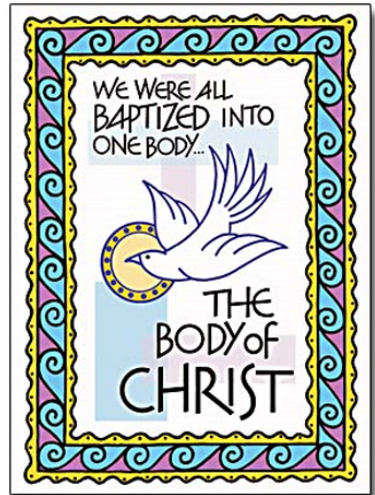


Faith In Fruits Out

Meditation on Our Christian Calling
September 13, 2009 Pastor Mark Voss



P: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: You are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus,

C: for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.

Galatians 3:26-27

P: There is one body and one Spirit –

C: just as you were called to one hope when you were called –

P: one Lord, one faith, one baptism;

C: one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

Ephesians 4:4-6

P: You are the salt of the earth;

C: you are the light of the world.

P: Let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds

C: and praise your Father in heaven.

Matthew 5:13-16

P: As we have opportunity, let us do good to all people,

C: especially to those who belong to the family of believers.

Galatians 6:10

P: Whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus,

C: giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Colossians 3:17

HYMN - "O Master Of The Loving Heart"

CW 491

CONFESSION OF SINS

P: Beloved in the Lord; let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

C: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

Lord, Have Mercy

C: (sing) Lord, have mercy on us. Christ, have mercy on us. Lord, have mercy on us.

P: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: (sing) Amen.

PRAYER AND PRAISE

P: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

C: (sing)

CW474 wv 1 & 3 Text, Tune, Setting: public domain.

Stand up, stand up for Jesus, Ye soldiers of the cross!

Lift high his royal banner; It must not suffer loss.

From vict'ry unto vict'ry His army shall he lead Till ev'ry foe is vanquished And Christ is Lord indeed.

Stand up, stand up for Jesus! Stand in his strength alone.

The arm of flesh will fail you; Ye dare not trust your own.

Put on the gospel armor; Each piece put on with prayer;

Where duty calls or danger, Be never wanting there.

Prayer of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.

P: Let us pray.

C: (sing) And also with you.

C: (sing) Amen.

LESSONS

Ephesians 6:10-20 *Equipped to Fight*¹⁰Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. ¹¹Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. ¹²For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. ¹³Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. ¹⁴Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, ¹⁵and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. ¹⁶In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. ¹⁷Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. ¹⁸And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the saints. ¹⁹Pray also for me, that whenever I open my mouth, words may be given me so that I will fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel, ²⁰for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it fearlessly, as I should.



VERSE OF THE DAY

C: (sing) Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

MUSICAL SELECTION (10:30a) – Grades 1-8

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"Faithful Living"

Gospel Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

After the announcement of the Gospel, the congregation sings:

C: (sing) Glory be to you, O Lord!

"The Danger of Hypocrisy" ¹The Pharisees and some of the teachers of the law who had come from Jerusalem gathered around Jesus and ²saw some of his disciples eating food with hands that were "unclean," that is, unwashed. ³(The Pharisees and all the Jews do not eat unless they give their hands a ceremonial washing, holding to the tradition of the elders. ⁴When they come from the marketplace they do not eat unless they wash. And they observe many other traditions, such as the washing of cups, pitchers and kettles.) ⁵So the Pharisees and teachers of the law asked Jesus, "Why don't your disciples live according to the tradition of the elders instead of eating their food with 'unclean' hands?" ⁶He replied, "Isaiah was right when he prophesied about you hypocrites; as it is written: "'These people honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me. ⁷They worship me in vain; their teachings are but rules taught by men."

¹⁴Again Jesus called the crowd to him and said, "Listen to me, everyone, and understand this. ¹⁵Nothing outside a man can make him 'unclean' by going into him. Rather, it is what comes out of a man that makes him 'unclean.'"

²¹For from within, out of men's hearts, come evil thoughts, sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery, ²²greed, malice, deceit, lewdness, envy, slander, arrogance and folly. ²³All these evils come from inside and make a man 'unclean.'"

After the Gospel, the congregation sings:

C: (sing) Praise be to you, O Christ!

APOSTLE'S CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

HYMN

"All Who Believe And Are Baptized"

CW299 Text, Tune, Setting: public domain.

**All who believe and are baptized Shall see the Lord's salvation;
Baptized into the death of Christ, They are a new creation.
Through Christ's redemption they shall stand
Among the glorious, heav'nly band Of ev'ry tribe and nation.
With one accord, O God, we pray: Grant us your Holy Spirit.
Help us in our infirmity Through Jesus' blood and merit.
Grant us to grow in grace each day
That by this sacrament we may Eternal life inherit.**

SERMON SERIES – Courageous Heroes of Faith

Noah – Genesis 6:1-8 and 8:18-22

¹When men began to increase in number on the earth and daughters were born to them, ²the sons of God saw that the daughters of men were beautiful, and they married any of them they chose. ³Then the LORD said, "My Spirit will not contend with man forever, for he is mortal; his days will be a hundred and twenty years."

⁴The Nephilim were on the earth in those days--and also afterward--when the sons of God went to the daughters of men and had children by them. They were the heroes of old, men of renown. ⁵The LORD saw how great man's wickedness on the earth had become, and that every inclination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil all the time. ⁶The LORD was grieved that he had made man on the earth, and his heart was filled with pain. ⁷So the LORD said, "I will wipe mankind, whom I have created, from the face of the earth--men and animals, and creatures that move along the ground, and birds of the air--for I am grieved that I have made them." ⁸But Noah found favor in the eyes of the LORD.

¹⁸So Noah came out, together with his sons and his wife and his sons' wives. ¹⁹All the animals and all the creatures that move along the ground and all the birds--everything that moves on the earth--came out of the ark, one kind after another.

²⁰Then Noah built an altar to the LORD and, taking some of all the clean animals and clean birds, he sacrificed burnt offerings on it. ²¹The LORD smelled the pleasing aroma and said in his heart: "Never again will I curse the ground because of man, even though every inclination of his heart is evil from childhood. And never again will I destroy all living creatures, as I have done. ²²"As long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night will never cease."



Response: Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.
(sing) Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me.
Restore unto me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with your free Spirit. Amen.

OFFERING

HYMN OF THE DAY – *“My Faith Looks Up To Thee”*

CW 402

CHILDREN'S LESSON

LORD'S PRAYER Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be your name, Your kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours. Now and forever. Amen.

BLESSING

P: May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you a spirit of unity among yourselves as you follow Christ Jesus, so that with one heart and mouth you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Romans 15:5-6

C: Amen.

CLOSING VERSES

“Let Us Ever Walk With Jesus”

CW452 vv 1 & 4 Text, Tune, Setting: public domain.

Let us ever walk with Jesus, Follow his example pure,
Flee the world which would deceive us And to sin our souls allure.
Ever in his footsteps treading, Body here, yet soul above,
Full of faith and hope and love, Let us do the Father's bidding.
Faithful Lord, abide with me. Savior, lead; I follow thee.

Let us gladly live with Jesus; Since he's risen from the dead,
Death and grave must soon release us. Jesus, thou art now our head.
We are truly thine own members; Where thou livest, there live we.
Take and own us constantly, Faithful Friend, as thy dear brethren.
Jesus, here I live to thee, Also there eternally.