

Generations and the Missio Dei Genesis 11:10-32

"He has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts."
Luke 1:51

sermonnotes

Introduction

As we end the first 11 chapters of Genesis I pray that we have clearly seen God's grace in the midst of the human condition.

Genesis has shown us that God is present and His grace is abundant in both the Old and New Testament books.

I'm sure you're even wondering why we're preaching this passage. It appears at first glance as another boring genealogy. Genealogies may seem boring, but they fill us with the reality that God is working His mission in time. These are real people from real times that connect us to our brothers and sisters and remind us that God is on a mission to save "the nations" from certain destruction. It reminds us that God has a plan and He is communicating that plan in history. We are not going at this alone; we are an extension of the people of God doing His will, acting in His story. Just like these people thousands of years ago, we are called upon to leave our Ur and enter our Canaan filled with apprehension and adventure. It is the unknown that makes this adventure with God so inviting and compelling. We, like Abraham, are called to move and be a part of the mission that God has begun. It is by God's grace that the mission even exists. It is because He loves. He embodies relationship so that we can even know that He loves and He calls.

We leave off here a story that we will pick up once again. It is an important story that I pray you will finish in your times with the Lord. As we look back on God's story we begin to realize that He does things for a purpose to judge evil and form for Himself a people that glorify Him

From The Head...

Last week we saw God scattering those that in their pride were mocking God by assuming that they could build their own security and spirituality without Him. We still act in the same way. We continue to construct our own reality apart from God's presence, and while we stumble on to innovation that is sometimes helpful, we realize in hindsight that it is also problematic and sometime destructive. I want to end our time in Genesis with some basic observations that have been prominent throughout this book.

Our Pride and Sin is a Cause of Isolation and Dire Consequences

God's Grace Is Evident in Sin's Midst

Death is Noticeably Absent in the Presence of Hope

God Remains in Control of His Own Purposes

God Continues To Call People Out to Pursue Those Purposes

God is NOT a "Tribal" Deity

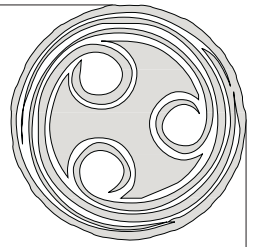
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The fall has not thwarted God's plans for humanity. Though it is true that sin confuses and mars our ability to fully know God, it is by His grace and His action in the world that He still calls out His people to fulfill His mandate to "Be fruitful...subdue the earth...cultivate and serve it." The "Missio Dei," is aligning us with God's mission in the world. It is a mission to express His glory and call people out of their own self-centered reality into the real world constructed with Him as the one and only God, worthy of our worship.

Are you living a life that is being transformed into a "God obsessed" person? Are you connected to His mission and His will for you in this world, or are you simply living every day in fear of tomorrow, strategizing how to "cope" with reality? I pray that we, as a people formed by God, can begin to get outside ourselves and serve one another and those in our communities that so desperately need to see Christ lived out in front of them.

sermonnotes

... To The Heart



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