

Welcome to Rosedale

Sunday May 25, 2014

Welcome & Announcements

Invocation

Musical Praise & Worship

Junior Church

Family Prayer

Scripture Reading..... Judges 10-12:7

Message..... Pastor John Bellingham

JEPHTHAH: RAGS TO RICHES TO RAGS

Final Song

Benediction

Memory Work for Junior Church:

Younger Elementary

Review: "The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth." John 1:14

Middle Elementary

Review: "I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes." Romans 1:16a

Mission of the Week

FEB Quebec – Eric Lanthier (Eglise du coin)

In 2014, we established a bold plan to mobilize the church to reach out and welcome people in the neighbourhood. This includes prayer and preparation of trainers. Recently we invited 1000 people to attend our musical improvisation concert. We had a full house with locals and guests in attendance. One of the guests attended our meeting the next day on Sunday morning! Youth from the churches of FEB will join us to evangelize our neighbourhood from June 7th until the 14th. What good news! On Sunday June 8 we will baptize four new Christians. Thank you for your support and prayer!

Families of the Week

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

<u>Monday</u>	John, Aileen
<u>Tuesday</u>	Johnston, Aleda
<u>Wednesday</u>	Johnston, Glen & Wil
<u>Thursday</u>	Johnston, Tom
<u>Friday</u>	Jollymore, Morris
<u>Saturday</u>	Jones, Gerry & Mary

Rosedale Baptist Church



Reaching up....

Reaching in....

Reaching out...

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Pastor: John C. Bellingham

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This Week at Rosedale

Tuesday: Men's Study – 9:30 am
Youth Group – 6:30 pm
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

Sunday: Lord's Table – 10:30 am

City Sized Youth Rally: This week Rosedale's Youth Group will be travelling to Immanuel Baptist, St. Catharines for 'City-Sized' - Tuesday at 6:30pm

Welland Pro-Life Walkathon: The Welland/Port-Colborne Pro-Life Association is hosting a walk-a-thon on Saturday June 7th. If you would like to participate or to give a donation toward pro-life initiatives in our community please contact Pastor John – john.c.bellingham@gmail.com

Open Arms 'Step up to Stock up': On May 31, Open Arms is hosting 'step-up to stock-up' in an effort to replenish their food supply. Please drop off non-perishable items and hygiene products this week at the church office so we can make a generous contribution to this ministry partner.

Guest Speaker: Please note that Pastor John and family will be in Montreal for McGill Graduation from Friday May 30th to Tuesday June 3rd. If you need pastoral care please contact Glen Johnston or Joe Nagy. Pastor Greg Patus will be ministering the Word of God next Lord's Day.

Rags to Riches to Rags - Judges 10-12:7

I. From Rags (10:1 – 11:3)

- 1) Israel's Threadbare Spirituality
 - a. More 'judges' in Israel that function like self-proclaimed kings (ie. Jair)
 - b. Rampant idolatry – Israel worships the gods of every Canaanite ethnic group that they were supposed to dispossess!
 - c. Tension in the text between God's justice (10:13-14) and God's mercy (10:16)

Application: The judgment for idolatry in our lives is more idolatry! God will give us up to the very false 'gods' that continue to let us down

- 2) An Outcast Leader
 - a. A 'mighty warrior' (recall Gideon)
 - b. Striking similarities between Jephthah and Abimelech
 - i. 'Illegitimate' children of Jewish fathers
 - ii. Cruelly rejected by family and society
 - iii. Leaders of 'worthless fellows' – 11:3 (ie. criminals and vagabonds)
 - iv. Main difference is that Jephthah was a deliverer of Israel and Abimelech was an oppressor of Israel

II. To Riches (11:4-28)

- 1) An Insulting Request
 - a. Israel's poor treatment of Jephthah
 - i. The one who was rudely rejected is now called upon for salvation
 - ii. The 'saviour' exposes the sinful motive of the heart & threatens not to help
 - iii. The people repent and pledge themselves to the 'saviour'
 - b. Israel's treatment of Jephthah reflects their

treatment of God (10:10-16), and points forward toward Jesus (cf. John 1:11)

Application: We cannot claim Jesus as Saviour if we're unwilling to submit to Him as our Lord!

- 2) An Effective Leader in Israel
 - a. Diplomacy with Ammonites demonstrates a strong grasp of Scripture (11:12-28)
 - i. Historical Argument – the land in question was never Ammonite!
 - ii. Theological Argument – the land was given to Israel by Yahweh
 - iii. Legal Argument – nobody complained for 300 years, so why the fuss now??
 - b. Empowered by the Holy Spirit to be Israel's Judge and Deliverer (v. 29; 32-33)

III. To Rags (11:29-12:7)

- 1) Jephthah's Immoral Vow
 - a. A vow of human sacrifice (cf. Deut 12:31)
 - b. Worse than the vow itself is Jephthah's determination to follow through with it
 - i. Reveals a deeply flawed understanding of God's grace and character
 - ii. The Law makes allowances for a foolish vow to be broken (Lev 27:1-7)
 - iii. Even in winning Jephthah is the loser
- 2) Jephthah's Brutal Vengeance on Ephraim

Applications:

- 1) Are we trusting and resting in God's grace or trying to manipulate Him through works-righteousness?
- 2) What are our blind spots? How has the 'pagan' culture around us compromised our witness and tainted an otherwise biblical view of God?
- 3) The fact that a man like Jephthah is listed in Hebrews 11 testifies to the fact that no sin is too great to be forgiven by God. Jesus paid it all!

