

Welcome to Rev Darren King's Bible Study – 27 October 2024

PENTECOST 23

I HAD HEARD, BUT NOW I SEE

Welcome 🙏

Opening Prayer (please pray together)

Dear Lord, we do not come merely to open the doors of our church, but we come that our hearts might be opened to you and to one another. As we worship you today, help us to respond to the call of love. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, Amen.

Q 1 Do you know the story of John Newton who wrote Amazing Grace?

As a slave trader he was caught in a vicious storm one night and promised God if he was spared, he would forever fight against slavery.

In the song the words “I was once blind but now I can see” are written.

Have you ever been blind to something and then your eyes were opened?

Read Psalm 34.1-8 Of David. When he pretended to be insane before Abimelek, who drove him away, and he left.

¹ I will extol the LORD at all times; his praise will always be on my lips.

² I will glory in the LORD; let the afflicted hear and rejoice.

³ Glorify the LORD with me; let us exalt his name together.

⁴ I sought the LORD, and he answered me; he delivered me from all my fears.

⁵ Those who look to him are radiant; their faces are never covered with shame.

⁶ This poor man called, and the LORD heard him; he saved him out of all his troubles.

⁷ The angel of the LORD encamps around those who fear him, and he delivers them.

⁸ Taste and see that the LORD is good; blessed is the one who takes refuge in him.

Music Worship 🎵

Sing O for a thousand tongues

Amazing Grace

As the deer pants for the water

Word; Job 42.1-17

42 Then Job replied to the LORD: ²“I know that you can do all things; no purpose of yours can be thwarted. ³You asked, ‘Who is this that obscures my plans without knowledge?’

Surely I spoke of things I did not understand, things too wonderful for me to know.

⁴“You said, ‘Listen now, and I will speak; I will question you, and you shall answer me.’

⁵My ears had heard of you but now my eyes have seen you.

⁶Therefore I despise myself and repent in dust and ashes.”

Epilogue ⁷After the LORD had said these things to Job, he said to Eliphaz the Temanite, “I am angry with you and your two friends, because you have not spoken the truth about me, as my servant Job has. ⁸So now take seven bulls and seven rams and go to my servant Job and sacrifice a burnt offering for yourselves. My servant Job will pray for you, and I will accept his prayer and not deal with you according to your folly. You have not spoken the truth about me, as my servant Job has.” ⁹So Eliphaz the Temanite, Bildad the Shuhite and Zophar the Naamathite did what the LORD told them; and the LORD accepted Job's prayer.

¹⁰ After Job had prayed for his friends, the LORD restored his fortunes and gave him twice as much as he had before. ¹¹ All his brothers and sisters and everyone who had known him before came and ate with him in his house. They comforted and consoled him over all the trouble the LORD had brought on him, and each one gave him a piece of silver and a gold ring. ¹² The LORD blessed the latter part of Job's life more than the former part. He had fourteen thousand sheep, six thousand camels, a thousand yoke of oxen and a thousand donkeys. ¹³ And he also had seven sons and three daughters. ¹⁴ The first daughter he named Jemimah, the second Keziah and the third Keren-Happuch. ¹⁵ Nowhere in all the land were there found women as beautiful as Job's daughters, and their father granted them an inheritance along with their brothers. ¹⁶ After this, Job lived a hundred and forty years; he saw his children and their children to the fourth generation.

¹⁷ And so Job died, an old man and full of years.

Word; Mark 10.46-52 Blind Bartimaeus Receives His Sight

⁴⁶ Then they came to Jericho. As Jesus and his disciples, together with a large crowd, were leaving the city, a blind man, Bartimaeus (which means "son of Timaeus"), was sitting by the roadside begging. ⁴⁷ When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" ⁴⁸ Many rebuked him and told him to be quiet, but he shouted all the more, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" ⁴⁹ Jesus stopped and said, "Call him." So they called to the blind man, "Cheer up! On your feet! He's calling you." ⁵⁰ Throwing his cloak aside, he jumped to his feet and came to Jesus. ⁵¹ "What do you want me to do for you?" Jesus asked him. The blind man said, "Rabbi, I want to see." ⁵² "Go," said Jesus, "your faith has healed you." Immediately he received his sight and followed Jesus along the road.

COMMENTARY **Today we focus on establishing Jesus' identity and mission, and blind Bartimaeus as someone who truly "sees" Jesus.**

Q 2 Jesus healed a blind man near Jericho. Can you imagine never seeing and then seeing for the first time? Imagine how he would have felt!!! Please discuss

Q 3 Job finally realises who God is and recognises that God, like the universe, is unfathomable. Like the Universe, God is a mystery but gives us much insight into who he is through his creation. Do you agree?

Q 4 Bartimaeus saw Jesus with new eyes. He knew of Jesus and had faith in Jesus but persisted in being healed. Like people who struggle with addiction, when they overcome it, they see things in a new way. Have you ever seen things with new eyes?

Works

Pray for our world and each other. Pray that our local church will be the hope of the world, the light in the darkness.

Ending Prayer (please pray together)

Dear Lord, we pray for our nation that we be united. We pray for those elected officials who are to serve that they may be guided by compassion for all people. Guide us as families, as a community of faith, as a nation to follow the path of love, Amen.

Shalom Rev Darren King (Roots on the web, The Message)