

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 (16)

Gabriel Rodriguez

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Assembling Together For Worship Is Encouragement

“*The way of the transgressor is hard*” (Pr. 13:15).

Because of Israel’s regression into sinful conduct and rejection of the Lord (10:6), their actions led them to be taken captive by the hands of the Philistines and children of Ammon (10:7). Under their tyranny and rule, Israel was “*vexed and oppressed the for eighteen years*” (10:8) causing Israel to be “*sore distressed*” (10:9). As before, when things got very difficult, Israel “*cried unto the Lord saying, We have sinned against thee, both because we have forsaken our God, and also served Baalim*” (10:10). The Lord responded by rejecting their plea, stating He had saved them before, but to no avail; therefore, He told them them to go and cry after the idols they had served to help save them (10:11-14). The people responded with a great cry, saying, “*We have sinned: do thou unto us whatsoever seems good to thee; deliver us only, we pray thee, this day*” (10:15). Their plea was coupled with action as they “*put away the strange gods from among them, and served the Lord*” (10:16a). Based on their actions, the Lord’s soul was grieved for their misery (10:16b). This commitment to true repentance then spawned a renewal of mind and spirit that would jettison them to great courage in deposing their oppressors; therefore, the people and

princes of Gilead asked among themselves, “*What man is he that will begin to fight against the children of Ammon? he shall be head over all the inhabitants of Gilead*” (10:18).

In chapter 11, we are introduced to a mighty man of valor from Gilead that would lead Israel’s revolution - the man was named *Jephthah* (1). His name means “*he will open*,” suggesting that through Him, an opening of hope and victory would come. But although the name, character, and spirit of Jephthah would become pivotal and monumental, it is his beginning and position in life he had to first overcome before he become the deliverer of God’s people. Verse 1 tells us that Jephthah was the son of a harlot. Although no fault of his own, Jephthah’s half-brothers mocked and chided him saying, “*Thou shalt not inherit in our father’s house; for you are the son of a strange woman*” (2b). This constant mockery led Jephthah to flee his brethren and people, and he dwelt in the land and Tob, and there he fellowship with others in his same position - outcasts of society (3). But unbeknownst to the people at the time, Jephthah, the outcast, would be solicited to help Israel overcome her enemies. May God be praised!

How Israel Fell From Glory (14)

A Study in the Book of Isaiah

Church News and Announcements

CONGREGATION

On November 13, brother Andy Burns from New Mexico Children's Home will be here to speak during our evening service. We encourage everyone to be here.

The fellowship luncheon, hosted by the Hipps, will be next Sunday, November 13, after morning services. The menu is healthy potluck.

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 on November 12 in the annex building. The Dorries will host this event. All our youth are encouraged to attend.

YOUNG ADULT

An application has been sent to TXDOT for Adopting A Highway. Hopefully Gabriel will get notice soon and set a date and time for young adults to help clean our environment.

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

The following chapters (13-24) deal with a succession of pagan kingdoms (*Babylon, Assyria, Philistine, Moab, Syria, Ethiopia, and Egypt*) that would play a major role in the history of Israel. Many of these nations would be used by God to discipline a disobedient Israel. Now, as we've mentioned before, due to Israel's commission of sin, the consequences of sin that followed was, like attracts like; therefore, the fruits of evil and wickedness would gravitate toward Israel, and she would suffer immensely at the hands of wicked doers (13:5-8, cf. Pr. 13:15). And although these nations would destroy and cause Israel's demise, it did not mean these nations were off the hook with God. In other words, because Israel had encouraged her demise by inviting sin and destruction to her shores, God reminded these nations that they too would be destroyed for their noxious behavior (13:8-14:23; 18:1-19-25; 21:1-10; 23:1-18).

In chapter 24, God reminded the whole earth that they are under His judgment - "*The earth is defiled under the inhabitants thereof; because they have transgressed the laws, changed the ordinance, broken the everlasting covenant. Therefore hath the curse devoured the earth, and they that dwell therein are*

desolate: therefore the inhabitants of the earth are burned, and few men left" (5-6). He went on to say, "*The earth is utterly broken down, the earth is clean dissolved, the earth is moved exceedingly... and it shall come to pass in that day, that the Lord shall punish the host of the high ones that are on high, and the kings of the earth upon the death. And they shall be gathered together, as prisoners are gathered in the pit...*" (19,21-22). The final word and glory would be when "*the Lord shall reign in mount Zion, and in Jerusalem, and before his ancients*" (23).

What these chapters reveal is, God's disdain for wickedness. Wicked behavior simply destroys us. It invites more wickedness to come upon us, and when wickedness is full, it does what it always does, destroys everyone and everything in its path. How? Since wickedness is promoted by selfish desires (i.e., *people*), these find ways to destroy those who would prevent them from their own sinful happiness. This is why Solomon said concerning the wicked, "*For they eat the bread of wickedness, and drink the wine of violence*" (Pr. 4:17). Wickedness is self-destructing, but when we follow God's path, it promotes the health and well-being of all men. 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

Assembling Together For Worship Is Encouragement

"And let us consider how to stimulate one another to love and good works" (Heb. 10:24). We are challenged by God to keep others in mind as we work and worship in the kingdom. We are not islands, isolated from others in a sea of worldliness. We are a body of believers, interconnected by God Himself to reach out to the lost and to encourage the saved.

Many believers fail to realize that worship is about encouraging others as much as it is about being encouraged. We are told "to consider" others. This requires knowledge and awareness of others. This requires knowledge and awareness of others and their situations. One place to gain this awareness is in the regular assembling together that the church experiences.

We are also commanded to stimulate others to good works. We are able to motivate others only because we are aware of their situation. Out of the awareness comes the ability to motivate, encourage and stimulate others to stay faithful, to expand their service to God, to become more committed.

Obviously, the command to know each others and to encourage each other cannot be obeyed in isolation. Why assemble with others to worship God? Because We cannot encourage those with whom we do come in contact. We cannot be encouraged by them, and we cannot not encourage them, if we refuse to assemble with the saints who worship God.

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 6

AM WORSHIP

Announcements: *G. Rodriguez*
 Opening Prayer: *M. de la Garza*
 Song Leader: *E. Hipp*
 Lord's Supper: *J. Mokry; N. Esenowo; D. Mathis; A. Maldonado*

Scripture: *Jn. 19:17-22*
 Sermon: *G. Rodriguez*
 Benediction: *R. Baltierra*

PM WORSHIP

Announcements: *G. Rodriguez*
 Opening Prayer: *E. Castillo*
 Song Leader: *R. Trevino*
 Lord's Supper: *E. Hipp; J. Watkins*
 Sermon: *G. Rodriguez*
 Benediction: *S. Amos*

After Greeter: *B & B Dorries*
 Greeter/Usher: *G. Gribble*
 AV Duty: *T. Mayces*
 Elder in charge: *W. Holmes*

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 Abel

PM Sermon:

Series Introduction

WEDNESDAY NIGHT DEVOTIONAL

November 2: *R. Baltierra Jr.*

November 9: *T. Mayces*

November 16: *A. Maldonado*

FOR THE RECORD

OCTOBER 30/NOVEMBER 2

Attendance:

Sunday Bible Study 52
 Sunday AM Worship 77
 Sunday PM Worship 30
 Wednesday Bible Study 41
 Budget/Offering: **\$2,140.02/ \$1,888.44**

Weekly Bible Readers: 6/20 (Adult Bible class)

SHENANDOAH CHURCH OF CHRIST

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shenandoah@shenandoahcofc.org

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