

APR 23 1973

SFChronicle

## Nixon Hears

### Sermon on

## Mistakes

Key Biscayne, Fla.

President Nixon attended an Easter service Sunday in which the Rev. John Huffman urged his parishioners to admit their past mistakes and warned them that "it's time, perhaps, for you to fish or cut bait."

The Presbyterian minister said afterward that he did not have Mr. Nixon or the Watergate bugging case specifically in mind during the course of a delicately pointed sermon he once referred to as "tough talk" for Easter.

"Whatever the President wanted to make of what I said was between him and the Lord," the Rev. Mr. Huffman said after the service. But he added that he believed there was "relevance to what I said to every human situation."

The Rev. Mr. Huffman based his sermon on a literal acceptance of the miracle of the Resurrection, and of the ability of individuals to transform their lives through reliance on Jesus Christ.

"How often do we get into the company of people who are depleting our spiritual resources?" he said at one point. "... Oh, it's humbling to say, 'I'm wrong.' Change hurts. We don't want our life styles to change, do we?"

He spoke also of the necessity for genuine change, which he said would cost people some of their friendships.

"And there'll be some courageous statements that are going to be tough to make to your friends, to your enemies and the society around you," he said.

Washington Post Service