## **GIVE THANKS!**

The fact that you are reading this says you have a lot to thank God for.

The fact that you understood what you just read says that God is still working (Ephesians 2:8-10).

The fact that you know the God we're speaking of is reason to Shout!

So let us shout to the Lord for He is good!

Shout Hallelujah... At anytime Anywhere Anyhow Because God is just... Awesome Amazing Absolutely incredible!

Hallelujah!!!

Thanksgiving 100 Shout joyfully to the Lord, all the earth. Serve the Lord with gladness; *Come before Him with joyful singing.* Know that the Lord Himself is God; It is He who has made us, and not we ourselves; We are His people and the sheep of His pasture. Enter His gates with thanksgiving And His courts with praise. Give thanks to Him, bless His name.

A Psalm for

For the Lord is good; His lovingkindness is everlasting And His faithfulness to all generations.

REFLECTIONS

November 21, 2021





Thanksgiving Basket Giveaway - Today! Living Word Fellowship Church will host it's annual Thanksgiving Basket Giveaway today after second service. We are Blessed to be a Blessing! Join us to volunteer www.lwfellowshipchurch.org/thanksgiving.

### Counseling Ministry



Are you Resistant to change or any form of adversity or trial? Lacking confidence or courage when a trial comes? Reach out to Counseling Ministry as we seek to help you find the answers and solutions. Complete a green request form found at any Offering Table and drop it in or call the Living Word Fellowship Church office at **281-260-7402 or CiCi Sharpe at** cicisharpe@sbcglobal.net

BOOKSTORE

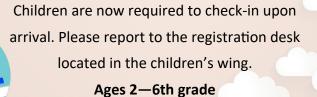
Happy Thanksgiving Living Word! There will be no Bible Study this upcoming Tuesday, November 23, 2021 and the Church Administrative Office will be closed Thursday, Nov. 25th and Friday, Nov. 26th for Thanksgiving week. Bible Study will resume on Tuesday, Nov. 30th at 12 noon and 7 p.m. Join us for a Walk Through the Bible: The Book of Acts with **Pastor Paul Cannings.** 

## **Finance Ministry**

Are you in need of calculating your budget? Getting ready to start a family and nervous about keeping your finances in order? Want to be better stewards of your finances for the kingdom of God? Reach out to our Finance Ministry today. Contact Jeffrey Allen at jeffrey.allen@lwfellowshipchurch.org

**Book Store Volunteers Needed** 

Living Word, we have something for you! Are you ready to connect with a unique ministry? The Book Store is looking for you. All those who are interested in volunteering, drop an email to Gail O'Neal at goneal@lwfellowshipchurch.org







# **ORDER OF WORSHIP**

Announcements

Communion

Visitor's Welcome

Worship In Giving

Offering boxes are located at all perimeters under crosses

Special Music

Just Us Exodus 34: 10-14 **Pierre Cannings** Assistant Pastor

Full sermon notes available online at www.lwfellowshipchurch.org Click on the "Resources" tab and click "Sermon Notes"

> Call to Discipleship Please remain seated at this time

## SERMON OUTLINE

## Just Us

Exodus 34:10-14 **Pierre Cannings** 

### I. Just God vs. 10-11

#### a. I will Make a Covenant

- i. Covenant A "covenant" is an agreement enacted between two parties in which one or both make promises under oath to perform or refrain from certain actions stipulated in advance. As indicated by the designation of the two sections of the Christian Bible—Old Testament (= covenant) and New Testament—"covenant" in the Bible is the major metaphor used to describe the relation between God and Israel (the people of God). ii. This was, rather, a divine restoration of a broken covenant, one that had been made temporarily null and void
- by Israel's corporate return to idolatry (and therefore automatically polytheism, since there was no monotheistic idolatry in the ancient world) as described in chap. 32. The covenant needed to be reinstated if it was to be of help to Israel, and Yahweh showed his merciful and patient nature as described by himself so magisterially in vv. 6–7 by taking the responsibility upon himself to reinstitute it for the benefit of his once and now again covenant people. Therefore God used the present tense statement. "I am making a covenant with you." He was making the same Sinai covenant once again, but he was indeed making it anew, remaking it, not just reminding the people of the content of it
- iii. In keeping with the sort of identification of parties to the covenant normally found in a covenant preamble, God identified himself in v. 6 ("the Lord, the Lord" ["Yahweh, Yahweh"]) and also identified Israel explicitly as the other party ("your people ... the people you live among," v. 10; also "God of Israel," v. 23; "covenant with Israel," v. 27). The sanctions are indicated by such promises of blessing as that of v. 10 ("I will do wonders ... awesome is the work that I ... will do for you"), the driving out of the Canaanites (vv. 11, 24), and the enlargement of territory and protection from enemies (v. 24). Implied curses appear within v. 12 ("they will be a snare among you"), v. 14 ("a jealous God" [meaning one who will punish if disobeyed]), and v. 15 ("they will invite you and you will eat ...").

