

Series: Would the REAL GOD please stand up!

Part Nine: Fear the Beard?

Sunday April 30, 2017

1. Series Recap

- That underdogs get named in the book of names: that God sees and hears us too, and knows our names.
- That it sometimes requires a sacrifice to do the right thing: Shiphrah and Puah.
- That Jesus is our burning bush: Do we draw near to Him?
- That we (like Moses) can make excuses when God asks us to do something: Why do we do this? What does this say about our faith?
- That God gives all of us (as He did with the Egyptians) – learning opportunities: sometimes harsh, sometimes not.
- That the Passover points to the gospel: that we are rescued from the nature and consequences of our sin.
- That it is *our* job (as grandparents and parents and aunts and uncles) to teach our children about Jesus Christ: the church partners with us.
- That we (like Israel) need to eat our daily bread: we need to daily and meaningfully connect with Jesus Christ, the bread of life.
- That good leaders (like Moses and his father-in-law, Jethro): set priorities and delegate, listen to and act on constructive criticism, ask clarifying questions, and backs off when he has shared the truth in love.

Text: Ex. 19, 20

2. *Moses went up to God.*

3. *God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him...* (Jn. 3:17).

4. *Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to death – even death on a cross...* (Phil. 2:6-8).

5. *And when Jesus had cried out again in a loud voice, he gave up his spirit. At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom* (Mt. 27:50-51).

6. *Since we have a high priest who has gone through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are – yet was without sin. Let us then approach*

the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need (Heb. 4:14-16).

7. *But you* (those who have accepted the message of Jesus Christ) *are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light* (1 Pt. 2:9).

8. *Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come. All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting men's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us* (2 Cor. 5:17-20).

TAKEAWAYS

1. We are blessed to be able to approach God with such freedom.
2. Don't be afraid of the Lord but fear the Lord.

REFLECT

1. Take a moment to consider that the God of the Universe a. came to you (as a child) and b. came to you in such a way that it wouldn't freak you out (a man like you in every way but sin). What does that mean to you that He'd go to such lengths?

2. What false idols might there be in your life? Would you pray for God to expose them and for the courage to walk away from them?

Study Notes

DISCUSSION

1. What has impacted you most in this series on Exodus?
2. Bible Trivia: How many of the Ten Commandments can you name... in order? How important to our faith is it to know these commands of God?

BIBLE

3. Read Gal. 3:23-4:7; Heb. 8:13; 12:18-24. Using these texts, how would you answer someone who asks, "What are the differences between the Old and New Covenants?"

APPLICATION

4. How will you take advantage of the accessibility of God in your life?
5. How will you share the message of reconciliation entrusted to you?