

(The gospel Church)

I had the pleasure of sitting in on the discussions of our sisters as they went through the scriptures. It was a fairly cold and rainy day and I thought the turnout would be mild. We had about 80 eager sisters with friends show up and engage in some very sound discussions about the role of women in the Church and the need to be transformed by the Word of God.

The comments and observations were well spoken, and the warmth and reception of those addressing struggles and challenges rejoiced my heart.

As we plainly said, we are seeking to develop a ministry of woman for woman. A ministry which is modeled after the gospel and the scriptures, which addresses sisters and their call and duty to growth and service to Christ. We hope to one day have a very clear strategy whereby we can admit we have come to a place of doing what the scriptures demand that godly women of mature faith, and giftedness should do.

Bid the older women likewise to be reverent in behavior, not to be slanderers or slaves to drink; they are to teach what is good, 4 and so train the young women to love their husbands and children, 5 to be sensible, chaste, domestic, kind, and submissive to their husbands, that the word of God may not be discredited.

Once we can successfully get ourselves into the place where God's purposes for his Church is ours, then we will learn what it is that we all should be doing in our respective calling, as men , women, sisters and brothers; so that His Church may continue to be sound for generations to come! By the Grace of God!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY PASTOR JESSE!

Pastor's Commentary And Outline

"....We have obtained like precious faith through the righteousness of God and of our Saviour, Jesus Christ" (11 Peter 1:1).

We did not obtain the righteousness of God BY OUR FAITH, but we obtain this precious faith through the righteousness of God! Faith has no causal effect or influence upon the righteousness of God (which is the work and gift of Christ alone); but the righteousness of God and our Saviour has all to do with faith!

When by the gospel the Spirit of God reveals to a sinner the glorious and gracious person and work of our Lord Jesus Christ, FAITH IS BORN IN HIM. "This is the will of Him that sent Me, that everyone which SEETH THE SON AND BELIEVETH ON HIM MAY HAVE ever-lasting life" (John 6:40). One cannot call upon nor believe in a Saviour of whom HE HAS NOT HEARD or whose righteous work HE HAS NOT SEEN!

Therefore, when by His preached word God shows us who Christ is, the precious blood He shed, the holy life for us He lived that our God might be just and justify us, and reveals to us our Mediator at His right hand, He will at the same time work faith in US. He that seeth the Son by the light which God shines in his heart WILL BELIEVE on Him, WILL LOOK only to Him, WILL NEVER DEPART from Him, and WILL REIGN forever with Him. Sight is not given to those who believe; faith is the result of seeing Christ, our righteousness. I am positive that if Almighty God is pleased to reveal Christ, YOU WILL BELIEVE HIM.

Henry Mahan:

Outline for the Sermon: "From Samuel to Saul"

1. **Who asked for what?** The tension of two desires: 1 Sam 1:20 / 8:6

" God's purpose through a woman's desire to bring forth a Son.

Man's willful desire to have King :

2. **God returns:** 7:1-2 By Himself, self sufficient

Destroys Dagon (5) Smite Beth Shemesh (6:19 50,000)

3. **He keeps His distance:** For 20 yrs

Israel must repent first. Vs 3-6

Pagan idol worship

4. **God is patient for Samuels sake:** 2:17/18, 26/ 7:13

5. **Culture prevailed:** 8:1-5

6. **Samuel grieved / God is Grieved:** 6,7

7. **Samuel / Saul contrast:** 8:10-13/ 12:1-7

8. **Saul glory Vs God's glory:** 9:2, 10:24 / 13:4

God of the covenant: 1. Controversy against mankind:

The law/ The manna/ the Rod : God's covenant with His people

The blood on the mercy seat: The gospel! The message/ the ministry

Doctor SPOCK was WRONG after all.

My generation bought into yet another lie. That the best thing for a willful child is time out! Perhaps lengthy persuasions of compliance. And maybe if absolutely necessary restraint of privileges. But by no means, no means ever, ever whip the child.

They said, "violence only begets violence". That's what they used to say, before they encouraged the propagation a generation of degenerate authority haters, and selfish narcissistic and emotionally unstable basket cases. That's what they used to say!

But what are the theorist saying now? Polls show that the worse thing parents of the 70s to the present could have done was to not discipline their children.

I didn't listen. I did to my children whom I love with all my heart what I learned from God's Word. And while I often was in much conflict because of friends I knew who held a non biblical view, I used the rod of correction as often and firmly as thought to be needed. And to this day, I am glad I did not listen to doctor Spock. I guess God was right after all. *I wonder what else is God right on of which the World says, No!?*

Foolishness is bound in the heart of a child; but the rod of correction shall drive it far from him. Prov 22:13

Withhold not correction from the child: for if thou beatest him with the rod, he shall not die. 14 Thou shalt beat him with the rod, and shalt deliver his soul from hell. Pro 23:13,14

The rod and reproof give wisdom: but a child left to himself bringeth his mother to shame. Prov 29:15

Here is a parable for the wise! *"But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.*

This parent took His own advice, and it resulted in my salvation! Oh the grace of God