#### b. I will Perform Miracles i. Perform Miracles

- 1. The term nipla'ôt, as the parallel term to gědôlôt, also refers to the expression of God's sovereignty, of which miracles are only one aspect. In prose nipla'ôt indicates God's salvation of his people in the Exodus from Egypt and the conquest of the land (Exod 34:10; Judg 6:13). These saving acts are at times bound up with miracles (Exod 3:20; Josh 3:5; Neh 9:17). Poetry also contains references to the act of redemption and the miracle of the Exodus (Mic 7:15; Pss 78:4, 11, 32; 106:7, 22).
- 2. The promise of wonders reestablishes the sequence of signs, wonders, and marvels mentioned twenty times in Exod 3:12-34:10. This use of הנפלאת marks the renewal of the covenant and is the last use of these words in Exodus. This ongoing covenantal action of Yahweh places stronger expectations on Israel.
- 3. extraordinary deeds" that will command the attention of the peoples all about them. אסמנפלאת attention of the peoples all about them. אסמנפלאת rhetorical link with Exod 3:20
- ii. Not Produced on Earth
- 1. Nor Nations
- 2. All People
- iii. It is a fearful thing
- 1. Feared- Awesome, honored, terrible

## c. I am going to drive out

- i. Amorite
- ii. Canaanite
- iii.Hittites
- iv. Perizzite
- v. Hivites
- 1. When the narrative of Exodus referring to God's promise to Abraham to grant the land of Canaan to Israel, the text often refers to the Hivites, among the other Canaanite tribes (Exod 3:8; 33:2; 34:11).
- 2. Deuteronomy echoes the promise to hand over the land of the Hivites to Israel (Deut 7:1) and adds a command for Israel to annihilate them (Deut 20:17).
- 3. Judges offers a theological explanation for the Hivites and other Canaanites remaining in the land, suggesting that God left them there to prepare Israel for warfare. Rather than fighting, Israel intermarried with the Hivites and other Canaanites and began worshiping their gods (Judg 3:1-6).

#### vi. Jebusites

- 1. The Jebusites were so entrenched in the land that the Israelites never successfully dislodged them from their territories (Josh 15:63; Judg 1:21). This situation seems to have persisted through the 40-year reign of Israel's first king, Saul, whose capital, Gibeah, was only 5 miles from Jebus. Details from the biblical narrative combine to indicate that the Jebusites were either too powerful for Saul to defeat or amicably aligned with him
- d. One needs only to look at the religious situation in the days of the Judges or in Josiah's time (2 Kgs 22-23) or in Ezekiel's (Ezek 8:9ff.) to see how frequently and thoroughly the Israelites turned away from orthodox faith and toward Canaanite idolatry

### II. Just You vs. 12-14

## a. Observe

- i. Observe to keep watch
- 1. Israel must guard against any covenantal alliance with these peoples as a dangerous means of entrapment. They must extirpate from the land the altars, sacred pillars, and sacred poles of these peoples, thus removing even the possibility of any compromise in their worship of and loyalty to Yahweh
- 2. Obey what I command you today" is nothing less than a demand for complete adherence to the complete Sinai covenant as it is reinstated by a merciful God on this occasion.

#### ii. Commandments- God's Orders

- b. Watch
- i. Watch ii. No Covenant
- 1. With the inhabitants
- 2. Both verses, in fact, are prohibiting the same thing: any sort of covenant with either the people of the land of Canaan or their false gods. No covenant other than the one Yahweh was giving his people could be entered into by them; their reliance upon him for blessing and benefit must be absolute and exclusive
- 3. If they made any sort of covenant relationship with other gods or with the Canaanites. who worshiped other gods, they would violate the terms of his covenant and suffer the terrible consequences
- iii. Will become a Snare- a trap
- c. Tear Dowr
- i. A subtle but certain syncretism through cultural assimilation that eventually leads to spiritual harlotry will be the result. If Israel was so easily seduced into spiritual adultery in the desert, how much more may she succumb to it in the pagan cultures of the urban and agricultural centers of Canaan.
- ii. This introductory sequence is appropriately brought to a climax by the first of a series of Yahweh's requirements designed to present a broad summary of covenant obligation with a particular bearing on the necessity of maintaining undiluted loyalty to Yahweh in the setting of the new land to which Israel is going.

## III. No One Else

#### a. He is Jealous

- i. Yahweh's very name is 'Jealous' " Loyalty to Yahweh must be absolutely undiluted. There is to be no worship of any other god of any kind, and Israel simply must avoid any covenant with the inhabitants of the land into which they are going; such alliances may lead to a fraternization that could begin with the eating of sacrifices made to other gods and end with intermarriage and the embrace of other gods by Israel's children.
- ii. This is the only verse in the Old Testament in which mention is made of his being jealous for his name, the meaning of which expression is simply that he guards his name's significance—it points to his nature, character, and uniqueness as the only true God—and will not allow it to be profaned by idolatry or any other misuse

## **TUESDAY BIBLE STUDY** 12 p.m. & 7 p.m. **STARTS BACK NOV. 30TH**

Walk Through The Bible: The Book of Acts 4 WAYS TO CONNECT In-Person | LIVE on Facebook | LIVE on YouTube | Call on Free Conference Call

Grieving: Nedra Chew & family, Brenda Bonhame & family, Sherri Randle & family, Nicole Benjamin & family, Randy Hadnot & family, and Eunice Johnson & family.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Health and Healing: Lurlean Lane, Florence Wiggins, Retha Amos, Octavia Scott, Margaret Baptiste, Cici Sharpe, Eunice Johnson, Jeffrey McQueen, Brittany Bullock, Barbara Gordon, Ella James, Pat Crawford, Lisa Roberts, Birdie Williams, Jon Heard, Eric White, Lakessia Davis, and Rutha Patrick.

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JUSTUS