

## Finding Sermons on Biblical Passages

Although there are many sermons in the Andover-Harvard Theological Library collection, tracking down sermons can be challenging. In the HOLLIS catalog, many sermons are cataloged under broad subject headings, such as Sermons—American; as a result, it may be more difficult to locate sermons by topic, whether one is trying to locate sermons on a Biblical passage, sermons of a historical period, sermons on a theme, or sermons by denominational affiliation.

### Some ways to locate sermons on Biblical passages:

#### 1. Look in collections such as:

- *20 centuries of great preaching: an encyclopedia of preaching.*  
Andover-Harv. Theol: Ref. BV4241.F34  
Use the Index of Scriptures on page 214 in the last volume of the series to find sermons on a passage.
- *Ante-Nicene fathers.*  
Andover-Harv. Theol: Ref. BR60.A5 1994 and Andover-Harv. Theol: BR60.A5 1994  
Volume 10 includes an Index of Texts (i.e. scriptural passages) for all of the volumes. Use this index to locate texts on your passage. Only some of the texts located will be sermons.  
Also available online at: <http://www.ccel.org/fathers2/> Among the formats offered, choose Read Online to obtain full text including table of contents and index.
- *Nicene and post-Nicene fathers. Second series.*  
Andover-Harv. Theol: Ref. BR60.A52 1994 Andover-Harv. Theol: BR60.A52 1994  
Each volume has an Index of Texts (i.e. scriptural passages); there is no index that covers all of the volumes in the series. Tables of contents can also be useful in locating sermons.  
Also available online at: <http://www.ccel.org/fathers2/> Among the formats offered, choose Read Online to obtain full text including table of contents and index.
- *The Sunday Sermons of the Great Fathers.*  
Andover-Harv. Theol: BS2555.4.P38 2000  
The inside back cover of each volume lists the scriptural passages that sermons in this series are based upon and the volumes in which they can be found.
- Other collections of sermons can be found in the book stacks at call number BV 4241  
Search these collections using indexes of sermons by scriptural passage, if available, to minimize search time.

#### 2. Search HOLLIS Classic for sermons on a particular book of the Bible or on a particular passage

- To find sermons on a particular book of the Bible, begin by selecting **Subject beginning with** from the drop down Search Type box on the left. In the search box under Search For, enter search terms using the following format: BIBLE O T JOB SERMONS or BIBLE N T ROMANS SERMONS.

The screenshot shows the Harvard University HOLLIS CATALOG search interface. At the top, there is a red header with 'Harvard University' on the left and 'HOLLIS CATALOG' in the center. Below the header, there is a navigation menu with 'Full Catalog', 'Find Articles', 'Journal Titles', 'Digital Resources', and 'Reserves'. The 'Search Type' dropdown menu is open, showing 'Subject beginning with...' selected. The 'Search For' text box contains the text 'bible o t job sermons'. There are 'Search' and 'Clear' buttons next to the text box. Below the search box, there is a 'Search tips' link. On the right side of the interface, there are links for 'My Account/Renew', 'Comments/Requests', 'Start Over', and 'Help'.

- Narrow the search for sermons to a specific chapter and verse of a Biblical book by selecting Search Type **Subject beginning with** and entering search terms using the following format:

BIBLE N T MATTHEW III 8 SERMONS

*Note: Remember to put a space between “O” and “T” and “N” and “T”. Chapters are designated by Roman numerals (e.g., III) and verses are designated by Arabic numbers (e.g., 3).*

### 3. Search HOLLIS Classic for sermons on a particular passage by a known author

- Use the **Expanded Search** screen and try keyword searches in format similar to these to locate sermons by authors:

| Select | Keywords from: | Search for:      | Search as:   |
|--------|----------------|------------------|--|
|        | Author words   | edwards jonathan | <input type="radio"/> words <input checked="" type="radio"/> two-word phrase |
| and    | Anywhere       | sermon?          | <input checked="" type="radio"/> words <input type="radio"/> two-word phrase |
| and    | Anywhere       |                  | <input checked="" type="radio"/> words                                       |

*Note: having located books of sermons in the stacks, look for indexes of scriptural passages in the books to minimize search time.*

### 4. If the scriptural passage can be described by theme or genre, it may be possible to track down sermons on the scriptural passage by searching for the theme or genre in HOLLIS Classic

- Use the **Expanded Search** screen

| Select | Keywords from: | Search for: | Search as:   |
|--------|----------------|-------------|--|
|        | Anywhere       | jesus       | <input checked="" type="radio"/> words <input type="radio"/> two-word phrase |
| and    | Anywhere       | parable?    | <input checked="" type="radio"/> words <input type="radio"/> two-word phrase |
| and    | Anywhere       | sermon?     | <input checked="" type="radio"/> words                                       |

### 5. ATLA Religion Database

<http://nrs.harvard.edu/urn-3:hul.eresource:religind>

Search for sermons on a Bible passage or book using a two step process:

- Click the "Scriptures" tab, select Biblical book and expand to chapter or verse level until search results appear.
- Narrow the above Scripture search to sermons by entering the term **Sermons** in the second search box and from the Select a Field drop down box to the right select **Subjects**. Click Search to display sermons, if any, from the narrowed search.

*Note: Results may produce articles about sermons, as well as sermons.* For more detail about searching in ATLA Religion Database, see *Guide* at [http://www.hds.harvard.edu/library/research/guides/atla\\_religion\\_database.pdf](http://www.hds.harvard.edu/library/research/guides/atla_religion_database.pdf)

**Collections of sermons can also be found on the Web. Some are better than others. A few sites to consider include the following:**

- Christian Classics Ethereal Library separates out sermons by such individuals as Augustine, Calvin, Donne, Edwards, Finney, Luther, Whitefield.  
<http://www.ccel.org/index/sermons.html>  
Christian Classics Ethereal Library also includes the Ante Nicene Fathers and the Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers series at <http://www.ccel.org/fathers2/>. Among the formats offered, choose Read Online to obtain full text including table of contents and index.
- The Wabash Center Guide to Internet Resources for Teaching and Learning in Theology and Religion has links to sites that include sermons in its section on Preaching  
[http://www.wabashcenter.wabash.edu/resources/result\\_browse.aspx?topic=697&pid=650](http://www.wabashcenter.wabash.edu/resources/result_browse.aspx?topic=697&pid=650)

For further assistance, [email the Research Librarians \(reference@hds.harvard.edu\)](mailto:reference@hds.harvard.edu), call us at 617.496.2485, or visit us on the second floor of the Andover-Harvard Theological library.

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