

WORSHIPING ON THE LORD'S DAY

November 24, 2013

Worship, as God intended, is a supernatural event. As we enter into this service of worship, we cross the threshold of the secular to the sacred, from the common to the uncommon, from the profane to the holy. Prepare yourself therefore for this most holy convocation!

Prelude

Worship Theme

God is Jealous

Revelation 2:1-5: "To the angel of the church in Ephesus write: The One who holds the seven stars in His right hand, the One who walks among the seven golden lampstands, says this: 'I know your deeds and your toil and perseverance, and that you cannot endure evil men, and you put to the test those who call themselves apostles, and they are not, and you found them *to be* false; and you have perseverance and have endured for My name's sake, and have not grown weary. But I have *this* against you, that you have left your first love. Remember therefore from where you have fallen, and repent and do the deeds you did at first; or else I am coming to you, and will remove your lampstand out of its place- unless you repent.'"

God Calls us to Worship Before the Cross

Ps. 95:6-7a

+We Adore Him

Hymn #110, "Hallelujah, Praise Jehovah"

Psalm 148:1-13

We Confess Our Sin

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, before You all the nations are as nothing. You see to the depths of our souls; You know all our secret sins. Forgive us our mental idolatry, creating in our minds a god we can control. Forgive us our resisting the work of the Holy Spirit in our hearts. Forgive us our seeking private comforts where we avoid the service of God and man. Forgive us our stubborn wills which refuse to follow You.

Lord, wash away our sins by the blood of Jesus Christ. Let grace reign through righteousness in our hearts. Make us channels of love and truth. Through Christ's blood, Amen!

We Thank Him For His Forgiveness

Hymn #650, "I Will Sing Of My Redeemer"

God Calls us to Worship Thru Dedication 1 Sam. 15:22-23

We Give Him Our Offering & Concerns

We Give Him Ourselves

Hymn #681, "How Gentle God's Commands"

God Calls us to Worship Thru Fellowship

Ps. 19:7-11

We Read His Word

Sermon

*We Partake Of The Lord's Supper

Hymn #358, "For All The Saints"

God Blesses us in the Benediction

Welcome and Announcements

Postlude

(Containers have been placed at the front for communion cups and small trash)

+You are invited to raise your hands during the prayer of adoration.

*Visitors, please see note below on the Lord's Supper.

Another Suffering Servant, Pt. 1

Select

Study Notes for November 24, 2013

I. Introduction

An important part of Christian maturation is godly examples! We are called to be Christlike, but what does this look like embodied in the flesh? Christ is meek and longsuffering... but again, what does this look like in the world in which we live. Accordingly, the Bible is filled with exhortations concerning the need for godly examples (1 Cor. 11:1; Phil. 3:17; 1 Pet. 5:2a, 3b; 1 Tim. 4:12; Tit. 2:7-8a; 1 Thes. 1:7; Heb. 13:7)...

II. Another Suffering Servant, Select.

A. His Call, Jer. 1:9-10.

When we considered this passage at the beginning of our study in Jeremiah, we saw that the focus of Jeremiah's ministry obviously was going to be negative. God had called him to minister to a people who would not listen... Yet, you must see that God was not picking on Jeremiah- as if he had done something wrong. Rather, what God charged Jeremiah with is the same thing He has promised to most if not all His servants (Is. 6:9-10a; Ezk. 3:4, 7; Acts 9:16; Jn. 21:18-19a & Jn. 15:20a; 16:33)...

Point: From all of this we conclude that Jeremiah's calling- to minister in a world which would not listen, but in fact return evil for good- was NOT unique to him. If you are a servant of Christ, you too will find life on this earth to be a difficult go! Accordingly, how important it is that we find godly examples and follow them as they follow(ed) Christ. That you and I might see that Jeremiah is a candidate worthy of emulation, let's consider the various and sundry difficulties under which he suffered in his 50 year-long ministry in Christ's Kingdom.

B. A Catalog of Jeremiah's Tribulation, Select.

1. Early in His Ministry- 620-609 BC, Select.

a. On the Part of His Family, Jer. 11:19, 21-23!

b. On the Part of His Leaders, Jer. 18:18.

c. On the Part of Chief Officer of the Temple, Jer. 20:1-2.

Point: All of this constituted Jeremiah's "welcome to the ministry." *Jeremiah, I've called you to bring my word to Judah. Now the nation isn't going to like it, so be prepared for some suffering!*

Do you think at the start of his ministry Jeremiah fathomed any of what was in store for him? And yet, all of this was but the beginning! For the next 30 plus years, Jeremiah would be "acquainted with much grief" in the cause of Christ! And yet he rarely shrunk back. Rather, he remained at his call day in and out for many, many years! We pick up our survey with...

2. His Temple Sermon- 609 BC, Jer. 26:7-8- we've already considered this, so we won't spend much time here...

3. The Burning of Proto-Jeremiah- 604 BC, Jer. 36:22-26.

4. The Broken Yoke- 593 BC, Jer. 27:2; 28:10.

Jeremiah 27:2

The Background: In the fourth year of Zedekiah's reign (593 BC), vassal states in the western parts of Nebuchadnezzar's empire began to explore the possibility of a rebellion. Jerusalem was of strategic importance and so representatives from neighboring nations came to enlist Zedekiah's support. It would have been on that day when the foreign dignitaries and ambassadors were present in Zedekiah's court talking war, alliances, and the like that our text occurred!

Jeremiah 28:10-11

Notice the abrupt ending of the account, "Then the prophet Jeremiah went his way"...

5. The Purchasing of Hanamel's Field- 588-587 BC, Jer. 32:6-7, 37:3-5, 11-16, 17-18.

Jeremiah 37:3-5: A siege... a sortie... a momentary salvation...

Jeremiah 32:6-7: A "sucker"...

Jeremiah 37:11-16: A sojourning... an act of sedition... a cistern...

Jeremiah 37:17-18, 20-21: A supplication... and sympathy...

6. The Politically Incorrect Sermon- 586 BC, Jer. 38:5, 6, 13.

Jeremiah 38:4-6: Another cistern... another supplication...

7. The Unpleasing Sermon- 586 BC, Jer. 42:1-6; 43:1-7.

Jeremiah 42:1-6: Jeremiah, tell us what to do; we'll do whatever you say!

Jeremiah 43:1-3: Jeremiah, why did you say that! Another imprisonment!

Point: With all of this we see that Jeremiah truly was a man of sorrows, acquainted with grief! He wasn't re-born and commissioned into the gospel ministry with a silver spoon in his mouth! His was a calling to suffer- and suffer he did! Yet throughout his 50 year ministry, he persevered and kept at it! Next time we are going to look at what I consider to be the heart of this sermon- How Jeremiah Coped. Until then, let me close with a parting thought or two...

1. An Important Consolation, Jer. 1:19!
2. An Important Consolation Part II, Mt. 28:18-20!