

The Importance of Faith Alone

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Judges 2:6-3:6

Oakbrook Community Church (PCA)

Background

- Another introduction (ANE practice)
- Joshua is again the hero (rightly so) example of faith in action
- 1st generation was faithful

A Failure to Pass On the Faith

- While 1st generation was faithful, they didn't pass on passionate faith
- Quickly the next generation wandered 2:11

How Should We Pass On the Faith?

- Love God & serve Him wholeheartedly
 - beware of legalism remember your heart Dt 6:6
 - our trust and faith must permeate EVERY area of life
 - Apply the Gospel to every area of life
- Discuss and Apply the Gospel Grace Regularly
 - We must always be teaching the Gospel Dt 6:7
 - Remember the 4 G's: God is Great so I don't have to be in control; God is Glorious so I don't have to fear others; God is Good so I don't have to look elsewhere; God is Gracious so I don't have to keep proving myself!
 - Remember the Fruit to Root exam questions to check your heart:
 - What am I doing or experiencing right now?
 - In light of that, what do I believe about myself (God)?
 - What do I believe God is doing or has done?
 - What do I believe that God is like?
- Rehearse the Gospel Always!
 - When we live transparently the next generation will see our faith
 - Israel failed Jdg 2:10

Sad Results from Daily Choices

- Jdg 2:14,20-22 - God gave them over (Rm 1:24,26,28)
- God was angry because He loved His people
- We face a daily choice: Will I choose God or run after other gods?

God Always Provides Judges for Us

- Though disobedient, God still cared for His people 2:16 and raised up judges (think savior)
- God always will provide us with a way out: 1 Cor 10:13
- Note the repeated cycles in Judges... so much like how we often return to our idolatrous ways in our lives!
- May we not be like 2:19 turning back to idolatrous ways!
- Danger of pagan culture – all gods are okay as long as you don't demand exclusivity of the One True God

The Mercy and Judgment and Hope of Christ

- God uses wicked nations and idols to teach us 2:21-22
 - to test God's People to see whether we follow God alone
 - to teach the next generation of God's faithfulness 3:1-2

Some Important Lessons:

- God relentlessly offers Grace to people who don't deserve it, or seek it, or even appreciate it after they have been saved by it.
Book of Judges doesn't provide us with good role models... we need to look to God's Only Savior: Jesus Christ as our Judge!
- God wants Lordship over every area of our lives, not just some!
God wanted Israel to take the entire land, but they just conquered some and learned to try to live contentedly with idols. They walked in half-way-faith.
- We need the Only True Savior: Jesus Christ
The repeated cycles of judges point us to our need of The Savior, not role models. God sent Jesus Christ to be Our Savior! Act 4:12
and there is salvation in NO ONE ELSE, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved Act 4:12