Clips from Psalms

Psalms 95:3-7

Praise to Jehovah and Warning against Unbelief

Jehovah is a great God, and a great King above all gods. In his hand are the deep places of the earth; the heights of the mountains are his also. the sea is his, and he made it; and his hands formed the dry land. Oh come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before Jehovah our Maker: For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture.

Floral Heights Church of Christ
1814 Buchanan
Wichita Falls, Texas 76309

Schedule of Services

Sunday Worship:
9:30 AM Bible Study
10:30 AM Worship
6:00 PM Worship

Wednesday:
7:30 PM Bible Study

In This Issue:

Graduation ..................... 1-2
Local News ..................... 2
Sermon Outline ............. 3
The Book of Psalms - back Cover

Graduation

I recently read an interesting statement made by Albert Barnes after he labored on and off for twelve years writing a commentary over the book of Psalms. Barnes writes, "When a man sits down to write a commentary on the Psalms... whatever ardor of desire or confidence of success he may have had at the commencement of his enterprise, he will cease to wonder, as he progresses in his work, that the efforts of others to prepare a commentary heretofore have been a failure, and he will not be surprised, should his life be lengthened out to see the result of his own labors, if he finds that the world regards that at which he has toiled so long, and which he hoped might be, in some measure, worthy of the Volume he has undertaken to explain, as but adding another to the long list of unsuccessful attempts to prepare a proper exposition of the Book of Psalms" (Barnes' Notes over Psalms xivii).

Graduation suggests completion of a project or effort. I still recall walking off the campus of Pasadena High School for the last time. There were mixed emotions. I was glad it was over yet for twelve straight years I had been in the public school system and did not know any other way of life. The gravitational pull to be a man in this world and the opposing tug of never having been there leaves an emotional ride that most all high school graduates feel. By the time I graduated from college those tugs and pushes didn't exist. I was so glad to be finished I did not want to see the campus again. High school graduation is a time when young kids turn into young adults. It is an odd but mandatory transition for us all.
Welcome to all Our Visitors

We hope that you will be edified by our worship service and that you will come back at your next opportunity.

The Wednesday evening sermon given by Tom Witherspoon, on behalf of the elders, is a must hear. If you were not here you must get with the deacons to get a copy.

Summer Gospel Meeting

Luis Zamora will be our guest speaker for this summer's gospel meeting. Please mark June 29, 30, and July 1, 2012 on your calendars (Friday through Sunday meeting). Luis will be speaking on the subjects of Textual Criticism, Calvinism, and Seeing Jesus in the OT.

Blake Robertson's New Address:
LCpl Robertson Blake Security Battalion PO Box 555051 Camp Pendleton, CA 92055

Shut ins
Stella Davidson

It is at this time of life that young adults begin to unfold the dreams of their lives. Some will go on to be engineers, teachers, politicians, doctors, nurses, preachers or foresters. Some will make it through college and some will lose interest. Some will meet financial success and some will barely scratch by. Through all of our planned efforts, however, we may possibly come to the same conclusion that Mr. Barnes came to. We all, to some degree, fail our initial objective.

Failure is a reality of life that every person deals with. I had coaches tell me that the reason athletes make some of the best people and workers is that they learn early in life how to deal with failure. I do believe there is some truth to that statement.

God's word puts pictures in our minds of the failures we experience in life. The Apostle Paul wrote, "For all have sinned, and fall short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23). The Apostle John writes, "If we say that we have no sin we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us" (1 John 1:8).

What if we could see such failures before we began our professional career? What if we knew that we were going to keep struggling with sin and fail God even after we became a Christian? Would we never begin in the first place to write a commentary, go to college, or more importantly become a Christian?

Years ago I heard that employers are more likely to hire a kid out of college who graduated with a 2.5 GPA than one who had a 3.85 because the 2.5 GPA kid was one who had to work hard for every grade he received. The idea was that he would be a harder and more diligent worker.

My point is that through life we are going to experience many failures. That should not discourage us but with each failure we ought to grow stronger recognizing our dire need of Jesus Christ (2 Corinthians 12:10). We should not quit before we begin but rather work hard because nothing is going to be easy in this life. Congratulations to our graduates this year! Work through your failures in life and grow stronger in the Lord. Never permit yourself to lose heart but rather stay faithful to the Lord.

Psalms 11

Jehovah a Refuge and Defense
For the Chief Musician
A Psalm of David

Introduction

God was David's shield and refuge in times of danger from enemies. The weak and fearful are never seen around the enemies of the cross because they lack faith and trust in God. Their mode of operation is to run and keep themselves away in a safe closet or hiding spot. David's logic is, "Why have a shield or put on the armor of God if you are too fearful to use it?" (See Ephesians 6:10-18)

I. Words of Advice for those who Lack True Faith in God
A. Flee like a bird
B. Take refuge, comfort, and hiding in a cave or mountain
C. If you are the only one standing for the truth it is futile to struggle against the worldly and wicked.

II. David Replies to the Weak and Fearful
A. Do you not know that the Lord is on his throne in heaven?
B. God knows and proves us all
C. Those who find themselves running and hiding tell the Lord all he needs to know about where you are spiritually.

III. The Righteous
A. God is just and righteous
B. The righteous feel no sorrow for the wicked that live in sin.
C. The upright will see God's face

Conclusion

Fear of man ought to rest with God rather than Satan and his angels of wickedness. Those who fear where fear should not exist do so of their own weakness. The Apostle Paul writes, "For God gave us not a spirit of fearfulness: but of power and love and discipline" (2 Timothy 1:7). Jesus said, "And be not afraid of them that kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell" (Matthew 10:28). May we all remain where we are! Let the wicked run and hide from us. We live on this earth as created man just as any other. Let us take up our shield and sword of truth and confidently walk this earth without fear or favor of man.