

Shenandoah

church of Christ

TRIUMPH

“Do you know that in a race all the runners compete, but only one receives the prize? So run that you may obtain it” (1 Cor. 9:24)

The Judges of Israel (17)

Gabriel Rodriguez

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We Must Continue Assembling Together

Jephthah, the once rejected and deposed son of Gilead, for his, (of no fault of his own), being born from a harlot (11:2), was now summoned by the children of Israel to help her wage war against the children of Ammon (11:4-6). But Jephthah retorted to Israel, “*Didn’t you hate me, and expel me from my father’s house? then why are coming to me in distress?*” (11:7). As we learned last week, despite Jephthah’s birth and rejection, he remained positive and optimistic, not allowing his upbringing to determine his destiny in life. Hence, Jephthah was described as a mighty man of valor and because of such, during Israel’s crisis was looked upon for help and guidance (11:7-8).

But something else was revealed that speaks volumes, **Jephthah had a relationship with God**. After the elders of Gilead asked Jephthah to help them, Jephthah said, “*If you bring me home again to fight against the children of Ammon, and the Lord deliver them before me, shall I be your head?*” (11:8-9). What this revealed was, Jephthah was confident that the Lord would secure him the victory, meaning their relationship was strong. The people of Gilead agreed, made a pact with Jephthah, and allowed him to rule over them (11:10-11). Jephthah got right to work and sent messengers to the king of

the Ammonites, asking him, “*Why have you come to war against the nation of Israel?*” (11:12). The king responded by saying that Israel had taken away their land and they wanted it restored peacefully (11:13). But Jephthah corrected the king’s words and thoughts, telling him, that his reason for this war was not because land was in dispute, (the land in question was always free to be reclaim by them, 11:14-26), rather there were ulterior motives to simply destroy Israel. Therefore, Jephthah noted: “*I have not sinned against thee, but thou doest me wrong to war against me: the Lord the Judge be judge this day between the children of Israel and the children of Ammon*” (11:27). The king of Ammon did not listen to the reasoning and logic by which Jephthah spoke, and prepared for battle (11:28).

The king of Ammon’s response emboldened Jephthah, as a mighty man of valor (11:29), and he made a vow unto God, asking Him, “*If you will (without fail) deliver the children of Ammon into mine hands, then it shall be, that whatsoever comes forth of the doors to my house to meet me when I return in peace...shall surely be the Lord’s and I will offer it up for a burnt offering*” (11:30-31). May God be praised!

How Israel Fell From Glory (15)

A Study in the Book of Isaiah

Church News and Announcements

CONGREGATION

Brother Andy Burns from New Mexico Children's Home will be here this evening to speak during our services. We encourage everyone to be here. Let's have a great number to hear his presentation.

The fellowship luncheon is today after morning services. We welcome all our visitors to stay and eat with us.

The Sunny Glenn Children's Home is asking for juices and paper towels. As in the past, if you would like to donate money so that the items may be purchased in bulk, please annotate check for Sunny Glen and place in the collection plate, or you may bring these items and place them in the library by December 7.

YOUTH

Our next youth devotional will be at the home of the Rodriguez's on December 22. Each young person is asked to buy a unisex gift to be exchanged.

YOUNG ADULT

Our next young adult devotional will be hosted by Carolyn Harris on November 18. More details to follow.

AREA NEWS

See Bulletin Board for area wide meetings

In chapters 25-26, Isaiah pronounced the hope of God's true people. Even among the rise of evil and wickedness of Israel, there remained a faithful remnant of God (1:9), that unfortunately suffered at the hands of wicked (Pr. 14:34). But it is in chapters 25-26 that we're told, that despite what they would endure, deep poverty and death (vss. 4-5,8), these ultimately would come out on top despite their circumstances of life - *"And in this mountain shall the Lord of hosts make unto all people a feast of fat things, a feast of wines on the lees, of fat things full of marrow, of wines on the lees well refined"* (v.6). Also, *"He will swallow up death in victory: and the Lord God will wipe away tears from off all faces; and the rebuke of his people shall he take away from off all the earth: for the Lord has spoken it"* (v. 8). Hence, *"Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, and he will save us: this is the Lord; we have waited for him, we will be glad and rejoice in this salvation"* (v.9).

