (CCT). It was and is based in Nashville, TN. The goal of the CCT was to create an official new lectionary based on the Roman Catholic Lectionary for use in the Protestant Denominations in order to coordinate similar scripture usage. For the most part, the resulting Revised Common Lectionary (RCL) was very similar to the original Roman Catholic version that emerged from the Second Vatican Council (Vatican II) in the early 1960s. The influence of the CCT has since spread throughout most mainline denominations around the world.

The Revised Common Lectionary (RCL) and the Roman Catholic Lectionary can together be generically called “the lectionary.” They are very similar. Both operate on a near identical 3 year repeating cycle, using almost the same scripture readings. The lectionary also goes by the Latin based name “Ordo Lectionum Missae.” Many Protestants would be surprised to know that most of their worship scripture has been selected essentially by the Roman Catholic Church, with only very modest changes made by their own Protestant denominations which reflect their own special events.



The CCT is an influential cartel-like organization of traditional denominations that is based in Nashville, TN.

“Ministry” Segment 1

**Lectionary use is “highly encouraged”
by peer pressure in the traditional
denominations that are members of
the CCT. www.CommonTexts.org**



**The lectionary
must be followed!

It's Church
Tradition!!**

**Most people are too intimidated or mesmerized by “church”
to investigate how it operates *“behind the curtain.”***

***Most clergy officials have avoided explaining
the lectionary and the huge amounts of
scripture that it has systematically avoided.***

**Memorized
services
are easy to
repeat over
and over!**

CHURCH

**Old sermons
are easy to
quickly copy,
practice, and
reuse as well!**

THE LECTIONARY’S PERCENTAGES REVEALED!

SPECIAL NOTE: When comparing the lectionary to the Bible, one needs to understand that there are varying differences in accounting for both the number of verses per book and the total number of verses for the Bible. The reasons for this are several, with the most notable being how the titles and introductions of the many psalms are treated. Dr. Felix Just discussed the differences in his article Old Testament Statistics Compared at <http://catholic-resources.org/Bible/OT-Statistics-Compared.htm>. Dr. Just also discussed the New Testament at <http://catholic-resources.org/Bible/NT-Statistics-Greek.htm>. Omitted Bible Verses is also found on Wikipedia at www.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_omitted_Bible_verses. The following analysis reflects an overall count of 31173 verses in the Bible, which is just one of numerous acceptable counts. (Revised Common Lectionary accounting; U.S. Copyright TX 6-579-559)

The Old Testament compared to the Bible and to the Revised Common Lectionary.

The Whole Bible

There are 31173 verses in the Bible.

**(Try internet searching “31173 Bible Verses” for various reference sources.)

The Old Testament (This is exclusive of Psalms; see the note lower on this page.)

There are 20684 verses in the OT.

Old Testament Verses Assigned by the Revised Common Lectionary

1991 Only 1991 OT verses are used by the RCL Lectionary.

(Full credit given for partial verse use.)

The Revised Common Lectionary (RCL) assigns only 1991 verses from the OT for reading in worship services, exclusive of Psalms. This means that 90.4% of the Old Testament’s verses are systematically ignored for worship readings. (1991/20684 or only 9.6% used.)

****Special Note About Psalms:** The OT has 20684 verses, exclusive of Psalms. The Psalms have about 2530 total verses (depending on how psalm introductions are counted), and are read separately from the rest of the Old Testament in most mainline denominational worship services. The Revised Common Lectionary (RCL) uses only 1301 of the 2530 verses in Psalms, meaning that 48.6% of Psalms’ verses are systematically not used in denominational worship. (1301/2530 or 51.4% are used.)

Continued on the next page.

THE NUMBERS: The accounting on pages 9, 10, and 11 was painstakingly completed by counting the verses assigned for worship services by the lectionary. Completed by Warren Vitcenda

The New Testament compared to the Bible and the Revised Common Lectionary.

(Revised Common Lectionary accounting; U.S. Copyright TX 6-579-559)

The Whole Bible

There are 31173 verses in the Bible.

The New Testament

7959

The New Testament has 7959 verses.

3778

The 4 Gospels have 3778 verses.

4181

Acts through Revelation have 4181 verses.

