

Sunday Night Message

February 22, 2015

Psalm 82

Series – The Psalms

Text – Psalm 82

Introduction to the Psalms of Asaph

Psalm 73 through 83 (as well as Psalm 50, are attributed to Asaph. Asaph was a musician who was also a worship leader in the sanctuary. (See 1 Chronicles 15:16–19; 16:4–7, 37–42; 2 Chronicles 5:12–14; 29:13; 35:15).

I The Supreme Judge (v. 1)

"For the LORD is our judge, the LORD is our lawgiver, the LORD is our king; he will save us." (Isaiah 33:22)

"The LORD is in his holy temple, the LORD'S throne is in heaven: his eyes behold, his eyelids try, the children of men. The LORD trieth the righteous: but the wicked and him that loveth violence his soul hateth. Upon the wicked he shall rain snares, fire and brimstone, and an horrible tempest: this shall be the portion of their cup. For the righteous LORD loveth righteousness; his countenance doth behold the upright." (Psalm 11:4-7)

See Genesis 18:16 – 33

God is the Supreme Judge. His judgment supersedes all other judgment, and He will stand in judgment of the judges.

II The Subordinate Judges (vs. 2 – 5)

God has appointed men to stand in judgment of other men. (see Exodus 18:13 – 27)

Jesus told us not to judge that which we cannot see.

"Judge not, that ye be not judged. For with what judgment ye judge, ye shall be judged: and with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again. And why beholdest thou the mote that is in thy brother's eye, but considerest not the beam that is in thine own eye? Or how wilt thou say to thy brother, Let me pull out the mote out of thine eye; and, behold, a beam is in thine own eye? Thou hypocrite, first cast out the beam out of thine own eye; and then shalt thou see clearly to cast out the mote out of thy brother's eye." (Matthew 7:1-5)

We cannot judge motives.

We cannot judge what is in a man's heart.

We should not judge arbitrarily

We should not judge hastily.

"Let a man so account of us, as of the ministers of Christ, and stewards of the mysteries of God. Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful. But with me it is a very small thing that I should be judged of you, or of man's judgment: yea, I judge not mine own self. For I know nothing by myself; yet am I not hereby justified: but he that judgeth me is the Lord. Therefore judge nothing before the time, until the Lord come, who both will bring to light the hidden things of darkness, and will make manifest the counsels of the hearts: and then shall every man have praise of God." (1 Corinthians 4:1-5 KJV)

However, there will be times when we will be called upon to make judgments: to decide what or who is right.

Turn to 1 Corinthians 6:1 – 11

We are not to judge with partiality:

"Ye shall do no unrighteousness in judgment: thou shalt not respect the person of the poor, nor honour the person of the mighty: but in righteousness shalt thou judge thy neighbour." (Leviticus 19:15)

"Judges and officers shalt thou make thee in all thy gates, which the LORD thy God giveth thee, throughout thy tribes: and they shall judge the people with just judgment. Thou shalt not wrest judgment; thou shalt not respect persons, neither take a gift: for a gift doth blind the eyes of the wise, and pervert the words of the righteous. That which is altogether just shalt thou follow, that thou mayest live, and inherit the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee."
(Deuteronomy 16:18-20)

Turn to James 2:1 - 13

III The Sovereign's Judgment (vs. 6 – 8)

"ye are gods" – in other words, the judges stand in the place of God. Jesus quoted this in John 10:34 – 37.

God's judgment is always right.

God's judgment is always final. There is no higher court to appeal to.

Earthly judges should be very careful about their judgments because:

1 Their decisions will ultimately be upheld or overturned by the Supreme Judge.

2 They will be judged themselves by the Supreme Judge.