

BEREAN BAPTIST CHURCH: GOSPEL OF JOHN
BELIEVING JESUS THE CHRIST: 30. THE CONFIDENT HOPE
MORNING, JULY 18, 2021

KEY TEXT: JOHN 16:16-33

INTRODUCTION:

-This fourth chapter devoted to the night before Jesus' arrest ends on a jarring note of triumph, including a call to "be of good c_____": how is this possible?

I/ PRESENT GRIEF

1. Due to a Weak Understanding: (John 16:17-19, 29-31)

- the work of the c_____ opens the way for believers to life (14:1-6); inaugurates the New Covenant with all its b_____ (16:5-15) and establishes the relationship with the Father and Son (14:18-25; 15:1-17)
- but for the disciples, the very idea of the d_____ of the Messiah is incomprehensible as part of God's plan

2. Due to the World's Triumph (John 16:20)

- p_____ against Jesus have surfaced before – John 5, 7, 8, 10, now formalized in 11:45-53: clearly the world thinks it is g_____ for Jesus to go away! But for the disciples, it is s_____

II/ PROMISED JOY

1. Surpassing Joy: John 16:20-21; compare 2 Corinthians 4:16-18; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

- they will come to realize that the plan of God is *suffering*, then g_____ : the very same thing that grieved them will be the g_____ of their joy

2. Salvation Joy: John 16:22:

- key to this is the r_____ : it is to this they will bear w_____

III/ PEACE – AND TROUBLE – IN THE CHRISTIAN LIFE

1. Durable Joy and Peace – in Trouble (compare 14:27; see Philippians 4:6-7)

- “joy unspeakable and full of glory” (1 Peter 1:3-9) is in being b_____ a_____ ; to receive e_____ l_____ , the g_____ of our faith; to that end, the cross is the completion of God's p_____

2. Devoted Love and Prayer – in Christ

- Jesus l_____ them; they are filled with sorrow; but they must understand that Jesus r_____ ; the Father will d_____ with them; and He sends the S_____
- the expression of this Triune relationship is p_____ : 16:23-28

3. Dependable Promise:

a) because Jesus returns to the Father: “It is finished!”

- compare Paul's experience: he misunderstood Jesus, until he grasped that Jesus returned to the Father: that proved Jesus had done the Father's work c_____
- Peter comes to see Calvary as the p_____ blood of Christ, the Lamb of God (1 Peter 1:18-19)

b) because Jesus overcomes the world

- the cross of Christ killed d_____ (Hebrews 2:14-15); it was j_____ for the world and its prince (John 12:31; 16:11)
- Jesus declared: “I have overcome the world” – and in that lies hope that never makes a _____

BEREAN BAPTIST CHURCH
KINGS: “WRITTEN FOR OUR ADMONITION”: J. THE DAY OF THE LORD WILL COME
EVENING, JULY 18, 2021

KEY TEXTS: 2 KINGS 15:8-31; 17:1-40

INTRODUCTION:

I/ THE GROWING THREAT

1. A Sinful Spiral

-Zechariah assassinated by Shallum after 6 months; Shallum assassinated by Menahem after 1 month, and has a most wicked reign of 10 years (15:8-15): with “no fear of God”, wickedness picks up speed (Romans 3:10-18)

2. A Swift Progression to the “Day”

-“writing prophets” like Hosea and especially Amos speak of the “Day of the Lord” as darkness, not light; Menahem’s son Pekahiah reigns 2 years and is assassinated by Pekah, who has a 20-year reign under Assyria: assassinated by Hoshea, the last king who reigns 9 years, under siege by Assyria for the last 3 (15:17-31; 17:1-6)

3. A Severe Judgment

-Assyria introduced the policy of relocation: not just taking spoils, but the people, and replacing them with other conquered people: prevents rebellion; a judgment on the covenant promise of the land (Genesis 12)

II/ THE GROUNDS OF WRATH: FALL OF SAMARIA (2 Kings 17:7-23)

1. The Worship of the Lord is Displaced (2 Kings 17:7-12)

-starting point identified as idolatry: violated the first Commandment of “no other gods”, and went down from there – from Jeroboam son of Nebat’s “revisions”, to Ahab’s Baal worship, to Menahem’s horrifying idolatry

2. The Word of the Lord is Despised (2 Kings 17:13-15)

i) by refusing to obey the Law of Moses and the call of Deuteronomy to remember the Lord in the land
ii) by rejecting the prophets, God’s “prosecuting attorneys”, who called them back to the Lord and His Law

3. The Ways of the Lord are Disparaged (2 Kings 17:16-17, 21-23)

-Jeroboam son of Nebat established the pattern of “leaning on our own understanding” (Prov.3:5-6): God’s ways would lead to dangerous political fallout, so they had to be discarded; string of assassinations shows the rejection of God’s authority to set up kings (of course, God *was* working: this relates to human arrogance)

III/ THE GOAL OF JUDGMENT: 2 Kings 17:24-41

1. Explains History – like “where did the Samaritans come from in the New Testament?”

-although many details remain unknown, many scholars see clues in this chapter (still 700 years before Christ)

2. Extends Mercy (Habakkuk 3:2)

-Jonah 4 alludes to Exodus 34:6-7: God would show mercy even to Nineveh (capital of Assyria)!

-note the special message to Judah in 2 Kings 17:18-20: one of the reasons this record is written – to stand as a caution sign for Judah – and by extension for us: are we following the same paths?

3. Establishes Sovereignty: compare Isaiah’s ministry

i) kings may look powerful, but they rule by God’s permission: see Pekah, Isaiah 7: God is with us! Stop fearing the nations
ii) Assyria may strut around the world causing destruction, but is nothing more than God’s “axe”: see Isaiah 10

4. Exalts the “Holy One of Israel”, whose glory fills the earth

-in the end, the kings come and go, rise and fall; empires and nations crumble to dust: but the earth is filled with the glory of the Lord (see Isaiah 6): Isaiah prepares us for the Root of Jesse, the true King; the Emmanuel, God with us; and the Servant of the Lord, on whom the chastisement of our peace rests (see Isaiah 7; 11; 53)