(3778 verses + 4181 = 7959)

New Testament Verses Assigned by the Lectionary

3991

Of the 7959 verses in the NT, only 3991 NT verses are assigned by the Revised Common Lectionary (2407 from the Gospels and 1584 from Acts through Revelation). (Credit given for partial verses.)

- **This means that 49.9% of the NT's verses are systematically not used for worship (and even less for sermons).**
- **3991/7959 or 50.1% are assigned by the lectionary for reading in worship services; 3968/7959 or 49.9% are not used and are largely ignored.**

Continued on the next page.

Continued from the previous page.

Verse Accounting: i.e. The number of verses from each book that are part of the lectionary.

*** Note how little is included in the lectionary.**

(Revised Common Lectionary accounting; U.S. Copyright TX 6-579-559)

Genesis	336/1533	Ezra	0/280	Hosea	34/197
Exodus	181/1213	Nehemiah	8/406	Joel	25/73
Leviticus	12/859	Ester	11/167	Amos	47/146
Numbers	29/1288	Job	84/1070	Obadiah	0/21
Deuteronomy	79/959	Psalms	1301/2530	Jonah	17/48
Joshua	30/658	Proverbs	61/915	Micah	20/105
Judges	7/618	Ecclesiastes	23/222	Nahum	0/47
Ruth	28/85	Song-of-		Habakkuk	8/56
1 Samuel	131/810	Solomon	6/117	Zephaniah	15/53
2 Samuel	95/695	Isaiah	301/1292	Haggai	10/38
1 Kings	117/816	Jeremiah	135/1364	Zechariah	4/211
2 Kings	32/719	Lamentations	30/154	Malachi	6/55
1 Chronicles	0/942	Ezekiel	55/1273		
2 Chronicles	0/822	Daniel	14/357		
Matthew	654/1071	Ephesians	110/155	Hebrews	127/303
Mark	451/678	Philippians	58/104	James	63/108
Luke	694/1151	Colossians	59/95	1 Peter	57/105
John	608/879	1 Thess.	54/89	2 Peter	14/61
Acts	221/1007	2 Thess.	24/47	1 John	54/105
Romans	204/433	1 Timothy	27/113	2 John	0/13
1 Corinthians	219/437	2 Timothy	37/83	3 John	0/15
2 Corinthians	112/257	Titus	8/46	Jude	0/25
Galatians	72/149	Philemon	21/25	Revelation	43/404

*Many sources post the number of verses in the New Testament at 7959. The author of Clergy Secrets was able to account for 7958 of them. It is therefore assumed that the New Testament's title is the one missing verse, that being the title "The New Testament of the Lord Jesus Christ."

Many of the Bible's books are either almost or entirely ignored by the Revised Common Lectionary.

(And also ignored by the closely related Roman Catholic Lectionary.)

20 Old Testament books have 25 or fewer of their verses in the RCL.

12 Old Testament books have 10 or fewer of their verses in the RCL.

5 Old Testament books have ZERO verses in the RCL.

10 of the New Testament's 27 books have 50 or fewer verses in the RCL.

7 of the New Testament's 27 books have 25 or fewer verses in the RCL.

3 of the New Testament's 27 books have ZERO verses in the RCL.

THE 7.72%**SERMON BAMBOOZLE:**

Mainline clergy preach sermons that are almost exclusively from the Gospel verses that are lectionary assigned. This means that only 7.72% of the Bible’s verses are systematically preached in sermons over the lectionary’s 3 year cycle. Having control of the “lectionary” has been how religious officials have exceedingly cheated people as a matter of course!

Matthew has... 654 verses in the lectionary.

Mark has 451 verses in the lectionary.

Luke has 694 verses in the lectionary.

John has..... 608 verses in the lectionary.

Total = 2407 Gospel verses assigned in the lectionary.

2407 Gospel verses/31173 Bible Verses = 7.72%

Only 7.72% of the Bible’s verses are “traditionally” and conveniently used for sermons, over and over and over. About 92.28% of the Bible’s verses are largely ignored for sermons.

Church “authorities” have long preferred that people not realize this!

Church councils need to exercise more control!

There is just enough "variety" in the lectionary's scripture assignments over its 3 year cycle to keep "the sheep" confused, overwhelmed, and not sufficiently expert to recognize that they are habitually getting repeated services and sermon leftovers from previous ministry.

