

Brave Heart

(Courage in a World of Compromise)

desert breeze
community church



Saturday & Sunday, May 23/24, 2015

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“Heart-Forgetfulness” Judges3:7-31

If God has promised to be with us then we can face anything in life with strength and courage (Josh1:1-9) unless, of course, we are struggling with heart-forgetfulness (Spiritual amnesia). Spiritual amnesia happens when truths about God are clear to the mind but not captivating (real) to the heart. God’s people are in a self destructive cycle: Complacency->Compromise->Crisis->Crying out to God->Covenant Renewal

Judges 3:7-11

- **Remembering the LORD is a prominent theme in the Bible.** v7 They forgot the LORD their God...; Num15:39-40; Deut 5:15; 15:15; 16:12; 24:18, 22; Ex. 12:14; Joshua4:7; Luke22:19; 1Cor11:24-25
- **Who you are can be no better & no worse than the thoughts you entertain in your head.** (Pro. 4:23; Pro.23:7 NASB; Rom. 8:5-8)
- **The problem behind all of my problems is that I forget the Gospel (Spiritual amnesia).** V11 so the land had rest...; Isa51:12-13; Luke8:25; Pet1:8-11
- **Remembering the LORD is to have truths about who God is and what He has done so central to your awareness that it controls your thoughts, feelings and actions.** Joshua 1:8-9; Ps1:1-3, 103, 119:9-11

Verses 12-30

- **You must be willing to face your greatest hurts, habits and hang-ups.** V20 “And Ehud came to him as he was sitting alone in his cool roof chamber.” Ps42-43; Ps.42:11; Ps103; Phil4:7-8; 2Cor10:3-5
- **The Spirit of God working through the Word of God is our greatest weapon against sin, Satan & society.** Vv10, 19-20 “I have a message from God for you...” (2xs), Eph5:18, 6:17; Heb4:12
- **Our greatest liabilities can become our greatest assets in the Hands of God to display His Greatness & Goodness.** Isa62:8-9; Ps16:11, 110:1; Judges3:15 literally say’s that Ehud was “unable to use his right hand.” 2Cor12:8-10

Verse 31

- **For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men.** 1Cor1:25
- **Whatever the capacity for human sin and suffering the Gospel has a greater capacity for healing and wholeness.** Rom1:16; 1Cor1:18

Growing Notes

- 1) What do you think is happening to a person when the truths about God are clear to the mind but not real to the heart? How does this spiritual amnesia contribute to the self-destructive cycle the people of God consistently find themselves in?
- 2) Read Judges 3:7-11. What was the evil the people of Israel did in the sight of the LORD (v7)? How prominent of a theme in the Bible is “Remembering the LORD?” What does it mean to “Remember the LORD” and how is it the problem behind all of our problems?
- 3) Read Judges 3:12-30. What stands out to you from this story? When in your own experience have you seen God using unexpected people and/or unpredictable means to do great things? Just as Ehud confronted Israel’s oppressing enemy we must be willing to confront our hurts, habits and hang-ups with the Spirit of God working through the Word of God. Explain. How can our most effective ministry come out of our deepest hurt & misery (v15 literally says that Ehud was “unable to use his right hand” 2Cor12:8-10)?
- 4) Read Judges 3:31. How is the story of Ehud and Shamgar an example of 1Cor1:25-26, 31? How are you making sure you remember in your heart what you know in your head about God? Do you consciously enjoy the “peace” of having been saved from God and freed from slaving for idols? How will you remember to enjoy it this week? Pray.