

Sunday, July 14, 2024

1 Timothy 4:13, "Until I come, devote yourself to the public reading of Scripture, to exhortation, to teaching."

"Title: VBS Dedication

Text: Genesis 18:16 - 21

Purpose: I want to MOTIVATE my congregation to aid VBS through PRAYER, HELPS, and GIVING.

Introduction:

~ Matthew 28:16 – 20, "*Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. (17) And when they saw him they worshiped him, but some doubted. (18) And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, (20) teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."*"

1. Promise of Judgment:

~ vs. 16, 20 & 21, "*Then the men set out from there, and they looked down toward Sodom. And Abraham went with them to set them on their way. (20) Then the LORD said, "Because the outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah is great and their sin is very grave, (21) I will go down to see whether they have done altogether according to the outcry that has come to me. And if not, I will know."*"

~ For the past several weeks our meditations have been from the book of Revelation which outlines the coming judgment of God. There is an abundance of differing view points but all have a common ground; there is coming a judgment of humankind and a new heaven and earth.

~ Like Abraham we are walking with God!

2. Promise of Blessing Through Abraham:

~ vs. 17 & 18, "*The LORD said, "Shall I hide from Abraham what I am about to do, (18) seeing that Abraham shall surely become a great and mighty nation, and all the nations of the earth shall be blessed in him?"*"

~ Matthew 28:18, "*Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,*"

~ Acts 1:8, "*But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."*

~ Galatians 3:15 - 29

"To give a human example, brothers: even with a man-made covenant, no one annuls it or adds to it once it has been ratified. (16) Now the promises were made to Abraham and to his offspring. It does not say, "And to offsprings," referring to many, but referring to one, "And to your offspring," who is Christ. (17) This is what I mean: the law, which came 430 years afterward, does not annul a covenant previously ratified by God, so as to make the promise void. (18) For if the inheritance comes by the law, it no longer comes by promise; but God gave it to Abraham by a promise. (19) Why then the law? It was added because of transgressions, until the offspring should come to whom the promise had been made, and it was put in place through angels by an intermediary. (20) Now an intermediary implies more than one, but God is one. (21) Is the law then contrary to the promises of God? Certainly not! For if a law had been given that could give life, then righteousness would indeed be by the law. (22) But the Scripture imprisoned everything under sin, so that the promise by faith in Jesus Christ might be given to those who believe. (23) Now before faith came, we were held captive under the law, imprisoned until the coming faith would be revealed. (24) So then, the law was our guardian until Christ came, in order that we might be justified by faith. (25) But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a guardian, for in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith. (27) For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. (28) There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. (29) And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to promise."

3. Promises to Abraham...Why?:

~ vs. 19, "*For I have chosen him, that he may command his children and his household after him to keep the way of the LORD by doing righteousness and justice, so that the LORD may bring to Abraham what he has promised him."*

~ chosen – Ephesians 1:4 and Jude 1:1

~ children – see Blue Letter Bible

~ keep – John 14:21, "*Whoever has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves me. And he who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and manifest myself to him."*

~ doing is the outward expression of our love for God.

Conclusion:

Prayer of dedication.