

Welcome to Rosedale

Sunday March 16, 2014

Welcome & Announcements

Invocation

Musical Praise & Worship

Missions Moment..... David and Karen Heska

Family Prayer

Scripture Reading..... Judges 2:6- 3:6

Message..... Pastor John Bellingham

A PORTRAIT OF APOSTASY

Final Song

Benediction

Memory Work for Junior Church:

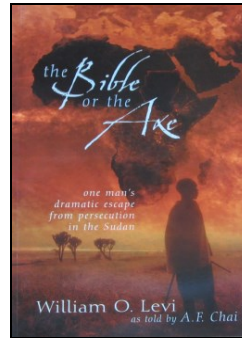
Younger Elementary

“Come, follow me.’ Jesus said, ‘and I will made you fishers of men.’” Matthew 4:19

Middle Elementary

“Do not be afraid, little flock, for your Father has been pleased to give you the kingdom.” Luke 12:32

New in the Rosedale Library:



“THE BIBLE OR THE AXE”

A book by William O. Levi as told by A.F. Chai. Exile. Persecution. Torture. The riveting story of one man’s escape from the Sudan.

Families of the Week

Please remember to encourage and pray for the following families this week.

- Monday** Meinzinger, Julius & Mary
- Tuesday** Metcalf, Kris & Michelle
Keegan, Oliver, Jonas, Rael
- Wednesday** Miller, Russell & Wendy
- Thursday** Morey, Eric
- Friday** Morgan, Terry
- Saturday** Morog, Matt & Pauline

Rosedale Baptist Church



Reaching up....

Reaching in....

Reaching out...

11 Rosedale Place
Welland, ON L3B 1J2
905-735-0788
Pastor: John C. Bellingham

www.rosedalebaptistwelland.com

This Week at Rosedale

Monday: Youth Group – 6:30pm

Tuesday: Men’s Study – 9:30 am
Ladies’ Study – 8:30 pm

Wednesday: Prayer and Praise – 7:00 pm

Friday: Young Adults – 6:30 pm

Saturday: Men’s Study – 8:00 am
Ladies’ Study – 8:00 am

Sunday: Christian Foundations – 9:00 am
Corporate Worship– 10:30 am

Missionary Visit: Reminder that David and Karen Heska will be sharing about their missions trip to South Sudan later this afternoon. Coffee and desert will be served at 2:30pm in our Fellowship Hall.

Ladies’ Fellowship: A ladies luncheon will be held on March 29th, 12pm here at Rosedale. Theme is “Letters, Books and Poems”. Cost is \$10 and lunch will be catered by the Mandarin. RSVP to Gloria Latulippe or Anita Nagy by March 23rd.

Ladies’ Study: Starting this Tuesday at 8:30pm, we will be studying the lives of twelve ‘ordinary’ women in the Bible who were made ‘extraordinary’ through their life-changing encounters with God. Speak to Leslie Bellingham if you’d like to be part of this small group.

Back Door Security: Please note that the back door of the Church is locked during the morning service for security reasons.

A Portrait of Apostasy

Judges 2:6 – 3:6

- The first introduction to Judges (1:1- 2:5) is written from the perspective of the Israelites. The second introduction (2:6 – 3:6) is written from the perspective of Israel’s God.

- The purpose of this second introduction is to introduce the pattern of apostasy (falling away) which will be illustrated by the stories of the Judges in the main section of the book.

I. Source of Apostasy (vv. 6-10)

- 1) Faithfulness of the First Generation
 - a. Joshua held up as a model leader – a ‘type’ of Christ (cf. Hebrews 4:8-11)
 - b. People served the Lord as long as Joshua and the elders were alive
 - c. Joshua anticipates the coming apostasy in his final public address (cf. Joshua 24)
- 2) Faithlessness of Future Generations
 - a. A generation which did not ‘know’ the Lord
 - i. Knowing about God vs. knowing God!
 - ii. Amnesia leads inevitably to apostasy
 - b. Generational Drift
 - i. First generation accepts the gospel
 - ii. Second generation assumes the gospel
 - iii. Third generation abandons the gospel

Application: Instructions for Christian Parents

- a. Do not neglect your spiritual duty to shepherd your children (Deut 6; 1 Cor 7:14)
- b. The most important inheritance you can leave your kids is the treasure of the gospel
- c. You cannot believe for your kids or guarantee their salvation – be faithful to do your part and trust God to do His part.

II. Cycle of Apostasy (vv. 11- 19)

- 1) Cycle of Apostasy outlined here in Judges 2 establishes a pattern for the rest of the book
- 2) **Step 1:** Disobedience (vv. 11-13)
 - a. Idolatry
 - i. Baal and Ashteroth – fertility deities
 - ii. Idolatry changes form, but the old gods of Canaan are still with us today!
 - b. Spiritual ‘prostitution’ (v. 17)
 - i. Idolatry is adultery!
 - ii. Idolatry uses us and abuses us
- 3) **Step 2:** Discipline (vv. 14-15)
 - a. The ‘jealousy’ of God’s love
 - b. The severity of God’s rod
 - c. The proof of God’s grace (cf. Heb 12:5-11)
- 4) **Step 3:** Despair (vv. 15, 18)
 - a. ‘Terrible distress’
 - b. ‘Groaning’ indicates the re-enslavement of Israel within their own land (cf. Ex 2:24)
- 5) **Step 4:** Deliverance (vv. 16 -18)
 - a. The warm compassion of God
 - b. The sovereign initiative of God in salvation
- 6) **Step 5:** Decay (v. 19)

Application: The inability of the ‘judges’ to provide a lasting salvation points forward to the ultimate Judge and the salvation that He alone can provide.

III. God’s Providence in Apostasy (2:20- 3:6)

- 1) Testing of God’s People
 - a. Every Christian is faced with a continual choice: obey God or disobey God
 - b. Christianity is more than a free ticket to heaven – it is a commitment to Lordship!
- 2) Training of God’s People
The persistence of sin in our world and in our hearts trains us to wage war against it through God’s power (cf. Titus 2:11-14)