

Good Friday, March 29, 2024

1 Timothy 4:13, “Until I come, devote yourself to the public reading of Scripture, to exhortation, to teaching.”

Title: Thank God I Am Free

Series: Good Friday, 2024

Text: Exodus 2:23 – 24, 11:1 – 15:27;

Luke 5:17 – 26 and Luke 23:32 – 43

Purpose: I want to **MOTIVATE** my congregation to review their own journey to freedom through Christ Jesus.

Introduction:

On Palm Sunday the devotional was entitled ‘Standing On The Promise.’ We considered: 1) Promise to Abraham, 2) Promise to David, 3) Promise Anticipated, 4) Promise of a Suffering Messiah King – Ignored

~ The Feast of Passover was made an annual feast for the nation of Israel during which they took time to recall their national history. God by His mighty arm brought them out of Egypt into a land that He had promised to their fathers, Abraham, Isaac and Joseph!

1. Israel, Thank God I Am Free:

~ Exodus 2:23 – 25, *“During those many days the king of Egypt died, and the people of Israel groaned because of their slavery and cried for help. Their cry for rescue from slavery came up to God. (24) And God heard their groaning, and God remembered his covenant with Abraham, with Isaac, and with Jacob. (25) God saw the people of Israel—and God knew.”*

~ Exodus 7:14 – 9:29 record nine plagues of judgment on the nation of Egypt, each plague was God’s hand against false gods of Egypt: 1) 7:14 – 24 the Nile waters turned to blood; 2) 7:25 – 8:15 frogs; 3) 8:16 – 19 gnats; 4) 8:20 – 32 flies; 5) 9:1 – 7 cattle diseased; 6) 9:8 – 12 boils; 7) 9:13 – 35 hail; 8) 10:1 – 20 locusts; 9) 10:21 – 29 darkness

~ Exodus 11:1 – 12:36 the tenth plague – the death of the first born and the instruction to Israel for the Passover Lamb.

Israel free from the death angel!

~ Exodus 12:37 – 15:27 Israel crosses through the Red Sea and at last have freedom from Egypt and the tyranny of Pharaoh.

When you accepted Christ was there a crossing into a new faith walk?

2. Paralytic, Thank God I Am Free:

~ Luke 5:17 – 26

~ vs. 17, *“And the power of the Lord was with him to heal.”*
~ vs. 18 – 19, *“and they were seeking to bring him in and lay him before Jesus,”*

How did you come to Jesus? For me it was Rev. Ruby Moore

~ vs. 20, *“And when he saw their faith,”*

Faith is ACTIVE!

~ vs. 24, *“But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins”—*

he said to the man who was paralyzed—*“I say to you, rise, pick up your bed and go home.”*

~ vs. 25, *“And immediately he rose up before them and picked up what he had been lying on and went home, glorifying God.”*

He was set free from the judgment of sin and from his paralyzed condition!

3. One Thief on the Cross, Thank God I Am Free:

~ Luke 23:32 – 43

~ vs. 38, *“There was also an inscription over him, “This is the King of the Jews.””*

~ vs. 40, *“But the other rebuked him, saying, “Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation?”*

Do I walk daily with a genuine fear of God?

~ vs. 41, *“And we indeed justly, for we are receiving the due reward of our deeds; but this man has done nothing wrong.”*

Do I truly acknowledge my guilt?

~ vs. 42, *“And he said, “Jesus remember me when you come into your kingdom.”*

~ vs. 43, *“And he said to him, “Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in paradise.”*

Oh! The freedom to be released from judgment and kept in the presence of Jesus!

Jude 1 – *“Jude, a servant of Jesus Christ and brother of James, To those who are called, beloved in God the Father and kept for Jesus Christ:”*

4. You, Thank God I Am Free:

~ 2 Timothy 4:1 – 2, *“I charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and by his appearing and his kingdom; (2) preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, and exhort, with complete patience and teaching.”*

~ As a follower of Christ Jesus the Lord YOU have a story of freedom that gives you great joy and ministers hope to others.

Conclusion: John 14:1 – 6