

Let's Worship God

5th-10th December 2022
Genesis



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Monday - Genesis 14:17-20 - A Priest Named Melchizedek

Abram has gone after his nephew Lot to rescue him from the 4 kings who carried off the people of Sodom. After Abram returns, he is met by Melchizedek. Who is Melchizedek? Many Christians think that this is an appearance of Jesus Christ. Hebrews 7:1-4 says this about Melchizedek: “This Melchizedek was king of Salem and priest of God Most High. He met Abraham returning from the defeat of the kings and blessed him, and Abraham gave him a tenth of everything. First, his name means ‘king of righteousness’; then also, ‘king of Salem’ means ‘king of peace’. Without father or mother, without genealogy, without beginning of days or end of life, like the Son of God he remains a priest forever. Just think how great he was: Even the patriarch Abraham gave him a tenth of the plunder!” Psalm 110:4 speaking about Jesus says, “‘You are a priest forever, in the order of Melchizedek.’” The fact that Melchizedek is a righteous king-priest forever, who gives peace, and who has no beginning or end, seems to point to Melchizedek and Jesus being the same person.

Melchizedek brings bread and wine to refresh Abram; Jesus brings comfort to strengthen us. Abram gives Melchizedek a tithe of the spoils; we are to give to God a tithe of the increase of our possessions. Melchizedek blesses Abram on behalf of God and blesses God for Abram; Jesus, as our Mediator, brings God’s blessings to us and takes our praises and gives them to God.

Questions

1. Who does it seem Melchizedek is?
2. What does Abram give Melchizedek?

Prayer Points

1. Give thanks that Jesus takes our prayers to God the Father.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters

Memory Verse

And he believed the Lord, and he counted it to him as righteousness. Genesis 15:6

Praise: Psalm 100 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

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Tuesday - Genesis 14:21-15:1 - God is the Reward

The king of Sodom is so thankful to Abram for rescuing him and his people that he offers everything they own to Abram. This must have been a very tempting offer. At the very least, Abram could take some of what they own for himself as payment. But Abram generously refuses to take even one item. He has made a vow to God, who owns all things, that he will take nothing. Why? So that the evil people of Sodom can't say that they have made Abram rich. God, ultimately, makes men rich or poor, and He can make Abram rich without the help of Sodom. Abram hasn't rescued Lot in order to enrich himself, and he wants to be careful that people don't perceive it that way. He does make two exceptions. First, he accepts the food that his soldiers have already eaten. He also doesn't bind any of his allies, who have fought with him, to his vow.

God graciously visits Abram, after he gives up the reward from Sodom, to tell him that He has something better for Abram. God calls Abram by name. This must have been very comforting to Abram to realise that God knows his name. God's Word comforts us when the Holy Spirit brings it to us personally. God tells Abram not to be afraid, He will take care of him. Men and women of great faith can still have fears, and God who knows His people inside out, does not want them to give way to fear. Abram will be as safe as God can keep him and as happy as God can make him.

Questions

1. What does the king of Sodom offer Abram?
2. Why does Abram say no?
3. What does God tell Abram?

Prayer Points

1. Pray that we would look to God to help us overcome our fears.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters

Memory Verse

And he believed the Lord, and he counted it to him as righteousness. Genesis 15:6

Praise: Psalm 101 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

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Wednesday - Genesis 15:2-11 - Believing God's Promises

The thing that troubles Abram the most is that he has no child. He pours out his trouble to the Lord. Many around him have children, but God has not given him any children. Sometimes God withholds comforts and blessings from those He loves, even while giving them to others. Abram is growing very old, and it is unlikely that he will ever have children. He doesn't know if the one that will inherit God's promises will be a biological child or an adopted servant, but at this point it looks like his servant. This wanting a son is taking away from Abram's enjoyment of what God has given him. God graciously comes to Abram and promises him that he will have a biological son, and his descendants will be as the stars in the sky, many and glorious. Abram believes God's promises, and God accepts him on the basis of his faith. Abram is not saved by his good works, but he is saved the same way we are, by believing and trusting in God's promises.

God reminds Abram that He is the Lord, ruler over heaven and earth, with all power, and He always keeps His promises. God has chosen Abram to deliver and save him from an unbelieving people, and He is going to give Abram this land. Abram asks for a sign to strengthen his faith, and God tells him to gather animals at their strongest and best. Abram cuts these animals in two and then waits for God.