Laziness in ministry is protected!

Omitted Gospel Verses

These and many other verses are very unlikely to be preached about in traditional mainline denominational churches because they are not included in the lectionary’s assignments:

From Matthew:

Matt. 13:34-35 The use of Parables; counterparts in Mark 4:10-12 and Luke 8: 9-10 are also omitted.

Matt. 23:13-39 Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites!

Matt. 24:45-51 Faithful and Unfaithful Slave; counterpart in Luke 12:41-48 is also omitted.

From Mark:

All 3 of the following stories from Mark 8: 11-26 are omitted:

1. Demand for a sign; counterpart from Matt. 16:1-4 is also omitted.
2. The Yeast and the Pharisees and of Herod; counterpart from Matt. 16:5-12 is also omitted.
3. Jesus cures the blind man who saw people who looked like trees walking.

Mark 11: 20-25 Jesus curses fig tree and the lesson; counterpart from Matt. 21:18-19; 20-22 is also omitted.

From Luke:

Luke 16:14-18 Pharisees were lovers of selves and money.

Luke 17:20-37 Kingdom Of GOD is among you; cataclysmic event [Noah].

Luke 19:41-44 Jesus weeps over Jerusalem and promises destruction.

From John:

John 7:1-36 Unbelief of Jesus’ brothers; Jesus reconsiders and goes to Jerusalem.

John 8:1-30 Woman caught in adultery, light of the world, Jesus foretells his death.

John 8:37-38 Jesus not welcomed.

John 10: 19-21 Unbelief is challenged.

John 16:1-3 They will put you out of the synagogues.

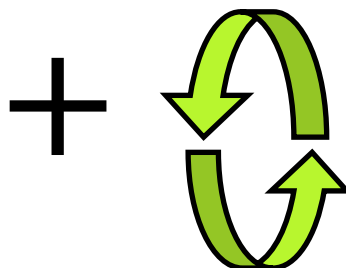
This is a small example of Gospel verses that are essentially ignored in worship and preaching by denominations that have used the Revised Common Lectionary and/or the Roman Catholic Lectionary from Vatican II.

Major Concerns for Worship & Preaching:

Because most clergy follow the lectionary as “tradition” (and as part of their assigned liturgical format), clergy therefore almost always preach sermons that come from only the assigned readings of the 4 Gospels. The other scriptures that are read for worship services are mostly only read and rarely, if ever, preached about. The Old Testament reading, the Psalm reading, and the Epistle reading are almost always left hanging with **NO PREACHING OR TEACHING** about them after they are read during a worship service. **This is a major reason why many people find worship services to be confusing and/or boring.** The same scriptures are also “recycled” every 3 years (along with many sermons...). Both the Revised Common Lectionary (RCL) and the closely related Roman Catholic Lectionary operate on a schedule of years A, B, and C. When year C is done, year A is started again with the same readings. Much of the Bible is systematically ignored in congregations, for decades and even centuries. The lectionary has hidden much of the Bible from view.



**Recycled Lectionary
Services & Sermons**



=



Many pastors use sermons that are available from internet sources.

An example is at <http://www.DesperatePreacher.Com>.

DeperatePreacher.com buys sermons (paying \$35 each) and makes them available to its subscribers.

Other websites are Lectionary.Org and SermonMall.com.

Search the internet for others with the words “sermons,” “preaching,” and “lectionary.” Denominational names are also helpful.

**Church Councils Should
Pick Verses for Sermons
& Preaching!**

And be creative! Also, authorize the sources (internet, journals, etc.) that preachers can get old sermons from!

A RECOMMENDED READ

**Did Jesus make a loophole for
dishonest government in saying
"Render unto Caesar?"**

NO!! A great article about that is below.

**Rendering unto Caesar:
Was Jesus a socialist?
by Lawrence W. Reed**

www.fee.org/resources/rendering-unto-caesar-was-jesus-a-socialist/

**This publication, CLERGY SECRETS of the Lectionary,
is associated with the book
Clergy Secrets – They Don't Want You To know,
particularly the “Ministry’ Segment 1” part of the book.**

November 16, 2017

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Warren Vitcenda

**Does your religion let government
covet & steal? What are you
doing about it? Hmmm?**

CLERGY SECRETS

of the Lectionary