



SERMON: Living East of Eden!

TEXT: Job 1:3, *“His substance also was seven thousand sheep, and three thousand camels, and five hundred yoke of oxen, and five hundred she asses, and a very great household; so that this man was the greatest of all the men of the east.”*

Introduction: In Genesis, when people go “east,” they leave the land of blessing (Eden and the Promised Land) and go to a land where their greatest hopes turn to ruin (e.g., Babylon and Sodom); except one!

Discussion: Living East of Eden is Paradise Lost and dreaming of regaining Paradise! There is one that is symbolic of hope – JOB!

1. Adam and Eve are cast out of the Garden to the east (Gen. 3:24).
2. Cain is expelled from the presence of the Lord and goes east (Gen.4:16).
3. People move east in the direction of Babylon and build the Tower of Babel (Genesis 11:2).
4. Lot divides from Abraham and takes the best lands toward the east (Genesis 13:11).
5. The Cities of Sodom and Gomorrah are in the east and Lot pitches his tent in their direction (Genesis 13:11-13).
6. Israel leaves Sinai and moves east (Num. 10:5) shortly to disobey God and wander in the wilderness (Num. 13-14).
7. Job, however, is *“the greatest of all the men of the east.”* He is a sense of hope in God. He is a righteous man even though he lives in the east (Job 1:1-5). He suffers significantly and “maintains his integrity” (Job 2:3, 9).

Conclusion: Living East of Eden is an indication of sin; however, there is hope in the life of Job.

- Mark N. Posey

SERMON: Sower, Seed & Soil!

TEXT: Luke 8:11-15

Introduction: Jesus teaches about the Kingdom by telling several parables!

1. Roadside soil (8:11-12): This represents those who hear but do not heed, thus allowing Satan to steal the seed from them.
2. Shallow, rocky soil (8:13): This represents those who have no depth, causing them to fall away in the hour of trial and testing.
3. Thorn-infested soil (8:14): This represents those who allow life’s worries, riches and pleasures to choke the seed from them.
4. Fertile soil (8:15): This represents those who both hear and heed, thus producing an abundant harvest.

Conclusion: The purpose behind this parable was to enlighten the hearts of the sincere (8:9-10a) and darken the hearts of the insincere (8:10b). **adapted*

SERMON: Necessity of Faithfulness!

TEXT: 1 Corinthians 10:1-13

1. Analogy (10:1-5).
2. Example (10:6-9).
3. Admonition (10:11-13).

SERMON: The Chain that Binds!

TEXT: Psalm 133:1

1. Fellow-heirs (Eph. 3:6): of one inheritance. Cf. 1 Peter 1:3-5.

2. Fellow members (Eph. 3:6): of one body. Cf. 1 Cor. 12:12-14.
3. Fellow-partakers (Eph. 3:6): of one calling. Cf. Eph. 4:1; Phil. 1:27.
4. Fellow-citizens (Eph. 2:19): of one home. Cf. Phil. 3:20.
5. Fellow-laborers (Phil 4:3): of one Master. Cf. Rom. 16:3.
6. Fellow-soldiers (Phil. 2:25): in one warfare. Cf. 2 Tim. 2:3.
7. Fellow-prisoners (Rom. 16:7): with one hope. Cf. Eph. 4:1

SERMON: Preaching and Practicing are in Harmony with God’s Word!

TEXT: Luke 1:6

1. Walk in Light (1 John 1:7).
2. Walk in Love (Eph. 5:2).
3. Walk in the Spirit (Gal. 5:16).
4. Walk in Truth (2 John 4).
5. Walk in Good Works (Eph. 2:10).
6. Walk in Wisdom (Col. 4:5).
7. Walk Discreetly (Eph. 5:15).

SERMON: Grace’s Teaching!

TEXT: Titus 2:11-14

Introduction: God’s Grace teaches life!

1. *“Soberly”* (Rom. 12:3): **In regard to ourselves.**
2. *“Righteously”* (Prov. 2:20): **In regard to the world.**
3. *“Godly”* (2 Tim. 3:12): **In regard to God.**

SERMON: Jesus Redeems a Sinner!

TEXT: Luke 7:36-50

Intro: Here an immoral woman anoints Jesus’ head with perfume and washes his feet with tears.

1. Her sin (7:36-37a): *She is a street woman.*
2. Her sacrifice (7:37b): *She brings expensive oil.*
3. Her sorrow (7:38a): *She weeps over her sin.*
4. Her service (7:38b): *She anoints Jesus’ feet.*
5. Her salvation (7:50): *Her sins are forgiven.*

Conclusion: She is humble, submissive & loving!

Pulpit Preview is sent for the purpose of sharing sermon ideas & useful illustrations. It is sent via email on a bi-weekly bases. Editor: **Mark N. Posey, D.D.**, preaching minister for the Austinville Church of Christ (2833 Danville Rd. SW Decatur, AL 35603) since 1994. Please send all comments to— pulpitpreview@austinvillecoc.org or address above. **Thanks, MNP.**

SERMON: The Need for Integrity!

TEXT: Proverbs 11:3; 19:1; 20:7

Introduction: Many people view integrity as outdated and no longer applicable to them in our fast-paced world; however, the need for integrity is perhaps as great as it has ever been.