In the end, the only city that remained relevant would be the *"city of God"*, which is made up of God's faithful and righteous elite, who *"kept the truth, kept peace with God, kept their mind focused on God, and trusted in Him in all things"* (26:1-4). But those that rejected him through pride and

arrogance, would be brought low (v. 5) and destroyed (cf. Jas. 1:9-11).

On the contrast, God's people are those who humble themselves and have *"waited on the Lord, remembered his name, sought Him with their spirit, and learned to do his righteousness"* (vss. 6-9). But unfortunately, the opposite is true, the wicked will disregard all God's pleas for change, and the Lord will respond by fierce destruction (vss. 10-14).

Therefore, regardless of God's people unfortunate plights in life - suffering at the hands of evil doers, God's people would ultimately live and experience great blessings (vss. 15-19). Hence, God said, *"Come, my people, enter into my chambers, shut your doors: hide yourself as it were for a little moment, until the indication is past,"* meaning until their persecution and unfortunate circumstances of life is no more. Why? Isaiah continued, *"for, behold, the Lord comes out of his place to punish the inhabitants of the earth for their iniquity: the earth also shall disclose her blood, and shall no more cover her slain"* (vss. 20-21). All those that plagued righteous Israel's existence would be dealt with and destroyed! May God be praised!

Bro. G. Rodriguez

WHAT SAITH THE LORD?

Nearly two thousand years ago an important question was raised before the Apostles after they had delivered the good news of Jesus's life, death, burial, and resurrection (Acts 2:21-36). The hearer's conscience were pricked of sinful conduct (2 Cor. 7: 10-11) and asked: "*Men and brethren, what shall we do* (in order to be saved)? (Acts 2:37). Without hesitation, Peter elevated his voice and proclaimed: "*Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of your sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit*" (Acts 2:38).

Upon hearing the words of Peter, the people obeyed. This demonstrated their belief in Christ (Jn. 8:24). Hence, they repented of sin and confessed allegiance to the name of Christ (Matt. 10:32-33). Afterwards, the people were baptized for the remission of their sins (Acts 2:41, cf. Mrk. 16:16; 1 Pet. 3:21).

The people's submission to the words of salvation granted them a relationship with God the Father by accessing citizenship into the church of Christ (Acts 2:47, cf. Matt. 16:18; Mrk. 9:1; Acts. 2:1-4). As a member of Christ's body (Acts 8:4) the people were then encouraged to live faithful unto death by conquering sin in their lives (Rev. 2:10; Rom. 6: 4-12; 2 Tim. 4: 6-8). We then await for the coming day in which all men shall be judged the word of God (Jn 12:48; Acts 17:30-31; 2 Cor. 5:10). Will we be ready?

SHEPHERD'S CORNER

We Must Continue Assembling Together

"Not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging on another; and all the more, as you see the day drawing near" (Heb. 10:25). Instead of giving up on worship, we are to keep at it, encouraging each other in the process. The author adds that is even more important as "the day is drawing near." What day is that?

Some say it is a day of persecution and hardship. As that day draws near every believer will need strength to endure the challenge. Where is that strength found? In assembling with other believers

Others say "the day" is the judgment day, the day when God will judge the world in righteousness. If that is the day in question, then assembling with others keeps us in mind of that great day. When we assemble to praise God we are reminded of the need to be right with God. So, worship keeps us in tune with the important issues of life. These are not the issues of making a living, or paying off bills, or planning for retirement. The real issues are life and death and what follows after death. Assembling with others keeps the important central issues foremost in our minds.

