

Sermon 8-16-26

Welcome

Honor pastors and staff

Old Testament overview

Everything points to Christ

Story of God's people - Israelites

Context

Oil Painting

1406 BC - Enter Promised land - led by Joshua

350 years - conquering the land - led by judges

120 years of kings with 12 tribes

Saul - 40 years

David - 40 years

Solomon - 40 years - taxed heavily - let idols in

Rehoboam - split kingdom - wouldn't relinquish tax burden - idolatry

931 BC - Split kingdom - **PIC**

Israel secedes (Northern kingdom 10 tribes - Samaria)

Judah (2 tribes - Jerusalem) lineage of David

200 years split - 2 kings

722 BC - Exile Northern Kingdom - Assyrians

136 years later

586 BC - Exile Southern Kingdom - Babylonians

538 BC - Return exiles (first wave) - led by Zerubbabel leader - Rebuilds temple

458 BC - Return exiles (second wave) - led by Ezra the priest - rebuilds spiritual foundation

445 BC - Return exiles (third wave) - led by Nehemiah leader - rebuilds walls

Ezra - Nehemiah - Malachi

Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6 NIV

We must be reverent to the word of God

Our Culture

Nehemiah 8:8-9 NIV

1. We must allow the Lord to convict our hearts

Through his word

Conviction is the start of the process not the end

They rejoiced in their conviction

If you have come and left with 5 hints for a better life and not a greater understanding for the word I have failed

If you have been entertained but do not leave with a greater understanding of his word I have failed

Ezra reads the law for 7 days - 6 hours a day - Nehemiah 8

Israelites leave and come back in 24 days, repent and make a covenant with God -Nehemiah 9

Nehemiah 9:1-5 NIV

2. We must confess our sins and Repent

Conviction is the beginning of the process
It must lead to repentance

Nehemiah 9:38 10:28-29 NIV

There's an agreement of the people

3. We must make (Cut) a covenant with God

A covenant was cut not made
Sacrifice and death were involved
Altar
Your point of decision will cost you something

We've talked about the story of the Israelites
How does it point to christ

We are born into exile
Separated from a relationship and the promises of God
The promised land is symbolic of a right relationship with God
Jesus offers us a way to return from exile
He is the way back from exile

"God's mercy with a sinner is only equaled and perhaps outmatched by His patience with the saints, with you and me." (Redpath)