

Welcome to Rosedale

Sunday November 20, 2016

Welcome & Announcements

Invocation

Musical Praise & Worship

Family Prayer

Scripture Reading Job 4, 8, 19

Message..... Pastor John Bellingham

WHEN GOOD THEOLOGY IS BAD

Final Song

Benediction

“Through it all, Job never stopped praying. Yes, he complained, but he complained to God. He doubted, but he doubted to God. He screamed and yelled, but he did it in God’s presence. No matter how much in agony he was, he continued to address God. He kept seeking him. And in the end, God said Job triumphed. How wonderful that our God sees the grief and anger and questioning, and is still willing to say ‘you triumphed’ – not because it was all fine, not because Job’s heart and motives were always right, but because Job’s doggedness in seeking the face and presence of God meant that the suffering did not drive him away from God but toward him. And that made all the difference.”

- Timothy Keller

Featured in the Rosedale Library:



The Reckoning (DVD) - When a long lost love unexpectedly returns from her past with a startling revelation, a young Amish woman is torn between her newfound modern life and the simplicity of her humble past and must now choose the life that will finally give her peace of mind.

Families of the Week

Please remember to pray for and to encourage the following people this week

- Monday** Morey, Eric
- Tuesday** Mowat, Gail
- Wednesday** Muir, Lynne & Alex
- Thursday** Muir, Stuart
- Friday** Muir, Muriel
- Saturday** Muller, Joe

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 Bible Study – 9:30 am

Wednesday: Prayer Meeting – 7:00 pm

Saturday: Men's Bible Study – 8:00 am

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

Women's Waffle Breakfast: Saturday December 10th at 9:00am. This event has become a yearly Christmas tradition here at Rosedale and is an excellent opportunity to invite a friend to hear the gospel message. Please sign up in the foyer and take a few invitations.

Baptism Sunday: Next Lord's Day (November 27th) several people from our congregation will be sharing their salvation stories and outwardly expressing their faith in Jesus Christ through the ordinance of Believer's Baptism. Please be sure to be here as we celebrate God's wonderful gift of salvation.

Budget and Nominations Meeting: The date for our Budget and Nominations meeting has been changed to December 3rd at 9:30 am. Copies of the proposed 2017 Budget and Nominations List are available from one of our ushers.

Donation Updates:

Thanksgiving Offering for Bekkatlas – \$1375.00
Christmas Shoeboxes – 70 shoeboxes were sent out from Rosedale last week (compared with 50 last year). Thank you for giving generously!

When Good Theology is Bad - Job 4-27

Many inadequate solutions have been proposed to the 'Problem of Evil':

- God is not good/ God does not exist (Atheism)
- God does not interfere with His creation (Deism)
- God is locked in cosmic battle with an evil counterpart (Dualism)
- God has good intentions in the world but limited power to restrain evil (Process Theology)
- Evil/suffering is an illusion (Pantheism)

The middle chapters of Job reveal another popular, but unsuccessful attempt to explain the existence of evil and suffering in the world: Suffering is Divine Punishment (Often called 'Karma' in our contemporary culture)

I. Counsel of Job's Friends (Eliphaz, Bildad, Zophar)

- 1) The Good
 - a. Their counsel is rooted in a Biblical Principle: Divine Retribution (cf. Galatians 6:7; Psalm 1)
 - b. These men have a sincere and commendable desire to uphold God's justice and goodness
- 2) The Bad
 - a. A good theological principle is misapplied and made absolute → 'suffering is always a punishment for sin' (cf. 4:7-9)
 - b. A False Conclusion: Job must have sinned
 - c. Unhelpful Advice: 'Repent of your 'sin' and God will once again prosper and bless you' (cf. 8:5-7)
 - i. Their advice supports Satan's original challenge: The righteous value God's gifts but care very little about God Himself
 - ii. If Job seeks prosperity at the cost of his integrity, Satan will be vindicated
- 3) The Ugly
 - a. False Accusations (cf. 8:4, 11:4-6, 22:5-11)
 - b. No love or sensitivity in their words (cf. 19:1-4)

Application:

- When a good Biblical principle is wrongly applied, the outcome can be very destructive and harmful
- When studying God's Word always be sure to interpret one passage (book, chapter, paragraph, verse) in light of the whole: '*Scripture interprets Scripture*'

II. Job's Response

- 1) The Good
 - a. Job maintains his innocence and integrity – he wants God to vindicate him, not to prosper him (cf. 23:8-12, 27:1-6)
 - b. Job has a far more nuanced and Biblical understanding of Retribution than his friends
 - i. He believes that the general principle of divine retribution is valid and true (cf. 12:3)
 - ii. He acknowledges what his friends will not: the wicked sometimes prosper while the righteous suffer unjustly (cf. Job 21, 24)
 - iii. He has the hope for ultimate justice in the after-life (cf. 14:13-14, 16:19, 19:25-27)
 - c. Much of Job's response to his friends is in the form of prayer to God! (cf. 7:12-21, 10:2-22, 13:20-28)
- 2) The Bad and the Ugly
 - a. Job crosses the line into blasphemous and ungodly speech (cf. 9:22-23; 16:7-17)
 - b. He must later repent (cf. 42:1-6)

Application:

- The error of Job's friends is still being promoted today by prosperity preachers. Beware of false teachers who twist biblical principles into something destructive
- Sin will always result in negative consequences, but suffering in this life is not always the result of personal sins we have committed (cf. John 9:1-3; Lk 13:1-5)
- Jesus Christ will ultimately punish the wicked and vindicate His children who suffer unjustly– we can suffer with hope knowing that our Redeemer lives!