

Mount Olive Wednesday Night Bible Study and Prayer Meeting

October 14, 2020

After a long list of praises and prayer requests, Pastor Tom opened Bible Study in church and on the conference call.

John 6:38 - 42

38 For I came down from heaven, not to do mine own will, but the will of him that sent me. 39 And this is the Father's will which hath sent me, that of all which he hath given me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up again at the last day. 40 And this is the will of him that sent me, that every one which seeth the Son, and believeth on him, may have everlasting life: and I will raise him up at the last day. 41 The Jews then murmured at him, because he said, I am the bread which came down from heaven. 42 And they said, Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? how is it then that he saith, I came down from heaven?

*Last week we studied Jesus' response to the controversy about His being the Bread of Life from Heaven.

Verses 38

"For I came down from heaven, not to do mine own will, but the will of him that sent me."

*Here the Father's Will is highlighted. In verse 38, the mention of heaven prompted a discussion on heaven and whether or not we will recognize other souls there. Also, Jesus makes sure to tell people of His divinity.

* 'To do the Will of the Father' - The most evident story of Jesus doing the will of the father is in the Garden of Gethsemane when He is pleading with the Father to take the cup away. But the Father never says anything and Jesus states, "Not my will but thine"

Verse 39

“And this is the Father's will which hath sent me, that of all which he hath given me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up again at the last day.”

*Do you ever wonder what the Will of God is?

II Peter 3: 8 - 10

“8 But, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day.”

*God's timing is not in our time frame.

“9 The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.”

*God is not late in returning as promised, He is coming when in His Will none should perish (not would be left out of heaven)

So it is the Will of God that none should perish.

(Pastor Tom warned again not to get into the argument about predestination with verses like this. God is long-suffering (patient) and has put up with a lot from us. But God just loves you as we should do to others, not be arguing all the time).

“10 But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up.”

*We will not know when God is coming back. Like a robber at our home, it is not expected and many of us are not ready (and consequently will perish)

*So the Will of God in II Peter is that none should perish!

Back to Verse 39:

*It explains the Will of God this way: that Jesus will not lose the ones who believe in Him. It is God's Will that no one would be lost.

*BUT, even if it's God's Will, it still may not happen because God gives us free will (choice).

*Referring to the beginning of Genesis, it was not God's Will for Adam and Eve to eat the forbidden fruit but they chose to sin, making a poor choice opposite of God's Word.

*Bad choices have bad consequences. And good choices have good consequences. Verses 39 and 40 combined show that resurrection, eternal life, is a good consequence.

*At the end of verse 39, 'raise up in the last day', the last day could refer to when Jesus returns.

II Corinthians 5:6 - 8

"6 Therefore we are always confident, knowing that, whilst we are at home in the body, we are absent from the Lord: 7 (For we walk by faith, not by sight:) 8 We are confident, I say, and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord."

*While we are here on Earth Jesus is with us, His Spirit lives in us. But we are away from His presence, His being, which is in Heaven.

*We must understand this all by faith because we cannot see any of this occurring. (Walk by faith, not by sight)

*We need to be of good courage and be willing to die (be absent from our bodies) so we can be present (at home) with the Lord.

*Pastor Tom referenced the thief on the cross: Jesus told him he would be with Him in paradise today. A last minute conversion. So - we should never give up on anyone to believe in and be with Jesus in Heaven. We are not God so we cannot make the decisions as to where a man's heart is.

(Back to John 6)

Verse 40

“And this is the will of him that sent me, that every one which seeth the Son, and believeth on him, may have everlasting life: and I will raise him up at the last day.”

*This is the authoritative word of Jesus:

If you believe ----you have everlasting life (be raised up the last day)

Verse 41

“The Jews then murmured at him, because he said, I am the bread which came down from heaven.”

*Jews complained because He told them who He was.

Verse 42

“And they said, Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? how is it then that he saith, I came down from heaven?”

*The Jews did not know Jesus as God but only as Mary and Joseph's kid.

* We are known by our families (and sometimes their actions) which can be good or bad.

*People sometimes judge too quickly or don't believe someone can change.

Some Old Testament Verses to refer to:

Deuteronomy 5:9

“Thou shalt not bow down thyself unto them, nor serve them: for I the Lord thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me,”

*This verse can send chills up and down your spine! Our testimony has an effect on our kids, grandkids and even great-grandkids! Let's be sure it's a good testimony for them. Bad cycles can be broken but it's difficult to change a bad reputation.

II Kings 14:6

“But the children of the murderers he slew not: according unto that which is written in the book of the law of Moses, wherein the Lord commanded, saying, The fathers shall not be put to death for the children, nor the children be put to death for the fathers; but every man shall be put to death for his own sin.”

*Each man is accountable for his own sins ---- you cannot blame your parents for a lack of a relationship with Jesus. We cannot use our homelife (upbringing) as an excuse for not believing in Jesus.

Go in peace, go in joy, go in love.
