



PROVIDENCE Baptist Church

Sunday, January 21, 2024

"We become like how we worship... God cannot be pleased by worship that is not an obedient response to his revelation, because it is by definition 'unfaithful' worship."

-Ligon Duncan, *Does God Care How We Worship?*

Announcements & Call to Worship

Prelude **Glen Harper**

Hymn **Praise to the Lord, the Almighty (2)**

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise Him, for He is thy health and salvation!
All ye who hear, Now to His temple draw near;
Praise Him in glad adoration!

Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth,
Shelters thee under His wings, yea, so gently sustaineth!
Hast thou not seen How thy desires e'er have been
Granted in what He ordaineth?

Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy work and defend thee;
Surely His goodness and mercy here daily attend thee.
Ponder anew What the Almighty can do
If with His love He befriend thee.

Praise to the Lord, O let all that is in me adore Him!
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before Him.
Let the Amen Sound from His people again;
Gladly forever adore Him!

Scripture Reading **Romans 9:1-18**

9 I am speaking the truth in Christ—I am not lying; my conscience bears me witness in the Holy Spirit— ²that I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. ³For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my brothers, my

kinsmen according to the flesh. ⁴They are Israelites, and to them belong the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the worship, and the promises. ⁵To them belong the patriarchs, and from their race, according to the flesh, is the Christ, who is God over all, blessed forever. Amen. ⁶But it is not as though the word of God has failed. For not all who are descended from Israel belong to Israel, ⁷and not all are children of Abraham because they are his offspring, but "Through Isaac shall your offspring be named." ⁸This means that it is not the children of the flesh who are the children of God, but the children of the promise are counted as offspring. ⁹For this is what the promise said: "About this time next year I will return, and Sarah shall have a son." ¹⁰And not only so, but also when Rebekah had conceived children by one man, our forefather Isaac, ¹¹though they were not yet born and had done nothing either good or bad—in order that God's purpose of election might continue, not because of works but because of him who calls— ¹²she was told, "The older will serve the younger." ¹³As it is written, "Jacob I loved, but Esau I hated." ¹⁴What shall we say then? Is there injustice on God's part? By no means! ¹⁵For he says to Moses, "I will have mercy on whom I have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I have compassion." ¹⁶So then it depends not on human will or exertion, but on God, who has mercy. ¹⁷For the Scripture says to Pharaoh, "For this very purpose I have raised you up, that I might show my power in you, and that my name might be proclaimed in all the earth." ¹⁸So then he has mercy on whomever he wills, and he hardens whomever he wills.

Pastoral Prayer

Hymn Every Promise of Your Word (363)

From the breaking of the dawn to the setting of the sun,
I will stand on ev'ry promise of Your Word.
Words of power, strong to save, that will never pass away.
I will stand on ev'ry promise of Your Word.
For Your covenant is sure, And on this I am secure
I can stand on ev'ry promise of Your Word.

When I stumble and I sin, condemnation pressing in,
I will stand on ev'ry promise of Your Word.
You are faithful to forgive, that in freedom I might live.
So I stand on ev'ry promise of Your Word.
Guilt to innocence restored. You remember sins no more,
So I'll stand on ev'ry promise of Your Word.

When I'm faced with anguished choice, I will listen for Your voice,
And I'll stand on ev'ry promise of Your Word.
Thru' this dark and troubled land, You will guide me with Your hand.
As I stand on ev'ry promise of Your Word.
And You've promised to complete Ev'ry work begun in me.
So I'll stand on ev'ry promise of Your Word.

Hope that lifts me from despair, love that casts out ev'ry fear,
As I stand on ev'ry promise of Your Word.
Not forsaken, not alone, for the Comforter has come,

And I stand on ev'ry promise of Your Word.
Grace sufficient, grace for me, Grace for all who will believe.
We will stand on ev'ry promise of Your Word.

Hymn Ancient Words (365)

Holy words long preserved
for our walk in this world,
They resound with God's own heart;
Oh, let the ancient words impart.
Words of life, words of hope
give us strength, help us cope;
In this world wher-e'er we roam
ancient words will guide us home.
Ancient words ever true,
changing me and changing you;
We have come with open hearts,
Oh, let the ancient words impart.

Holy words of our faith
handed down to this age,
Came to us through sacrifice;
Oh, heed the faithful words of Christ.
Martyr's blood stains each page
They have died for this faith
Hear them cry through the years
Heed these words and hold them dear.
Ancient words ever true,
changing me and changing you;
We have come with open hearts,
Oh, let the ancient words impart.

