***NAME TAGS, PLEASE ***

50+ Sunday Class

All Saints Presbyterian Church Austin, TX

Led by Rev. Craig Chapman cchapman@allsaintsaustin.org

*** Sit UP FRONT & TOGETHER, PLEASE

Because You Asked . . . Your Questions & Topics

All Saints Presbyterian Church

Austin, TX

Spring 2024

Taught by Rev. Craig Chapman

50+ Schedule - Spring

Songs of Praise

Prayer

"Because You Asked"

50+ Schedule - Spring 2024

March

• Please Register:

Mon, 3/25 – Biblical Art Tour – at St. John Neumann Catholic Church, 5455 Bee Cave Rd, 78746. 10:30 AM Tour of the Church & Dome. Prayer. 12:15 PM Mass. 1:00 PM Lunch at Lupe Tortilla.

April

• Mon-Tue, 4/22-23 – Annual Retreat – at the *TexasRetreat.com* Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. Craig R. Higgins.

May

• <u>Wed, 5/8</u> – **Bat Boat Cruise** – <u>lonestarriverboat.com</u> @ Congress Ave Bridge. 5 PM dinner. 7-8:45 PM cruise.

Isaiah 41:10

Do not fear, for I am with you;
do not be dismayed, for I am your God.
I will strengthen you and help you;
I will uphold you with My righteous right hand.

(NIV)

Happy Saint Patrick's Day!!!



- Myths—
 - Banishing snakes from Ireland story emerges ~ 760 AD
 - Miter & pastoral staff introduced ~ 1000 AD
 - Teaching the Trinity using a shamrock arose ~ 1400 AD

* - Adapted from a paper given by Dr. John Hannah on 2/16/2000

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 - Banishing snakes from Ireland story emerges ~ 760 AD
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 - Teaching the Trinity using a shamrock arose ~ 1400 AD
- ~ 390 Born in Britain (western coast) to upper class parents
 - Father a deacon, grandfather a presbyter ... but perhaps more for Roman tax benefits than for sincere devotion
 - (Christianity likely brought by 1st C. Roman soldiers)
 - Roman Empire's hold on "Brittania" was crumbling

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• 405 – 411 – Patrick's education ended when nearby tribes stole and enslaved him on the "Western Sea" (NW Ireland - Celts)

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- 430 ~ 460 Patrick's native church sent him as a missionary to Ireland, where he remained until his death
- Letter to Coroticus—I, Patrick, a sinner, very badly educated, in Ireland, declare myself to be a bishop. I am quite certain that I received from God that which I am. I live among barbarian tribes as an exile and refugee for the love of God; God Himself is the witness that this is true.... I am compelled by zeal for God and the truth of Christ has aroused me out of affection for my neighbors and children for whom I have given up country and kinsfolk and my own life even unto death.

• Confession, 38—Because I truly am a debtor to God, who gave me so much help that many people were reborn into God through me and afterwards were confirmed [baptized] and that clergy were ordained everywhere for them for a people who had recently come to belief whom God chose from the ends of the earth as long ago he had promised through his prophets....

- Patrick believed he was called by God to preach the gospel to the last nation in "the last days" Ireland, the end of the world
- Ireland saw Christianity & semi-monasticism flourish.
- Ireland sent missionaries to Scotland, Britain, and Europe.
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- Like Joseph's trials, God used Patrick's slavery to bring blessing to his captors in later years.
- Consider how, throughout history, God has used tragic circumstances to spread his gospel.

Questions for Application—

- Where do you feel today as if you're a slave, a captive, or lost?
- Could God be preparing to bless others through you ... as you are His witness with a ministry mindset?
- How does *God* see your context?
- How might He want you to see it?

BE THOU MY VISION

Mary Elizabeth Byrne (1905)

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Be Thou my vision, O Lord of my heart; Naught be all else to me, save that Thou art: Thou my best thought, by day or by night, Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light.

Be Thou my Wisdom, and Thou my true Word; I ever with Thee and Thou with me, Lord: Thou my great Father, I Thy true son, Thou in me dwelling, and I with Thee one.

BE THOU MY VISION

Mary Elizabeth Byrne (1905)

Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise, Thou mine inheritance, now and always: Thou and Thou only, first in my heart, High King of heaven, my treasure Thou art.

High King of heaven, my victory won.
May I reach heaven's joys, O bright heav'n's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
Still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

50+ Schedule – Spring

Songs of Praise

Prayer

"Because You Asked"

- 1/7 *Because You Asked #28* Meaning of the Cross.
- 1/14 *Because You Asked #29* Meaning of Theology Terms.
- 1/21 *Because You Asked #30* Theology Terms II. Eucharist I.
- 1/28 Because You Asked #31 Eucharist Distribution.
- 2/4 *Because You Asked #31* Intertestamental Period.
- 2/11 Guest Teacher Bo White John 1-3 Change Everything
- 2/18 *Because You Asked #31a* How Israel Got to Today.
- 2/25 *Because You Asked #31b* Samaritans: History & Present
- 3/3 Because You Asked #31c Jews' Messianic Views: in OT
- 3/10 Spring Break No Class
- 3/17 *Because You Asked #32* Jews' Messianic Views: 70AD P
- 3/24 Because You Asked #33 –
- 3/31 Easter No Class

Because You Asked - 3/3/24

Church History

- —Q31—What happened between the Old and New Testament? (Intertestamental Period—500 BC-4BC)
- —Q31a—How did Israel get where it is today?
- —Q31b—How did the Samaritans come to be? Any today?
- -Q31c-Explain the Jews' view of "Messiah"—then & today
- —Q32—Define & Distinguish: Coptic; Orthodox (Eastern, Greek, Russian); Roman Catholic; Protestant; Evangelical
- —Q33—Are the following Christian?—Mormon? Jehovah's Witness? Christian Scientist? Scientologist? Unitarian? Deist?

