

Evening Sermon Outline – November 3, 2019

“Blessings, Mercy, Undeserved...” Psalm 41

I. I believe David is speaking here of a blessing he did not deserve, at least not completely –

Blessed is he who considers the poor; The LORD will deliver him in time of trouble. The LORD will preserve him and keep him alive, and he will be blessed on the earth; You will not deliver him to the will of his enemies. The LORD will strengthen him on his bed of illness; You will sustain him on his sickbed. I said, “LORD, be merciful to me; Heal my soul, for I have sinned against You.” Psalm 41:1-4

1. There is certainly a blessing to the merciful, “he who considers the poor” our Lord Jesus speaks about it –

Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy. Matthew 5:7

2. I doubt not that David did often ‘consider the poor’ however the unfaithfully friend mentioned in verse :9 for David was Ahithophel ...

A. Ahithophel leaves David because and for David’s rebellious son Absalom...

B. And Absalom’s rebellion is connected to David’s sin with Bathsheba ...

C. Which includes a sin against the poor man Uriah the Hittite – Remember who Nathan the Prophet made David see his sin -

And a traveler came to the rich man(David), who refused to take from his own flock and from his own herd to prepare one for the wayfaring man who had come to him; but he took the poor man’s (Uriah) lamb (Bathsheba) and prepared it for the man who had come to him.” 2 Samuel 12:4

Not only was David’s act adultery, which led to murder, which showed a lack of contentment in regard to God’s provision ... but according to Nathan the Prophet, who was speaking by the power of God’s Spirit, it was an action OPPOSITE of considering the poor, which would result in God’s blessing and David was feeling the opposite of blessing in his life as Absalom rebelled, his best friend went with, his best friend committed suicide, his son, Absalom hung himself by his hair in a

tree... and so David cries for mercy, for healing of his sin-sick soul- :4 I said, “LORD, be merciful to me; Heal my soul, for I have sinned against You.” Psalm 41:1-4

II. As part of the discipline of God for his sin, David’s enemies were allowed to gather against him –

My enemies speak evil of me: “When will he die, and his name perish?” And if he comes to see me, he speaks lies; His heart gathers iniquity to itself; When he goes out, he tells it. All who hate me whisper together against me; Against me they devise my hurt. “An evil disease,” they say, “clings to him. And now that he lies down, he will rise up no more.” Psalm 41:5-8

One example of this is Shimei –

Now when King David came to Bahurim, there was a man from the family of the house of Saul, whose name was Shimei the son of Gera, coming from there. He came out, cursing continuously as he came. And he threw stones at David and at all the servants of King David. And all the people and all the mighty men were on his right hand and on his left. Also Shimei said thus when he cursed: “Come out! Come out! You bloodthirsty man, you rogue! The LORD has brought upon you all the blood of the house of Saul, in whose place you have reigned; and the LORD has delivered the kingdom into the hand of Absalom your son. So now you are caught in your own evil, because you are a bloodthirsty man!” Then Abishai the son of Zeruiah said to the king, “Why should this dead dog curse my lord the king? Please, let me go over and take off his head!” But the king said, “What have I to do with you, you sons of Zeruiah? So let him curse, because the LORD has said to him, ‘Curse David.’ Who then shall say, ‘Why have you done so?’ ” And David said to Abishai and all his servants, “See how my son who came from my own body seeks my life. How much more now may this Benjamite? Let him alone, and let him curse; for so the LORD has ordered him. It may be that the LORD will look on my affliction, and that the LORD will repay me with good for his cursing this day.” And as David and his men went along the road, Shimei went along the hillside opposite him and cursed as he went, threw stones at him and kicked up dust. Now the king and all the people who were with him became weary; so they refreshed themselves there. 2 Samuel 16:5-14

Note about Shimei:

- 1. He speaks lies – He curses and lies calling David a blood-thirsty man, implying that David killed or was to blame for King Saul’s death – NOT TRUE!*

2. *David's servants want to take of Shimei's head, they know what he is saying as he throws rocks is a blatant lie!*
3. *David stops his servant from taking righteous vengeance because he sees Shimei's actions and lies part of God's punishment*
4. *Yet, while he does not allow his servant to deal with Shimei, and other enemies like him, he still believes God can and will deal with him!*

III. *While verse :9 referred to Ahithophel in David's life, it refers to Judas in Jesus' life –*

Even my own familiar friend in whom I trusted, who ate my bread, has lifted up his heel against me. Psalm 41:9

"I do not speak concerning all of you. I know whom I have chosen; but that the Scripture may be fulfilled, 'He who eats bread with Me has lifted up his heel against Me.' John 13:18

How do Ahithophel and Judas compare to each other?

1. *Both had authoritative positions:*
 - A. *Ahithophel counselor to the King*
 - B. *Judas apostle of Christ*
2. *Both were counted friends my own familiar friend literally, "the man of my peace."*
3. *Both betrayed:*
 - A. *Ahithophel betrays David in favor of his handsome, young, arrogant, popular-with-the-people son Absalom*
 - B. *Judas betrays Jesus for money*
4. *Both are disappointed and commit suicide:*
 - A. *Ahithophel is disappointed when Absalom rejects his council*
 - B. *Judas is broken when he realizes his betrayal will result in Jesus' death*
 - C. *Neither repents, neither seeks to return, both kill themselves!*

5. *Ahithophel betrays a great king, one who was himself a sinner.*
6. *Judas betrays the KING of kings, the sinless Son of God and Savior of sinners!*

IV. *David is ultimately blessed because of Jesus –*
But You, O LORD, be merciful to me, and raise me up, That I may repay them. By this I know that You are well pleased with me, because my enemy does not triumph over me. As for me, You uphold me in my integrity, And set me before Your face forever. Psalm 41:10-12

1. *God mercy toward David is ultimately contingent on Christ's suffering on the cross –*

Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven, Whose sin is covered. Blessed is the man to whom the LORD does not impute iniquity, And in whose spirit there is no deceit. Psalm 32:1-2

But now the righteousness of God apart from the law is revealed, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets, even the righteousness of God, through faith in Jesus Christ, to all and on all who believe. For there is no difference; for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God set forth as a propitiation by His blood, through faith, to demonstrate His righteousness, because in His forbearance God had passed over the sins that were previously committed, to demonstrate at the present time His righteousness, that He might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus. Romans 3:21-26

2. *Even the repaying, revenge of His saints is ultimately in God's hands –*

Beloved, do not avenge yourselves, but rather give place to wrath; for it is written, "Vengeance is Mine, I will repay," says the Lord. Romans 12:19

3. *Even in this life, David is not ultimately defeated ...*
4. *Because of God's upholding*

V. *The blessing is ultimately turned back to God -*
Blessed be the LORD God of Israel from everlasting to everlasting! Amen and Amen. Psalm 41:13

1. *What we are must do – 1 Corinthians 10:31*
2. *What is eternal truth!*

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