



Today's Passage:
Pastor Tony will be speaking to us today from
Joshua 3:7-13

Sermon Notes:

Welcome to the Celebration!



New Life Christian Community

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come." 2 Cor 5:17

Sunday, June 14, 2015

Vol. 8, Issue 36

Pastoral Ponderings

Finding the Glory of Jesus in the Old Testament

The importance of reading the Old Testament as a Christian cannot be overstated. Our constant and copious study of the Old Testament is obvious to the most casual Newlifer. Though we do follow the God of the New Testament, we likewise (and no less) follow the God of the Old Testament. Our God does not change.

The Old Testament is the framework from which springs the New Testament. After all, if the Old Testament was not an essential and vital part of the revelation of Jesus Christ, His starting point of that revelation would have easily begun as John begins his gospel, "In the beginning was the Word..."

John begins to explain the gospel by bringing us back to the beginning - with allusions to the beginning of the book of Genesis, John is able to help us to understand even more about how the world was created. The New Testament informs our understanding of the Old Testament. At the same time, and with great regularity, the Old Testament informs our understanding of the New Testament.

Here is one example that I recently came across in my private studies.

Within our churches and different denominations we hear phrases like "I have been ransomed by Jesus Christ." Or "Jesus Christ has paid my ransom with his life." Liturgies, creeds, and confessions are filled with theological truths akin to this profession. From where does this confessional truth of Jesus Christ as our ransom come? Origen (many call him an early church father) is said to have been the 'champion' of this truth, but I suggest to you that this truth comes from something much earlier than the man named Origen.

The New Testament has no shortage of references to the idea that Christ is our ransom. Jesus teaches us this in Matthew 20:28 (c.f. Mark 10:45). Paul proclaims this truth to Timothy in 1 Timothy 2:6. Peter teaches us this in 1 Peter 1:18. Even John, as he is recording the revelation from God the Father, is reminded of the veracity of the ransom of Jesus Christ in Revelation 5:9.

At first glance we may be inclined to think, 'this is all I need to know about being ransomed. Jesus has ransomed me with His life! What more could we hope to learn of this truth? After all, the New Testament seems to do a good job at explaining it!'

Let's take a look at what Psalm 49 teaches us about the idea of ransom. Psalm 49 starts

"I AM THE ALPHA AND THE OMEGA," *Continued next page...*

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We'd like to get to know you. Please take a moment to fill out this card then drop it in the wooden offering box near the back of the room.

- ☐ First-Time Visitor
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Name:

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How to access the sermon archives:

If you would like a copy of an audio (CD) or video (DVD) of a sermon from our archives (\$2 per copy), please complete the following and drop this card in the wooden offering box near the back of the room. Your order will be available for pick-up at the video booth the following week.

Name:

Sermon Date:

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To download sermons for free, go to
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Prayer Card

If you are in need of prayer or would like to share a praise report, please share it below then drop this card in the wooden offering box near the back of the room.

Please check a box below:

- ☐ This may be added to our congregation prayer wall
- ☐ Share this only with the pastor and elders

Optional:

Name:

Email:

Phone:

If you would like someone to pray with you today, you may come to the front of the church immediately following the service.

Pastoral Eldership Team:

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Greg Mattson	715.417.2444
Rene Milner	715.483.0185
Andy Peterson	715.417.2253
Mike Schwab	651.329.7528
Phil Stratmoen	715.483.9847

This Week’s Calendar:

Jun 17	GriefShare Meeting 12:30-2:00 p.m. at NLCC building
Jun 18	Men’s Bible Study The Book of Acts 6:30 a.m. at NLCC building
Jun 18	Young Men’s Bible Study Moral Revolution (for 13-18 YRS) 6:00 p.m. at NLCC building

Sunday Nursery: (Infants - Preschool)
Jun 14 Cindy D, Lillian H, Rebecca R, Cecilia G
Jun 21 Sara G, Brita G, Jenna V, Elise V



Although there will Not be a meal service today, you are encouraged to fellowship on your own today.

Checkout New Life Online
newlifechristiancommunity.org

Our website is full of information about who we are, what we believe, and up-to-date information about what’s going on at New Life.

Find Links to:
• Events • Sermons Online • Set Lists • The Table • & More

June Memory Verse: John 14:6-7

“Jesus said to him, ‘I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you had known me, you would have known my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.’”

Pastoral Ponderings continued...

by calling all people to listen (that includes you and me), “Hear this, all peoples! Give ear, all inhabitants of the world, both low and high, rich and poor together!”

The Psalmist continues by presenting a riddle for the reader (see vs 3). In verse 7 the riddle is in full form (a riddle that we must also wrestle with). The Psalmist writes, “Truly no man can ransom another or give to God the price of his life”. This, at first glance, flies in the face of what we understand as our salvation in Jesus Christ. Indeed, if we believe Christ is our ransom (which seems to be an orthodox confessional belief), then we must wrestle Psalm 49:7.