1. The word integrity occurs 16 times in the Bible. It is one of the most important words in scripture.
2. Integrity and Character are different but alike.
 - Character is a matter of doing right, over and over until it becomes a part of your life: make bed, clean room, get dressed, read Bible, brush teeth, do chores and so on.
 - Integrity is more than character. It is something that comes from the heart. It is character that is resolute; it is something that cannot be changed or polluted.
3. Throughout the Bible, there are three men identified as men of integrity: Abimelech (Genesis 20:5-6), David (1 Kings 9:4) and Job (Job 2:3).

Discussion: People of integrity live close to the heart of God and reflect character consistent with godly lives.

1. **Evil King Abimelech (Genesis 20:5, 6).** Abraham lied about Sarah saying she was his sister and Abimelech was warned by God not to touch her.
 - Abraham acted without integrity while Abimelech acted with it.
 - Abraham acted from fear, Abimelech acted from faith.
2. **King David (1 Kings 9:4).** David was a man "after God's own heart." In spite of his human failings, David loved the Lord entirely in his heart.
 - Openness of Heart – Ps. 26:1-2. Cf. Ps. 139:23-24.
 - Brokenness of Heart – Ps. 51:17. Contrition leads to cleansing and forgiveness.
 - Truthfulness of Heart – Ps. 15:1-2. God will not tolerate a lying heart in His presence, but desires "truth in the inward parts" (51:6).
 - Holiness of Heart – Ps. 24:3-4. No wonder he cried out under the burden of sin, "create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me" (Ps. 51:10).
3. **Job (2:3, 9; 27:5; 31:6).** Job was a man that held to his character that resulted in a glowing integrity.
 - 2:3 – This reference to integrity indicates a strengthening of the grip Job already had on his resolve to serve God faithfully.
 - 2:9 – Job's wife had abandoned her integrity. What Satan had been able to do in regard to Mrs. Job, he was not successful when it came to Job.
 - 27:5; 31:6 (Job's last response to his friends) – Job refused to be a party to evil actions and gladly offered up his life for examination to reveal his sterling and wholesome integrity.

Conclusion: Christian integrity involves the whole of the inner person: the heart (Matt. 6:19-21), the mind ["eye"] (Matt. 6:22-23) and the will (Matt. 6:24). **MNP**

SERMON: Samson the Sinner!

TEXT: Judges 16

Introduction: Sin will take you farther than you want to go, keep you longer than you want to stay and cost you more than you want to pay.

1. Sin will take you farther than you want to go - Judges 16:4-6.
2. Sin will keep you longer than you want to stay - Judges 16:18-21.
3. Sin will cost you more than you want to pay - Judges 16:23-25.

Conclusion: Samson was a sinner; however, he was mentioned in Hebrews 11 among Faith's Finest. He was a failure that straightened out in the end.

SERMON: The Lad, Loaves & The Lord.

TEXT: Matthew 14:13-21; Mark 6:30-44; Luke 9:11; John 6:1-14

Introduction: What did the young boy experience?

1. The Young Boy heard the MESSAGE - Luke 9:11.
2. The Young Boy followed the MAN - John 6:8-9.
3. The Young Boy saw the MIRACLE - John 6:10-12.
4. The Young Boy trusted the MASTER - John 6:11.

SERMON: Rest for the Child of God!

TEXT: Hebrews 4:4

1. Rest for the sinner at the Cross - Matthew 11:28.
2. Rest for the saint in subjection - Matthew 11:29.
3. Rest confidently in the Lord - Ps. 36:7.
4. Rest with the Lord in glory - 2 Thess. 1:7.
5. Rest that remains in eternity - Heb. 4:9.

SERMON: 3 Great Truths about Christ!

TEXT: John 1:1

1. "In the beginning was the Word" - His Eternity.
2. "The Word was with God" - His Personality.
3. "The Word was God" - His Divinity.

SERMON: Rest!

1. ANAPAUSIS - an up rest, as in Matthew 11:28.
2. KATAPAUSIS - a down rest, as in Hebrews 4:4.
3. SABBATISMOS - a Sabbath rest, as in Hebrews 4:9.

SERMON: God's Amazing Love!

TEXT: John 3:16; Ephesians 3:18

1. For God so loved the world - Width of God's Love.
2. That He gave His only begotten Son - Length of God's Love.
3. Whosoever believeth in Him should not perish - Depth of God's Love.
4. But have everlasting life - Height of God's Love.

Conclusion: God's love is comprehensive & overwhelming!

SERMON: But We See Jesus!

TEXT: Hebrews 2:9

1. We see His Sacrifice: What He Gave Up - Phil. 2:8. Cf. 2 Cor. 8:9.
2. We see His Suffering: What He Went Through - 1 Pet 2:21-24; Rom. 5:1.
3. We see His Success: What He Now Enjoys - Heb. 10:12-14; Phil. 2:9-11.
4. We see His Salvation: What We May Enjoy - Rom. 6:1-4. Cf. 2 Tim. 2:10.

Conclusion: We must keep our eyes fixed on Jesus (Heb. 12:1-2). *adapted

→ Elements of preaching include exposition, exhortation and practical application. 📖