

Sermon Study Questions

Sunday, November 24, 2024

1. Read 2 Corinthians 5:1-5

2. In talking about life in the flesh, Paul describes it as living in tents. Why does he do this? What similarity is there between living in a tent and living in mortal bodies of flesh?

3. In v.1 Paul says that if the tent that is our earthly home is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house made with hands, eternal in the heavens. What is the building from God he speaks of? Support your answer.

4. What happens to the believer at death, and then at the end of the age when Christ returns?

5. Paul's longing was to put on his heavenly dwelling, yet at the same time, as is clear from how hard he fought to stay alive in the face of persecution throughout the book of Acts, he didn't want to die. How can you reconcile these two things as existing at one and the same time?

6. In v.3 Paul says that we have been clothed (NAS). What does this refer to? How does this tie into not being found naked (v.3)?

7. In v.2 and v.4 Paul says he longs to be further clothed. What is that a reference to? What is the relationship between verses 2 and 4 with verse 3?

8. What does Paul mean in v.5 by referring to the Holy Spirit as “a guarantee”?
9. What practical application can you make from this text/sermon?
10. Pray!

Reading of Law: Proverbs 3:5-6

Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. ⁶ In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

Prayer of Confession:

Our Father in Heaven, we come before you in Jesus’ name. We are humbled to be in the presence of the One who possesses all power and authority in heaven and earth. This morning in hearing your Law we are again confronted with our own sin, realizing that we fall short of your glory and the standard of perfection you require of all. We confess that we fail to trust you with all our hearts, but we often struggle to give over our worries and fears to you, failing to believe that you love us with a perfect love and that you know what is best and will accomplish what is best in each of our lives. We likewise confess our failure to acknowledge you in all our ways, choosing instead to chart our own course and depend upon our own natural gifts and abilities to guide us without acknowledging you. For we are prone to fret and worry and turn to our own resources rather than turning to you. Father, please forgive us. And please deepen our trust in you and help us to live lives of faith, walking dependently with you for all our days. In Jesus’ name, Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness: Psalm 65:1-3

Praise is due to you, O God, in Zion, and to you shall vows be performed. ² O you who hear prayer, to you shall all flesh come. ³ When iniquities prevail against me, you atone for our transgressions.

WLC: 155

Q. 155. How is the Word made effectual to salvation?

A. The Spirit of God makes the reading, but especially the preaching of the Word, an effectual means of enlightening, convincing, and humbling sinners; of driving them out of themselves, and drawing them unto Christ; of conforming them to his image, and subduing them to his will; of strengthening them against temptations and corruptions; of building them up in grace, and establishing their hearts in holiness and comfort through faith unto salvation.

[Neh. 8:8](#); [Acts 26:18](#); [Ps. 19:8](#); [1 Cor. 14:24-25](#); [2 Chr. 34:18-19, 26-28](#); [Acts 2:37, 41](#); [Acts 8:27-39](#); [2 Cor. 3:18](#); [2 Cor. 10:4-6](#); [Rom. 6:17](#); [Matt. 4:4, 7, 10](#); [Eph. 6:16-17](#); [Ps. 19:11](#); [1 Cor. 10:11](#); [Acts 20:32](#); [2 Tim. 3:15-17](#); [Rom. 16:25](#); [1 Thess. 3:2, 10-11, 13](#); [Rom. 15:4](#); [Rom. 10:13-17](#); [Rom. 1:16](#).

OT Reading: Job 19:14-27

My relatives have failed me, my close friends have forgotten me. ¹⁵ The guests in my house and my maidservants count me as a stranger; I have become a foreigner in their eyes. ¹⁶ I call to my servant, but he gives me no answer; I must plead with him with my mouth for mercy. ¹⁷ My breath is strange to my wife, and I am a stench to the children of my own mother. ¹⁸ Even young children despise me; when I rise they talk against me. ¹⁹ All my intimate friends abhor me, and those whom I loved have turned against me. ²⁰ My bones stick to my skin and to my flesh, and I have escaped by the skin of my teeth. ²¹ Have mercy on me, have mercy on me, O you my friends, for the hand of God has touched me! ²² Why do you, like God, pursue me? Why are you not satisfied with my flesh? ²³ "Oh that my words were written! Oh that they were inscribed in a book! ²⁴ Oh that with an iron pen and lead they were engraved in the rock forever! ²⁵ For I know that my Redeemer lives, and at the last he will stand upon the earth. ²⁶ And after my skin has been thus destroyed, yet in my flesh I shall see God, ²⁷ whom I shall see for myself, and my eyes shall behold, and not another. My heart faints within me!