The Psalmist goes out of his way to explain that no amount of wealth and no person can ever ransom another person. Truthfully, this makes sense. How can we expect another person to be justly forgiven because of a ransom?!

The truth that I was really struck by, comes later in the Psalm (the resolution and answer to the riddle). After the Psalmist has adequately laid out his riddle (how can anyone then be forgiven?), he resolves it with this simple phrase, “But God will ransom my soul from the power of Sheol (hell), for he will receive me.”

Only when you understand that man cannot ransom another man can you truly appreciate what the New Testament is saying about Jesus. In effect, for the early church, the discussion regarding the ransom of Christ assumed the fact that Jesus was God! They understood that only God could ransom another person from the power of Hell.

The deity of Christ is what makes His sacrifice adequate enough to ransom my soul! There can be no other conclusion! Jesus is God. Thus, when I profess Him as my sacrifice, Lord and Savior, I am in effect declaring that Jesus Christ is God Himself. The perfect and priceless sacrifice for my life.

His death becomes my life. Indeed, we can say with Psalm 49:14b, “death shall be [our] shepherd.

Let the Old Testament proclaim loudly how glorious our great and awesome Savior is. Jesus Christ is God of very God.

Blessings, Tony Minell



Ministry Directory:

Building & Grounds Ministry
contact Jim Nelson 651.283.2132 his email: lynnjimmnelson@gmail.com

Children’s Church Ministry
contact Cara Gilbertson:
715.755.3517 her email:
cara.gilbertson@gmail.com

Children’s Nursery Ministry
contact Sara Fugate: 715.379.8799
her email: fugate.sara@gmail.com

Community Outreach contact Phil and Pam Stratmoen: 715.491.5779
email: philstratmoen@gmail.com

Finance Administration - Cory Mattson (Finance Secretary): 715.417.0945 her email: cory79mattson@hotmail.com or Pete Manship (Treasurer): 715.755.3330 his email: pete@pbmpkmanSHIP.com

GriefShare Ministry - Connie Bayle: 715.557.1431 her email: conjoh1@gmail.com

Hospitality Ministry contact Pam Stratmoen: 715.491.5779 her email: stratmoenp@gmail.com

Meal Relief Ministry contact Julie Minell: 715.417.1981 her email: mrs.minell@yahoo.com

Missions Outreach contact is Lorraine Milner: 715.557.0661 her email: lrnilner@gmail.com

Newsletter Administration
contact Dawn Holm: 715.472.8453 her email: djholm@lakeland.ws

Transportation Services contact Eve Bjork: 715.497.6418 her email: sofiesydney@yahoo.com or Art Behr: 715.220.6882 his email: behrden1@charter.net

Video Ministry contact Jenna Peterson: 715.417.1357 her email: jennapeterson54@gmail.com

Youth Group Ministry contact Pastor Chandler Wiley: 815.575.6122 his email: pastorwiley.nlcc@gmail.com

Announcements:



Due to ongoing construction this summer, we will only be serving a meal following our service every other Sunday. On those weekends we don’t serve, we encourage you to fellowship with someone from church by sharing a meal at each other’s home or at a local restaurant or picnic at the park. **Today** there is **no meal service** being provided.

**NURSERY WORKERS
NEEDED!**

Are you looking for a place to serve in the church? The nursery needs more volunteers like you!! Please see Sara Fugate if you are interested or have any questions.

**VBS
2015**

Vacation Bible School is gearing up! Please help us as we start collecting materials. We need the following items: Brown Bed Sheets, Star Stamps (rubber), White Rope Lights, Medium Size Rocks. Contact Cara Gilbertson or Leah Germain if you’re able to help or have questions.

Events to take Note of:



BEACH FELLOWSHIP
Wednesday evenings at Sand Lake. Everyone is invited. Come any time after 5:30 p.m. and park in Roger and Sandy’s driveway (1131 190th Street (County Road Y) – Dresser).



Options for Women-Tri-County is a non-profit pregnancy center located in Osceola, WI, providing free services to anyone facing a crisis pregnancy. You can help by participating in our Baby Bottle Program.

We are asking that bottles be returned to New Life by June 23rd. A basket full of baby bottles has been placed on a table as you enter the building. Once you have filled your bottle it can be returned to that same basket. Donations are tax deductible and we appreciate and thank you for your generosity. As always, embracing this cause through individual prayer is invaluable. If there are any questions, please contact Sandy Erickson.



Pastor Tony will be racing in this year’s Faster Pastor race at Cedar Lake Speedway, Saturday evening, July 4. Tickets will be available soon.