

Sermon Study Questions

Sunday, February 25, 2024

1. Read 2 Kings 6:1-7
2. What are some of the reasons discussed in the sermon that Christians need not be ashamed of affirming the miraculous?
3. How does the fact that the sons of the prophets needed a larger place to dwell speak to the spiritual state of God's people at the time?
4. Why is it so important to the people in this story that Elisha accompanies them?
5. What does the fact that the axe head was borrowed mean in regard to the significance of its being lost?
6. What is significant about the meaning of Elisha's name in this story?
7. How does the miracle of the floating axe head point to the grace of God in salvation?
8. What does the miracle in this story say to us about God?
9. How does this story encourage us towards God, and how should that affect how we treat others?
10. Pray.

Exodus 20:8-11 - "Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. 9 Six days you shall labor, and do all your work, 10 but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the Lord your God. On it you shall not do any work, you, or your son, or your daughter, your male servant, or your female servant, or your livestock, or the sojourner who is within your gates. 11 For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested on the seventh day. Therefore, the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.

Q. 116. What is required in the fourth commandment?

A. The fourth commandment requires of all men the sanctifying or keeping holy to God such set times as he has appointed in his word, expressly one whole day in seven; which was the seventh from the beginning of the world to the resurrection of Christ, and the first day of the week ever since, and so to continue to the end of the world; which is the Christian sabbath, and in the New Testament called The Lord's Day.

Deut. 5:12, 14, 18; Gen. 2:2-3; I Cor. 16:1-2; Acts 20:7; Matt. 5:17-18; Isa. 56:2, 4, 6-7

Rev. 1:10

Prayer of Confession

Heavenly Father, Your name is wonderful, and You alone are worthy to receive all praise and worship. You are high and lifted up over the highest of heavens and there is none like You. In Your lovingkindness, You have called us to Yourself that we might know You and receive of Your goodness. We have been created by You and for You. In Your kindness You have given us six days to work and to enjoy the fruit of our labors and the multitudes of Your blessings. And You have blessed us further in setting aside one day that we might gather as Your people to receive Your word and the glorious promises of the gospel by which we have been saved, and through which we are sustained and strengthened for the pilgrimage of this life. Father, we confess before You that we have broken the commandment to keep and honor the Lord's Day. We have too often regarded it as optional when weighed against our hearts' desires. We have treated it as one thing among many to fit into our schedules, and even when we are present in Your worship our minds are often distracted by the cares of this life. Please forgive us, Father, and help us to see Your day as a delight to our souls, help us to see it as necessary to our wellbeing, and grant that we would consider one day in Your house as better than a thousand elsewhere. Have mercy upon us for the sake of Christ and change us from within by Your Spirit that we would see the overwhelming blessing that is ours that You should call us into Your presence. In Christ's name we pray, amen.

Proclamation of Forgiveness – Isaiah 53:4-6

Surely he has borne our griefs

and carried our sorrows;

yet we esteemed him stricken,

smitten by God, and afflicted.

5 But he was pierced for our transgressions;

he was crushed for our iniquities;

upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace,

and with his wounds we are healed.

6 All we like sheep have gone astray;

we have turned—every one—to his own way;

and the Lord has laid on him

the iniquity of us all.