
Sermon Notes

September 12, 2021

First Congregational Church of Pomfret

Remember!
2 Timothy 2:8-13

Memories

- ❖ Power, value and importance of memories
 - circumstances and forces that have shaped our stories
 - positive and negative things God has used to put us where we are today
- ❖ Paul's "lookback" at his life and ministry
 - deep, heartfelt concern for the churches he has served and people he has ministered to
 - thanksgiving for his personal transformation from Christian killer to Christ follower
- ❖ Paul exhorts Timothy to remember 3 things that are essential to standing tall and suffering for Christ

Remember the Gospel

- ❖ *Remember Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, the offspring of David, as preached in my gospel*

- ❖ Remember the resurrection
 - the centerpiece of our faith
 - the resurrection power we are given to live a new life
 - the promise that we will one day experience a bodily resurrection
- ❖ Remember that Jesus IS MESSIAH
 - "Christ" = Messiah
 - a title, not a name
 - Jesus is the name Gabriel tells Mary and Joseph to call the child born to them = God is salvation
 - fulfillment of the long-standing promise made to King David in 2 Samuel 7
 - God's Messiah will be a descendant of David who will reign forever
 - Jesus is the culmination, fulfillment, final step in God's unfolding plan of salvation
- ❖ Remembering Jesus' resurrection and Messiahship causes us to keep His authority and His power in view
 - remember and KEEP ON remembering
 - Jesus Christ, our resurrected, living Messiah is everything we need for life and salvation

Remember the Gospel's Power

- ❖ Although Paul is chained in humiliating circumstances, he wants to remind us that *the word of God is not chained!*

- Paul has already seen how God uses things like imprisonment to further the spread of the gospel (Phil 1:12-14)
- the church has faced threats and challenges in every age to fulfilling her mission
- Jesus assures us that He will build His church, and the gates of hell will not prevail against it
- ❖ God's Word is active and powerful
 - God's Word accomplishes God's work and fulfills God's will
 - God's Word is not dependent on any particular form of government, societal rights or the consent of the governed to accomplish its purpose
 - the Word of God always has and always will have absolute freedom to do what God intends for it to do
 - God's Word can no more be chained than God Himself!

Remember The Gospel's Promise

- ❖ Vv. 11-13 are like a short poem made up of 4 stanzas
- ❖ Stanza 1 (v. 11)
 - recap of Romans 6:8, *if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him.*
 - the crux of what it means to be a genuine Christ follower
 - dying to self and sin
 - living with resurrection power
 - an event that occurred in our past at conversion and continues to impact our present life in Christ

- ❖ Stanza 2 (v. 12a)
 - our future and ongoing perseverance in the faith
 - holding your ground, maintaining your position
- ❖ Stanza 3 (v. 12b)
 - apostasy
 - those who make an outward profession of faith without ever having the inward transformation such a profession must be preceded by
 - those who are saved WILL be faithful to the end
- ❖ Stanza 4 (v. 13)
 - a glorious promise of God's faithfulness
 - if we stumble, fall, or lapse into an unfaithful act or even an unfaithful season, God in Christ remains faithful to us

Personal Application

1. Paul tells us to remember the gospel, the gospel's power and "the trustworthy saying" that he recites. Which of these 3 are you most in need of being reminded about during this season of life? Why is that the case, and what steps will you take to remind yourself about this?
2. Dying to self/sin and living with resurrection power involve a past event that has continuing implications for our present life. In what ways do you find resurrection power at work in your life?
3. In what ways does the glorious promise in v. 13 encourage you and strengthen your confidence and assurance of God's persevering grace in your life?