Genesis: From Creation to New Creation

Genesis 5:1-32

"Walking with God"- March 20, 2022



Introduction

Would you rather go to a funeral or a party? Would you rather be around people who are mourning or feasting? Of course, we'd rather go to a party or feast. However, Ecclesiastes 7:2 reminds us that "It is better to go to the house of mourning than to go to the house of feasting." Why? "For this is the end of all mankind, and the living will lay it to heart."

In our fast paced lives, it's easy to ignore our coming death and the lessons that death teach. For some, the topic of death is taboo, but God wants us to stare at death. He does not want us to ignore the effects of sin or the certainty of death. Genesis 5 is a reminder of the shortness of life, and it helps us shape how we live today. We need to live for what truly matters.

Pray

Before you begin, take some time to ask God to help you understand His word, to reveal what needs to change in you, and for the grace to follow Him in response. To help, use Psalm 119:33-40 as a prayer for God to open His word up to you.

Sermon Outline

- 1. Remember, God's purpose for you remains. Vs. 1-3
- 2. Walk with God. Vs. 21-27
- 3. Hope in God. Vs. 28-32

Read & Discuss

1) Read 5:1-3

The genealogies in scripture are a reminder of God's heart for us. God cares for us by name, and He cares about the details of our life. We were made in His image to reflect and represent God to the rest of the world. Even after sin entered the world, we did not cease to be made in God's image. Though sin has distorted it, the purpose remains the same.

God's blessing to His people remains. When doubt about the goodness of God enters our heart, we want to be God and not trust God. Living for and trying to make a name for ourselves is like following the descendants of Cain. They no longer saw themselves as God saw them. But no matter how much they gained, they lost because death comes to us all. (Ecclesiastes 5:15) One of the things that Genesis 5 tells us is that we can do better than "dying with style."

What are some things that cause you to doubt the goodness of God? How hard is it for you to trust God? How are you doing with reflecting and representing God to the world?

Additional Reading: John 10:2-3, Psalm 27

2) Read 5:21-27

If you turn on the news or look at the newspaper, you will see that death is everywhere. Death is painful for us. It robs us of the ones we love. Reading or hearing about death in the headlines as well as experiencing the deterioration of our own aching bodies can be discouraging. In vs. 4 - 20, Moses introduces us to the descendants of Adam in the line of Seth. They have one thing in common - they all die.

When we get to Enoch, we see something different and unexpected. By changing the pattern, Moses is highlighting the life of Enoch. He wants us to remember that there is life after death! Life here is not the

end, but there is a way to experience life now – walk with God in an intimate relationship of faith, just like Enoch. (Hebrews 11:5-6)

Enoch also prophesied about the coming judgement. (<u>Jude 14-15</u>) God is patient, but there is an end to His patience. God delays judgement to give people time to turn from sin and trust in Christ. But one day judgement will come. After Enoch's son, Methuselah, died, God would send judgement on mankind with a flood.

God's heart is to rescue and save. Jesus, God in the flesh, came to do just that. (Romans 5:8) God is willing. Mankind deliberately neglects God's coming judgement to follow their own sinful desires. One day, Jesus will return and God's judgement will be on those who have rejected Him.

How often do you reflect on death? Why; Why not? What things distract you from remembering that this is not the end? How have you seen God's patience toward you?

Additional Reading: Hebrews 11:5-6; 2 Peter 3:5-6, 9; Romans 8:31-32

3) Read 5:28-32

Genesis 4 and 5 show us two family lines - two paths. Cain had a choice, but he ignored God's warning. He and his whole family line spiral into destruction. The Lamech, in Cain's line, longed for revenge. Yet the Lamech, in Seth's line, longed for rest. Life was hard and this Lamech was tired. But he had hope that God would bring relief. (Genesis 3:15) The name that Lamech gave his son, "Noah," reflects that belief.

Noah would not be the promised savior. Years and years would go on without relief. Until Jesus! He redeems us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us. (Galatians 3:13) Jesus is our unfailing and unbreakable hope!!

Do you feel the weariness of life pressing in on you? Where do you find relief and rest?

Additional Reading: Proverbs 23:18; Matthew 11:28-30; 1 Corinthians 15:51-58

Prayer of Response

- 1) After hearing God's Word, what sin do I need to confess? From what do I need to repent?
- 2) How should my life be lived this week based on what I have heard? What should I understand, believe, desire, or do?

Spend time praying together in response to God's word asking for His help and greater faith to follow Him in the week to com.

If you missed the sermon on Sunday or would like to listen again, visit our website at https://fbcum.org/sermons-new/

*Next week's sermon text: we turn to Genesis 6:1-8 "Grieving God's Heart"