And yet, others see "the day" as the first day of the week, when we are to assemble together to worship "the only true and living God." Whether that day is a time of persecution or whether that day is the day of judgment assembling together helps prepare us for it. That is why we must not forsake, or give up on, corporate worship. It has been commanded by God to remind us of our confidence, to keep us faithful, to motivate others, and to help us keep our perspective on life and death issues. Personal meditation, personal prayer and a private walk with the Lord are wonderful ways to grow closer to God. So why assemble with others? Because in that process you are built up, others are built up, faith is increased in more than just one person and many are motivated to stay committed and to do good.

Bro. Wayne Holmes

CHURCH LEADERSHIP

BISHOPS/SHEPHERDS/ ELDERS

(1 Tim. 3: 1-6)

Brother Elwyn Hipp (830) 510-6311
Brother Wayne Holmes (210) 696-8597

DEACONS

(Acts 6: 1-5; 1 Tim. 3: 7-12)

Brother Raul Baltierra

(210) 843-9730

Brother Bill Dorries

(210) 253-0173

GOSPEL PREACHER

(1 Cor. 9:1-16; 2 Tim. 4: 2-5)

Brother Gabriel Rodriguez

(210) 315-4453



November 13

AM WORSHIP

Announcements: *T. Mayces*
 Opening Prayer: *E. Castillo*
 Song Leader: *R. Trevino*
 Lord's Supper: *G. Rodriguez; M. de la Garza; R. Baltierra Jr.; A. Maldonado*

Scripture: *Ps. 22:14-18*
 Sermon: *G. Rodriguez*
 Benediction: *D. Mathis*

PM WORSHIP

Announcements: *T. Mayces*
 Opening Prayer: *B. Dorries*
 Song Leader: *A. Maldonado*
 Lord's Supper: *S. Amos; R. Baltierra*
 Sermon: *Guest Speaker*
 Benediction: *R. Baltierra Jr.*

After Greeter: *W & K Holmes*
 Greeter/Usher: *B. Dorries*
 AV Duty: *M. de la Garza*
 Elder in charge: *E. Hipp*

REMEMBERING OUR BELOVED

(by writing, calling, and praying)

Wayne Holmes
 Joe Guillen
 Ina Dial
 David and Elijah Sudhoff
 Caral O'Banon
 Sam Amos
 Helen Gross (aunt of sister Sarah)
 Sam Amos (awaiting surgery)
 Eugenia Trevino (mother of Ray)
 Parents of David Lyssy
 Sandra Welch (sister-in-law of Billie Dorries)

BATTLING CANCER:

Johna Dorries Abigail Reyes
 Graciola Anderson Sonny Cary
 Arturo Hernandez (Stephen's dad is battling Lymphoma)
 Tomas Guillen (brother of Joe and Celia)
 Renalto (brother-in-law of Joe Guillen)

SHUT-INS:

Dorothy Harper
 Dazel Ball
 Mildred Geest
 Sarah Cannon

TRAVELING:

SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES November

Organizing Monthly Luncheon:
Open
 Preparing Lord's Supper:
Open
 Auditorium Service Duties:
Open
 Wash baptismal garments; clean cry room
Open
 Brother in charge of services:
B. Dorries

AM Theme:

The Hall of Fame:
A Study of Hebrews 11

PM Theme:

God's Love For His Church:
A Study of the Song of Solomon

AM Sermon:

The Account of Enoch

PM Sermon:

Guest Speaker

WEDNESDAY NIGHT DEVOTIONAL

November 2: *R. Baltierra Jr.*

November 9: *T. Mayces*

November 16: *A. Maldonado*

FOR THE RECORD

NOVEMBER 6

Attendance:

Sunday Bible Study 42
 Sunday AM Worship 65
 Sunday PM Worship 31
 Wednesday Bible Study 39
 Budget/Offering: **\$2,140.02/ \$2,041.00**

Weekly Bible Readers: 5/22 (Adult Bible class)

SHENANDOAH CHURCH OF CHRIST

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SCHEDULE OF SERVICES:

Sunday: Bible Study at 9:30 am; Worship at 10:30 am;
 Worship at 5:00 pm.

Wednesday: Bible Study at 7:00 pm