

Modern Evangelism (Neo-Finneyism)

1. The view of the salvation process is determined by the needs of man.
2. Salvation emphasizes what man can receive from God
3. The theme of salvation is the reception of eternal life
4. Man is the subject of salvation
5. There are varying degrees of man's ability to choose God
6. The Holy Spirit's role is to persuade
7. The preacher's role is to preach for decisions – to battle the hearer's will
8. The gospel is the offer of the possibility of salvation
9. The gospel emphasis is to meet the needs of man
10. The central issue of the gospel is the offer of eternal life
11. Man is the reason Christ died
12. Man has the power to accept the gospel
13. Evangelists fix the time for decision
14. Man can choose God at any time
15. Assurance is a ministry assigned to man
16. Assurance is pronounced by man
17. The focus of assurance is scriptural promises

Puritan Evangelism (Biblical)

1. The view of the salvation process is determined by God
2. Salvation emphasizes what God chose to accomplish for man
3. The theme of salvation is the glory of God
4. God is the subject of salvation
5. Man is totally unable to choose God
6. The Holy Spirit's job is to apply
7. The preacher's role is to preach to the conscience – to reveal truth
8. The gospel is the offer of the Savior
9. The gospel emphasis is to take people into the presence of God
10. The central issue of the gospel is the offer of reconciliation, of which eternal life is a consequence
11. God is the reason Christ died
12. Man must be prepared by God to accept the gospel
13. God determines the time for response
14. God causes man to choose at His time
15. Assurance is a ministry assigned to the Holy Spirit
16. Assurance is affirmed by God and His Word
17. The basis of assurance is scriptural promises, the inner work of the Holy Spirit, and the character and conduct of the convert (increased righteousness)

18. There is a relationship between faith and assurance
19. The gospel secures justification
20. The gospel is something one gets
21. The gospel is simple
22. The gospel is about man, from God, and for man
23. The gospel deals with man's legal problem – sin
24. Christ is the Savior from what one has done
25. The offices and benefits of Christ are often separated

18. There is a relationship between, assurance, faith, and obedience
19. The gospel secures justification and sanctification
20. The gospel is something God chooses to do
21. The gospel is simple, but not shallow
22. The gospel is about man, from God, and for God
23. The gospel deals with man's legal problem – sin – and man's moral problem – the heart
24. Christ is the Savior from what one has done as well as what one is
25. The offices of Christ are always combined

This is a summary from Dr. Bruce Bickel's book,
"Light and Heat: The Puritan View of the Pulpit and The Focus of the Gospel in Puritan Preaching."

This book can be obtained by going to the publisher's web site, www.northamptonpress.org and scrolling down the page until you see the book cover, title and author.