

Sunday Message Meditation

January 11, 2015

Message Meditation:



Low Beams:

- Natural Disaster
 - plague of locust
 - drought
 - fire
- National Enemy
 - Powerful
 - Unstoppable
 - Exceedingly great
- An immediate *Day of the Lord!*

Fog lights / Mid Beams:

- Another *Day of the Lord!*
God would dwell among His people by His Spirit. (Acts 2)
- Every one who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved!*
- Today is the day of salvation!
- Now is the time to repent, trust in Jesus and keep in step with God's Spirit.

High Beams:

- Another *Day of the Lord!*
- A day of final judgment!
 - darkness & gloom
 - the earth will quake
 - heavens will tremble
 - sun/moon darkened
 - stars not shine
 - everything wiped out
- 2 Peter 3
- *The Lord is a refuge for His people!*
- *The Lord will judge the nations.*

Message Application:

1. The immediate day of the Lord that the people of Joel's day were experiencing was quit horrific. It was a day of economic collapse, famine and impending war by an overwhelming enemy. Repentance was possible, and restoration a glorious reality.

The ultimate and final day of the Lord is of no comparison – it is immeasurably worse! It is a day of complete and utter destruction of the ungodly with repentance no longer possible! The heavens and the earth will be burned up and dissolved in fire! Who can endure that day!? The only refuge in that day will be God, Himself. He is a refuge for His people! Today is the day of salvation. Now is the time to call upon the Lord and be saved from God's righteous wrath for sin!

Joel saw another day of the Lord (beyond the immediate one of his day, and before the ultimate one on the final day) where God would dwell with people by His Spirit. By God's grace, God's Spirit is given to everyone who calls on the name of the Lord – trusting in Jesus as God's provision for their personal salvation. God's Spirit is a deposit guaranteeing what is to come – God dwelling with His people in a new heaven and a new earth.

- Are you ready?

If the **great and awesome day of the Lord** were to be today, would you be prepared?

- Have you been born of the Spirit (John 3)?
- Does God's Spirit bear witness with your spirit that you are His child (Rom. 8)?
- Are you keeping in step with the Spirit (Rom. 8; Gal. 5)?
- Is the fruit of the Spirit being produced and growing in your life (Gal. 5)?

- Are you exercising the gifts of the Spirit for the good of the church (Rom. 12; 1 Pet. 4)?
 - Do you have life in the Spirit, and are you looking forward to Jesus' return because you love Him (Eph. 2; 1 Pet. 1)?
 - Is dwelling with God your greatest hope and highest desire – like a bride anticipating her wedding day, like a warrior looking forward to the arrival of his champion, like creation waiting for everything to be renewed and made right (Rev. 19; Rom. 8; Rev. 21-22)?
- The Apostle Peter speaks of ultimate and final day of the Lord in 1 Peter chapter 3. (*It's worth another reading.*) The instructions toward being prepared were written for the church.
- What instructions does Peter provide?
 - Would you be prepared the final day of the Lord as the Apostle Peter instructs us to be prepared?
 - What would be lost if you were unprepared? (See 2 Peter 1).
- If repentance is possible today (which is grace to us), but not possible on that final day and ever after...
- What does that mean for God's people?
 - What does that mean for the ungodly?