Clips from Psalms

Psalms 104:35

Jehovah’s Care over all his Works

*Let sinners be consumed out of the earth. And let the wicked be no more. Bless jehovah O my soul. Praise ye jehovah*

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loral 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

The Book of Ezekiel

A great theme in the book of Ezekiel is the statement, "You shall know that I am the Lord Jehovah." The lesson of Ezekiel is that many will only be moved to repent of sinful deeds by violent actions against them. Tribulation and pain brings a man to his knees so that he may cry out to God for help (see Acts 14:22). God acted out in violence against Judah for her sins so that they may confess that he alone is the Lord (Lamentations 2:5-7).

The Lord conveyed this future of violent deaths to the people by way of killing Ezekiel’s wife and commanding his prophet not to mourn her death (see Ezekiel 24). The prophet and his wife would serve as a sign of the horrific events that awaited Judah. Israel would soon lose their loved ones and there would be no cause for mourning seeing that it was their own sin that took their families lives. The object of God’s revelation to Ezekiel is to reveal his glorious and fearsome identity to a sinful people. Those who come through the fiery trials of life, learn from the chastening hand of God, and repent through a spirit of meekness would enjoy the eternal kingdom of God in heaven (see the final eleven chapters of Ezekiel).

As the people witness and feel the brut force of Babylon and they die by the sword, famine, and pestilence they
begin to see that the words of Ezekiel are true. They were guilty of great sin. All people would come to confess that Jehovah is Lord. The lesson is very powerful for us today. There is a great day of judgment coming upon the world (Revelation 20:11-15).

God is warning us to walk by his standards of righteousness and justice (Ephesians 4:1-4). Many; however, will meet their eternal doom at the hands of the living God because they refused to fear him and give him glory through their obedience while they lived. When all of humanity stands before the Almighty they will bow their knee to him and confess that he is Lord of all (Philippians 2:9-10).

Not all the people of Judah were killed by the violent hands of Babylon. God chastised the survivors of his people by placing them in Babylonian captivity for seventy years. During these seventy years of captivity they were to grow to understand the chastening, punishment, and testing of the Lord (Jeremiah 30:14 and 23-24). They would come to be "ashamed" (Jeremiah 31:19). Not only would they feel the sting of shame but they would come to loathe themselves due to their sins (Ezekiel 36:31). Their shame would lead them to "repent" and call upon the Lord in prayer and praise (Ezekiel 36:31-33).

God continues to work in this fashion today. The book of Ezekiel parallels the book of Revelation in many ways to prove this point. Many suffer today due to their own personal sin. Their suffering is designed to bring them to repentance (see Revelation 16:8-11). The Apostle Peter said, "The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some count slackness; but is longsuffering to you-ward, not wishing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance" (2 Peter 3:9). The Lord does his part in man’s salvation and it is up to all of us to submit to his divine holiness and authority (see Ecclesiastes 12:13-14).

Local News

Welcome to all Our Visitors. It is our prayer that you will be edified by our worship service today. If you have any questions regarding what we teach or practice please be our friend and talk with us.

We are happy to announce that David Yost was restored to the Lord’s church this past Sunday morning. Let us all encourage David to maintain his salvation with enthusiasm and faithfulness.

Jim Hall’s mother (Fay) has been in and out of the ER this past week. She is currently at Windmill Rehab Unit where she is progressing slowly. She is doing physical therapy, occupational therapy, and speech/cognitive therapy, trying to recover from stroke symptoms.

Continue to pray for Nina Gray and Daryl Luis Shut ins Stella Davidson 696-1030

Fellowship and the Sanctification of the Saints

The principle behind Bible fellowship is the idea of belonging to an exclusive organization (Ezra 3:1-2; 4:3 and 6:21; Ezekiel 43:4-9). The standard of truth that determines man’s standing before God and fellowship with other Christians is the truths of the gospel (see 2 John 9-11). All who are called by the gospel message and are living by faith in Jesus Christ belong to this group (2 Thessalonians 2:13-14). People in Bible fellowship are those who comprise the true church, the saints of God, and sanctified from the world of sinners. So close is this fellowship that the Bible terms us brothers and sisters (see 1 Corinthians 1:1-2 and 1 Peter 2:17).

Bible fellowship is exclusive in that those who do not conform their lives to the image of Jesus Christ do not belong (2 Corinthians 6:14-7:1). The Lord informs us to take care of the purity of our fellowship so that we are not defiled (see Ephesians 5:25-29 and Acts 18:27). Those in Bible fellowship strive to keep themselves unspotted from the world of sin (see James 1:27). All who maintain this righteousness, through the blood of Jesus Christ, are in fellowship now and forevermore (Titus 3:8).

Bible fellowship is a way of life that is loved and shared by the saints of God (1 John 5:1-2). The saints of God have the communal ability to identify sin and to remain clean from it (Ephesians 5:11 and Revelation 18:4).

Fellowship
Sanctification
Church
Saints
Acts 2:41; 26:17