Scripture Reading Genesis 25:19-28

¹⁹ These are the generations of Isaac, Abraham's son: Abraham fathered Isaac, ²⁰ and Isaac was forty years old when he took Rebekah, the daughter of Bethuel the Aramean of Pad-dan-aram, the sister of Laban the Aramean, to be his wife. ²¹ And Isaac prayed to the LORD for his wife, because she was barren. And the LORD granted his prayer, and Re-bekah his wife conceived. ²² The children struggled together within her, and she said, "If it is thus, why is this happening to me?" So she went to inquire of the LORD. ²³ And the LORD said to her, "Two nations are in your womb, and two peoples from within you shall be divided; the one shall be stronger than the other, the older shall serve the younger." ²⁴ When her days to give birth were completed, behold, there were twins in her womb. ²⁵ The first came out red, all his body like a hairy cloak, so they called his name Esau. ²⁶ Afterward his brother came out with his hand holding Esau's heel, so his name was called Jacob. ²⁷ Isaac was sixty years old when she bore them. ²⁸ When the boys grew up, Esau was a skillful hunter, a man of the field, while Jacob was a quiet man, dwelling in tents. ²⁹ Isaac loved Esau because he ate of his game, but Rebekah loved Jacob.

Worship in Tithes & Offerings

Sermon Dr. Blair Waddell

'Life is Full of Tension' Genesis 25:19-28

Hymn Jesus Shall Reign (120)

Jesus shall reign where'er the sun
Does its successive journeys run;
His kingdom spread from shore to shore,
Till moons shall wax and wane no more.

To Him shall endless prayer be made,
And endless praises crown His head;
His name like sweet perfume shall rise
With ev'ry morning sacrifice.

People and realms of ev'ry tongue
Dwell on His love with sweetest song,
And infant voices shall proclaim
Their early blessings on His Name.

Let ev'ry creature rise and bring
Honor and glory to our King;
Angels descend with songs again,
And earth repeat the loud "Amen"!

Benediction

Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below.
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

Sermon Outline

'Life is Full of Tension' Genesis 25:19-28

- I. Where we are in the Book of Genesis- Book 8
- II. Where we are in the Story
- III. The Birth of Esau and Jacob (Genesis 25:19-28)
 - a. A problem
 - b. A blessing
 - c. A struggle within her
 - d. A prophecy
 - e. A birth
 - f. And yet, different affections
- IV. Application

- a. Human life begins in the _____. (Psalm 139:13-16; Luke 1:13-15, 41-44)
- b. _____ is at God's Hands.
- c. Never underestimate the power of praying according to _____.
- d. The Creator loves _____.
- e. Life is full of _____.
- f. The Word of God proves true (2 Samuel 8:12-14)

K Group Questions for January 24

1. The pastor stated that 'life begins at conception'. Why are Christians obligated to accept this? What does it mean when we don't?
2. Why was Isaac so fervent in his prayers for his wife? How should we model the same?
3. Why is life full of tension? How does God use that tension in our lives?
4. How does this passage reveal that God loves diversity? How can we be unified and still appreciate one another's differences?
5. Can you share a testimony of how you underwent an extremely 'tense' time and how the Lord used that for His glory?

Announcements

Youth Winter Retreat – February 9-11

The youth winter retreat registration has begun! Please click on the link to sign up: [WinterRetreat2024](#)

Ladies Bible Study Resumes, Thursday, January 25 @ 9:30 AM

All ladies are invited to join the Ladies Bible Study starting up again on Thursday January 25th from 9:30 to 11:00. We are starting a new book and would love to have you join us as we disciple each other through God's Word. Sign up in the foyer or let Sue Carter (256-682-6586) know if you would like to participate.

Games at Valley View Nursing Home – Friday, January 26 @ 2:30 PM

On the last Friday of every month, we play games with residents of VVNH. We are called "Providence Players." Come join us for rousing games of dominos and UNO. For more information contact Monika Carroll at 256-772-0185.

Women's Fellowship Brunch – Saturday, January 27 @ 9:30 AM, FH

This is for all women, including members and visitors. Please come enjoy a light brunch and the opportunity to mingle and get to know one another. We will also discuss ministry opportunities. Please contact Reagan Bynum (678-596-1400) or Hannah Ring (865-766-9274) with any questions.

1st Quarter Sunday School Has Begun

Even if you didn't sign up, just choose a class, and join us. Descriptions are in the foyer and can also be found on the PBC website: providencebaptist.us/adult-education.

Lottie Moon Post Office – *Please pick up your family's cards!*

Please check the basket in the foyer for your family's cards which have been bundled and alphabetized.

Upcoming Dates ...

January 23	Elders Meeting
January 25	Ladies Bible Study RESUMES
January 26	Games at Valley View
January 27	Women's Fellowship Brunch
February 6	Elders Meeting
February 9-11	Winter Youth Retreat
February 10	Ladies Book Discussion Group
February 11	Young Adult Fellowship
February 23	Games at Valley View
February 24	Women's Discipleship Workshop