

Sermon Outline

IT'S NEVER TOO LATE ... | Geoff Lin

Bible Reading: Joshua 2:1-24

The story so far ...

Jos 1: 8 Keep this Book of the Law always on your lips; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful

Eph 1:3 Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ.

1. Joshua sends in the spies (vv1-3)

- the bigger and better story we belong to ...

Q. Is history about to repeat?

2. Rahab decides to protect the spies (vv4-21)

i. vv4-7

ii. vv8-13

9 I know that the LORD has given you this land

and that a great fear of you has fallen on us, so that all who live in this country are melting in fear because of you. 10 We have heard how the LORD dried up the water of the Red Sea for you when you came out of Egypt, and what you did to Sihon and Og, the two kings of the Amorites east of the Jordan, whom you completely destroyed.

11 When we heard of it, our hearts melted in fear and everyone's courage failed because of you, for the LORD your God is God in heaven above and on the earth below.

12 Now then, please swear to me by the LORD that you will show kindness to my family, because I have shown kindness to you. Give me a sure sign 13 that you will spare the lives of my father and mother, my brothers and sisters, and all who belong to them – and that you will save us from death.

iii. vv14-21

3. The spies report back to Joshua (vv22-24)

So what, for us?

1. The conquest of the land is NOT total annihilation

- Deep Dive (730-9pm, Thu 5 September)

2. The bigger and better story we belong to is universal (not just about Israel)

Gen 12:1 The LORD had said to Abram, "Go from your country, your people and your father's household to the land I will show you. 2 "I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. 3 I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you."

Ex 12:37 The Israelites journeyed from Rameses to Sukkoth. There were about six hundred thousand men on foot, besides women and children. 38 Many other people went up with them, and also large droves of livestock, both flocks and herds.

- Jesus is not just "King of the Jews" but "Saviour of the World"

Mt 1:1 This is the genealogy of Jesus the Messiah the son of David, the son of Abraham: 2 Abraham was the father of Isaac, Isaac the father of Jacob, Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers, 3 Judah the father of Perez and Zerah, whose mother was Tamar, Perez the father of Hezron, Hezron the father of Ram, 4 Ram the father of Amminadab, Amminadab the father of Nahshon, Nahshon the father of Salmon, 5 Salmon the father of Boaz, whose mother was Rahab, Boaz the father of Obed, whose mother was Ruth, Obed the father of Jesse, 6 and Jesse the father of King David.

- what God is like always precedes our response ...

3. Anyone can come back to God

Heb 11:1 Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see. 2 This is what the ancients were commended for ... 31 By faith the prostitute Rahab, because she welcomed the spies, was not killed with those who were disobedient.

- Explore (4-530pm Sundays, starting 18 Aug)

- The Parable of the Prodigal Son(s)

Rom 10:9 If you declare with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

For discussion: what do you find hardest about coming back to God?