• John 5.39 – [to the Jews:] You study the Scriptures diligently because you think that in them you have eternal life. These are the very Scriptures that testify about me.

- Luke 24 Road to Emmaus
 :21 we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. ...
 :25 "O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! Was it not necessary that the [Messiah] Christ should suffer these things and enter into his glory?" And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets [i.e., Genesis to Malachi], he interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself."
- An Illustration: 2 Mountains



Summary

- Messiah (Hebrew: mashiah; Greek: Christos) = anointed one
- Appears directly ~ 50x in the OT, but many times indirectly
- In OT, Messiah is given to 3 different figures of ancient Israel
 - Priest offers sacrifices for sin (Leviticus 4:3, 5, 16, 17)
 - King brings justice & peace in ruling by God's will.
 Historical books (e.g., 2 Sam 7) & Royal Psalms (e.g., 2; 110)
 - <u>Prophet</u> anointed by God with the Holy Spirit, not with oil like priests (for the Temple) & kings (for the kingdom)

- <u>Isaiah 11</u> Messianic Age (Peace & Prosperity)
 - :1 a shoot shall grow out of the stump of Jesse....
 - :2 the Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him....
 - :6 The wolf shall dwell with the lamb ...
 - :12 he ...will assemble the banished of Israel & Judah
 - ... from the four corners of the earth
- Isaiah 53 Suffering Sacrificial Sacred Servant

Minor prophets show us Messianic prophecies of ...

- Hosea 3:5 Israel's restoration
- Joel 2:28-32 promise of the Holy Spirit
- Micah 4:1-8 establishment of the Kingdom
- Zechariah 2:10-13 the Lamb on the throne
- Zechariah 6:12,13 a heavenly High Priest
- Malachi 4:2,3 the light of the world
 - ... Just a fraction of the OT prophecies proclaiming the Messiah

Gospels – expectation of Messiah comes through clearly ...

- Luke 2 Simeon & Anna
- Matthew 2 Magi ... Messiah was to be born...in Bethlehem
- <u>John 1:20</u> John the Baptist: *I am not the Messiah*
- <u>John 1:41</u> Andrew to Peter: *We have found the Messiah*
- John 4:25 Samaritan woman at the well

They worshipped him, but some doubted (Matthew 28.17)

• Romans 11.8, 11—God gave [Israel] a spirit of stupor, eyes that would not see and ears that would not hear, down to this very day. ... [T]hrough [Israel's] trespass salvation has come to the Gentiles, so as to make Israel jealous.

Post 70 AD

- For 2000 years, OT Jews believed in a messiah who would:
 - ☐ redeem the Jewish people ... resurrect the dead
 - ... rebuild the Temple in Jerusalem (Daniel 9.25)
 - ... usher in an era of perfect peace (Isaiah 11)
- After 70 AD, Torah scholarship (centered in Babylonia) developed Talmud (teachings) & Midrash (anthologies & commentaries), which described messiah (redeemer) as:
 - Military/political figure
 - Supernatural figure / abilities

Medieval Period (1000 – 1500 AD)

- Babylonian center of Torah learning fully de-centralized
- Sephardic (Spanish) Rabbi Maimonides (1138-1204)
 - 13 Principles of Faith included messiah in Jewish doctrine
 - Mishneh Torah the true Messiah must:
 - Restore the Davidic kingdom's former glory
 - Conquer Israel's enemies
 - Rebuild the Temple & restore its animal sacrifice
 - Gather Jewish exiles back to the Land of Israel
- Roman Catholic domination of Western Europe brought great persecution of Jews (e.g., Spanish Expulsion of 1492)

<u>Birth of Hasidic Judaism</u> (early 1700's – 1800's)

Video: youtu.be/ SX TjEG4i4

History of Reform, Conservative & Orthodox Judaism

Video: youtu.be/zUNpCoViftg

Contemporary Views

- Messianism is a prominent theme in <u>modern Judaism</u>, but many modern Jews reject belief in an *individual* messiah.
- Zionism has many messianic undertones that focus on national redemption—e.g., a popular prayer for Israel describes the nation's birth as the "dawn of our deliverance"
- Among Chabad Hasidism, some claim that their late leader,
 Rabbi Menachem Mendel Schneerson, is in fact the <u>messiah</u>.

<u>Church History</u>—Q31c—...Jews' view of "Messiah"... today

Contemporary Views

- <u>Reformed</u> Judaism rejects a messianism that's supernatural, sees Israel as the real Jewish home, and seeks to restore sacrificial worship (see 1885 Pittsburgh Platform)
- Reformed Judaism's 1999 update speaks of being partners with God in bringing about a "messianic age"

Next Class on 3/24/24

Prayer