

3/29/20

Brothers and Sisters of Sovereign Grace Bible Church, I hope these sermon notes find you in good spirits on this Lord's day. During these crazy times it is of utmost importance that we turn to Christ for our comfort and peace. Hopefully you got to go through Pastor Paul's notes last week on plagues and how God uses plagues for His glory and ultimately the benefit of His people. This week, after prayer and consideration, I believe God is directing our worship this week back into Galatians. This is the scripture that I would normally preach if we were meeting today, so I am going to outline these few verses for you to go through as you worship this morning.

Galatians 3:26-29

²⁶for in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith. ²⁷For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. ²⁸There 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. ²⁹And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to promise.

In this text Paul is going to reveal to us the amazing position we have as believers in Jesus Christ.

- Verse 26: In Christ Jesus.
 - Take a minute and meditate on that statement alone. "In Christ Jesus".
 - If you are a believer in Jesus, you are in Him.
 - This is the Creator and Sustainer of the entire world.
 - He is the Creator and Sustainer of your soul.
 - The Messiah, The Redeemer, God in the Flesh
 - "You are All Sons of God, through faith."
 - The term sons of God is an interesting one in the Bible.
 - No human was ever referred to as a son of God until Jesus Came.
 - This is important to remember because in today's time a popular rhetoric is that "we are all God's Children"
 - According to scripture this isn't really true.

- We are all God's Creation, but we are not all God's Children. That title is reserved for those in Christ.
 - How do you become a child of God?
 - As with the theme of the rest of Galatians. Through Faith in Jesus Christ.
 - If you don't believe on the Lord Jesus as God and Savior you are not a son of God.
 - But Praise God, those of us that do believe are counted as His children.
 - Verse 27: "For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ."
 - This is given here as a further demonstration that through faith in Christ you have put on Christ.
 - The word baptized simply means to be immersed so it does not say as many of you as were baptized in water have put on Christ.
 - We know that some have been baptized in water but not in Christ.
 - So water baptism is a picture and a declaration of being immersed in Christ.
 - "Have put on Christ"
 - Martin Luther said "By nature we are clad in the garments of Adam"
 - We are clothed in sin and this old clothing must be put off.
 - And the New clothing must be put on which is done by the power of the Holy Spirit and are the garments of Christ.
 - The garments of His righteousness.
 - Ephesians 4:22-24

"to put off your old self, which belongs to your former manner of life and is corrupt through deceitful desires, ²³and to be renewed in the spirit of your minds, ²⁴and to put on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness."
- Verse 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."

- Any of the divisions man had made are torn down in Christ.
- Salvation does not depend on your heritage, nationality, family, color, or position in life. It depends on Christ and whether you are in Him.
- This is one of the beauties of Christianity compared to other religions.
 - Sola Christos (By Christ alone are we saved.)
 - It is also a major reason that women have gained respect in the world, as Christians Jesus has given us the understanding that they are of equal value to men.
 - The roles may be different, but the value is the same.
 - The same goes for servants and any other soul. We may have different roles in society, but the value of the soul is equal among all of those that are in Christ.

Verse 29: And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to promise.

- And here we arrive at the close of the chapter with a great truth that should give us great comfort no matter our circumstances.
- If you are Christ's, that is if you belong to Him.
 - How do you belong to Christ?
 - You were purchased, bought with a price.
 - What was the price?
 - His blood. His Life. Him receiving the wrath of God on our behalf.
- That makes us Abraham's offspring
 - It brings us into the promise that Abraham received.
 - It brings us into the covenant that God made with Abraham
 - It makes us joint heirs with Christ.
- Heirs according to the promise.
 - Read Romans 8:12-17
 - We have the ability to cry out Abba Father. This is an intimate term that only His children can say.
 - We are blessed to be able to call him Father.
 - We are blessed to have His eternal protection presiding over us.

- In these un-certain times, we are a child of the King.
 - Don't Forget that.
- Read Romans 8:18-25
 - There is a lot of speculation about this virus, the future of the economy, etc.
 - Here is some truth about it. The virus/diseases that are on this earth are a result of sin. The Corona virus is a result of the sin on this earth.
 - But the suffering at this present time will be nothing. NOTHING, compared to the glory of God that we will inherit.
 - Being joint heirs with Christ means that everything that is His is ours.
 - We need not worry about the future because our hope and our security is resting in the finished work of Christ.
- However, if you are not in Christ...The suffering and uncertainty of the world at this time is only a snippet of what is to come. It will certainly get worse, and your ability to cope will become less.
 - Today is the day of salvation.
 - Repent and believe on the Lord Jesus and you too will have hope in these times of trouble.