

MADRID CHURCH OF CHRIST

SUNDAY, JANUARY 15, 2017

2017 ANNUAL THEME:

PUTTING ON THE FULL ARMOR OF GOD



EPHESIANS 6:10-20

"PUT ON THE WHOLE ARMOR OF GOD, THAT YOU MAY BE ABLE TO STAND AGAINST THE SCHEMES OF THE DEVIL" (EPHESIANS 6:11).

TODAY'S SCHEDULE

9AM

11AM



"NO SOLDIER GETS ENTANGLED IN CIVILIAN PURSUITS, SINCE HIS AIM IS TO PLEASE THE ONE WHO ENLISTED HIM" (2 TIMOTHY 2:4).

CAN GOOD PEOPLE BE LOST?

BY DOY MOYER

If we think of the gospel just as something that makes us “good,” and because we are good we are saved, then we will be confused about the notion that “good people” will be lost. What about those good, moral friends that we have? Wouldn’t God just save them, too? I recently heard of a woman nearby who believed her atheist husband would be saved because he was just a very good man. Wouldn’t God owe that to him?

But thinking in those terms means that we are essentially making salvation something that is merited based on goodness (which also becomes self-defined when God is removed, and are we really “good” given the problem of sin?). If we cannot conceive of good people being lost, even though they don’t believe in Jesus, then we have missed the most significant aspect of what salvation is about. Further, evangelism would just become a way of trying to get people to be good rather than sharing the death and resurrection of Jesus with them so they can humbly come to God for forgiveness.

What the above scenario is missing is grace. If people are saved because they are good, then grace isn’t needed, and it has nothing to do with forgiveness or the blood of Christ. “Being good” would be Savior, not Christ. Spurning the death of Christ and the grace of God would mean nothing if being good itself will take care our eternal destiny.

Acceptance of the gospel will make us better people who do good works (Titus 2:11-14), but what saves us is grace through faith (Eph. 2:8-10). Sadly, there are decent people who do spurn the grace of God through Christ, and in doing so they lose any hope of salvation and forgiveness regardless of how good they are otherwise. All have sinned and all are in need of God’s saving grace, which is not accessed by just doing good things, but by faith in Christ (cf. Rom. 5:1-2).

This is, also, what distinguishes Christianity from other religions. Many religions might try to help people to “be good,” but only Christ can offer the grace that provides forgiveness and salvation (John 14:6; Acts 4:12). We must submit to Christ and His will on His terms, not ours, if we will have that hope only found in Him.

Jason’s thoughts: It is important for us to keep in mind the truth that, without God’s forgiveness, which comes through the Lord Jesus, NO ONE is (or can be) a good person. We often frivolously call people “good people,” not remembering that the Bible teaches this about those who are not in Christ, *“None is righteous, no, not one; no one understands; no one*

seeks for God. All have turned aside; together they have become worthless; no one does good, not even one” (Romans 3:10-12). Even though our friends and neighbors may seem honest and kind, this does not mean that they are “good” people or have “good hearts” (biblically speaking). They are enemies of God and in need of His mercy and forgiveness.

We also need to remember that, without the grace of God, we cannot be good people. It is only through Jesus’ sacrifice that we are able to do good works, to continue to receive forgiveness, and to have the hope of being “filled with goodness” (Romans 15:14). God alone is good, and we are only doing good whenever we are being remade into His glorious image and doing good works for HIS glory and honor.

ABRAHAM’S EXAMPLE OF HOSPITALITY

OUTLINE BY JOE WORKS (FROM FACEBOOK)

Leading In Hospitality

Abraham’s Example (Gen 18:1-8)

- V.1 It’s the heat of the day – no excuses**
- V.2 He ran to meet strangers – Hebrews 13:2**
- V.3 He pursued hospitality – Romans 12:13**
- V.4 He offered them rest**
- V.5 He desired to bring them comfort/refreshing**
- V.6 He hurried to lead in getting things done**
- V.7 He ran to get a good animal to offer to them**
- V.8 He took the food them personally**

He stood by them, in servant-like manner

Men who desire to be elders will be hospitable (I Tim 3:2), not just have a hospitable wife, but be hospitable like Abraham. Attitudes needed: awareness, humility, concern

ABRAHAM IS OUR EXAMPLE OF BEING FAITHFUL IN MANY THINGS, INCLUDING HOSPITALITY. ARE YOU FOLLOWING IN HIS EXAMPLE AND PURSUING HOSPITALITY (ROMANS 12:13)?

VISITORS:

THANK YOU FOR COMING TODAY!

If you are visiting with us and have any questions about what you have seen or heard today, please fill out a visitor's card or contact us using the information below. We would be happy to schedule a time to sit down with you and to answer your questions from God's word. If there is anything we can do to help you spiritually, please let us know. We are here to serve!

Call or text Jason @ 412-999-4837 or email him @
preacher@madridchurch.com

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- 02/05 - Song Service
- 02/05 - Super Bowl party @ Kokemiller's house
- 02/26 - Shed potluck after services @ Larry & Franki's
- 03/05 - Song Service
- 03/26-03/29 - Gospel Meeting w/ Mike Richardson (Resisting the Attractions of the World)
- 03/26 Shed potluck after services @ Larry & Franki's

If there is something you are planning at your house that you want put in the bulletin, let Jason know!

DAILY READING:

- 01/16 - Gen 48-50; Psalm 16
- 01/17 - Exo 1-3; Psalm 17
- 01/18 - Exo 4-6; Psalm 18
- 01/19 - Exo 7-9; Psalm 19
- 01/20 - Exo 10-12; Psalm 20
- 01/21 - Exo 13-15; Psalm 21
- 01/22 - Exo 16-18; Psalm 22