Questions

1. What bothers Abram the most?
2. How was Abram saved?

Prayer Points

1. Give thanks that God always keeps His promises.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters

Memory Verse

And he believed the Lord, and he counted it to him as righteousness. Genesis 15:6

Praise: Psalm 102 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

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Thursday - Genesis 15:12-21 - God's Covenant with Abram

God comes to Abram at night after he has been waiting beside his sacrifice all day. Abram falls into a deep sleep, like a trance, and a terrible darkness comes that will not only cause Abram to fear God, but to have an idea of the darkness that his descendants will be in one day in Egypt.

God prophesies to Abram that his seed will suffer - they will be strangers, slaves, and afflicted for 400 years. But God will judge their enemies, and they will come out enriched to the very land Abram is living in now. The time will then be right for the Canaanites to be punished for their sins and for Abram's descendants to inherit the land. Abram, however, will not see these troubles, but he will live to an old age and die at peace - peace with God and peace in his world.

In the darkness surrounding Abram, a fiery torch passes through the cut animals. This looks ahead to when God leads His people through the wilderness with pillars of fire and smoke. In ancient times, when you are making a covenant, you cut animals in two, and the person making the covenant walks between the animals. The covenant maker is saying that if he doesn't keep his promise, may he be cut in two like these animals. God promises in this covenant that He has given the land to Abram's descendants. What God promises to do is as sure as if it is already done.

Questions

1. What does God tell Abram will happen to his descendants?
2. What is God promising Abram in the covenant?

Prayer Points

1. Pray that we would keep our promises that we make to God.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters

Memory Verse

And he believed the Lord, and he counted it to him as righteousness. Genesis 15:6

Praise: Psalm 103 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

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Friday - Genesis 16:1-16 - Hagar

Sarai and Abram are not willing to wait for God's timing. God gives and God takes away children, but Sarai wants to control this aspect of their lives. She tells Abram to take Hagar, her maid, as his second wife and have children by her. Abram listens to her without even asking God about it. The consequences of these actions are quick and terrible. Hagar becomes pregnant and stops showing respect to Sarai, possibly mocking and criticising her for her inability to have children. Sarai, in her jealous anger, blames Abram for this mess instead of herself, and Abram, to keep the peace with Sarai, allows her to treat Hagar any way she wishes. Sarai takes out her anger on Hagar, and Hagar runs away.

God stops Hagar from going any farther away. Hard though it may be, she has a duty to Sarai and a responsibility as Abram's wife, and some of her suffering she has brought on herself. It is wrong of Sarai to treat her cruelly - we should treat those under us with gentleness, so that we are not guilty of provoking them to anger, but they are responsible for their rebellion.

Hagar must return, but God assures her of his mercy. She will have a son and, from that son, many descendants. But the character of this son will be wild, stubborn, and quick to fight. Hagar praises the God who sees and knows her. God sees all that we are: our sin, our sorrow and trouble, our repentance, and our love.

Questions

1. What is Sarai's solution to the lack of children?
2. How does this cause more problems?

Prayer Points

1. Pray that we would wait for things to happen God's way.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters

Memory Verse

And he believed the Lord, and he counted it to him as righteousness. Genesis 15:6

Praise: Psalm 104 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

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Saturday - Genesis 17:1-6 - God's Covenantal Relationship

Abram is 99 years old, it is 13 years after the birth of Ishmael, and God appears to him. Abram falls on his face before God when he is confronted with how glorious God is and how sinful and unworthy he is. God is making a covenant with Abram, not just a covenant of children and land, but a covenant of a relationship between God and Abram. As Abram believes in God, God will take care of him and save him. God will be Abram's God, and Abram, and his children, will be God's people.

God is Almighty - mighty to destroy and mighty to forgive and save. He is self-sufficient - needing nothing else. Abram is to have a faith in God that makes him want to walk before God in obedience. We are to walk before God - to set God always before us, to do everything as under His watchful eye, and to do all in obedience for His glory.

God is going to make Abram a father of many nations. Not only will Abram have many biological descendants in different nations, but also all who believe in Jesus Christ, from all over the world, are spiritual children of Abram. God changes his name from Abram, meaning exalted father, to Abraham, meaning father of many. His name will be another encouragement that God will keep His promises.

Questions

1. How old is Abraham when God appears to him this time?
2. How do we walk before God?
3. What does Abraham's new name mean?

Prayer Points

1. Pray for the preaching and hearing of God's Word tomorrow.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters

Memory Verse

And he believed the Lord, and he counted it to him as righteousness. Genesis 15:6

Praise: Psalm 105 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

The goal of Let's Worship God is to encourage and help you in your worship of God each day.

**God tells us that
Ezra read from
the book of the Law
day after day
and that
the people of God
were filled with joy!**

Let's Worship God is produced
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