

God's Grand Story pt 10 Not Enough – Putting the Pieces Together

Intro: Stefan Duerksen Lead Pastor

Church-Wide Prayer: Heart of Prayer (Ps 27:4): Every generation to find Jesus & learn to bring their needs to Him in prayer

- **Personal:** Love God & people, make disciples is our job: Who can you share Jesus with?
- **Church-wide:** Good Friday Prayer Summit – average 500 people in attendance. Pray for youth – adults to come engage in prayer & worship
- Go Love Locations: Rest Haven, SRSS, SCS, and Union Gospel Mission in Winnipeg.
- GL students, to come with open, hungry hearts, eager to serve and willing to be stretched.
- GL students to have hearts for mission and to meet God as individuals and a team!
- For the planning and organizing – for wisdom, details, and God's heart in all things.
- For the organizations where we minister and the people receiving our students, that God would minister through the students and be impacted for the kingdom.
- For HSYN's Way of the Cross night, MANY of our HS students would come, receive from God, and come away changed by what Christ has done for them.

Intro: "NOT ENOUGH" → Me and Austin kayaking – Georgian Bay... waves picked up. We realized on the way back that we were NOT ENOUGH. I was driving him like a Viking ship captain. And we both prayed. I heard an audible voice say my name behind me and whipped my head around only to see a diving boat. We knew then where we were! The Grotto! And changed course. Then we continued to pray and paddle hard until we reached the shore. My back was bleeding and still has scars. We knew we were NOT ENOUGH. We needed help! And God helped us miraculously!

- I wonder how much of the anxiety and despair we experience is linked to FALSE EXPECTATIONS and the PRESSURE of feeling that we are supposed to BE ENOUGH?
- **Jesus invites us to COME AS WE ARE.** But then he addresses the problem we are faced with. WE ARE NOT ENOUGH. We cannot save ourselves. We cannot defeat sin. We cannot undo the curse.

I think Israel learned this lesson as individuals and as a nation! It's at the heart of the excitement!

A. Hosanna to the King of Israel!

John 12:12-16 The next day the large crowd that had come to the feast heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, crying out, "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, even the King of Israel!" And Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it, just as it is written, "Fear not, daughter of Zion; behold, your king is coming, sitting on a donkey's colt!" His disciples did not understand these things at first, but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things had been written about him and had been done to him.

Why were they so excited? Hosanna – "I beg you to save" or "please deliver us"

- **Psalms 118:25-26** *Save us, we pray, O Lord! O Lord, we pray, give us success! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! We bless you from the house of the Lord.*

- **Zechariah 9:9** *Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your king is coming to you; righteous and having salvation is he, humble and mounted on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.*

They thought Jesus was a king! And not just ANY king! They thought he was THE KING – MESSIAH!

- **Genesis 49:10** *The scepter shall not depart from Judah, nor the ruler's staff from between his feet, until tribute comes to him; and to him shall be the obedience of the peoples.*

Jesus was THE King. The one promised in Genesis. The Serpent Crusher. The one who would undo the curse! Rid them of sin! But also the one who would establish the Kingdom of Israel and deliver them from Roman oppression!

Through a long process –Israel had learned they NEEDED rescue! They learned they were NOT ENOUGH! They knew God was real. They had seen him move mountains! But! From Promises → the flood → birthing a nation → slavery → mighty deliverance → Promised Land! → oppression → judges and KINGS → A SPLIT → Exile → Harsh Roman oppression... what happened?

B. Putting the puzzle together: Promise 4: The Davidic Covenant (BACK SLIDE)

THE STORY CONTINUES: In the Grand Story – we started in Creation... then the Fall... eve's deception...

- **Promise 1: Edenic Cov – Serpent Crusher!**
 - Undo the curse? No. wickedness spreads and God judges the earth with the flood!
- **Promise 2: Abrahamic Cov – UNCONDITIONAL** – God would make them a great nation, give them land and use them to bless the nations!
 - Then salvation from famine ends in generations of slavery!
 - BUT DELIVERANCE CAME!
- **Promise 3: Mosaic – CONDITIONAL** – the laws and guidelines to help them stay in the PROMISE!!
- **Then Judges...** and back and forth oppression... Each time they move 2 steps forward – it's followed by 3 steps back!

You can see why the people of Israel would have been LONGING for the Serpent Crusher! The Fulfillment of Promise #1!

LAST WEEK: THEN THE AGE OF THE KINGS → David was Israel's second and greatest king in the Age of the Kings that lasted 500 years.

- He began to rule at age 33 and reigned for 40 years.
- The Jews considered his reign, "the golden era of peace & prosperity"
- After securing the kingdom - David had it in his mind to build a great temple for the Lord.
- THE LORD DECLINE and announced **Promise 4: Davidic Covenant.**

2 Samuel 7:8-16 Now then, tell my servant David, 'This is what the LORD Almighty says: I took you from the pasture and from following the flock to be ruler over my people Israel. I have been with you wherever you have gone, and I have cut off all your enemies from before you. Now I will make your

name great, like the names of the greatest men of the earth. And I will provide a place for my people Israel and will plant them so that they can have a home of their own and no longer be disturbed. Wicked people will not oppress them anymore, as they did at the beginning and have done ever since the time I appointed leaders over my people Israel. I will also give you rest from all your enemies. "The LORD declares to you that the LORD himself will establish a house for you: When your days are over and you rest with your fathers, I will raise up your offspring (SEED) to succeed you, who will come from your own body, and I will establish his kingdom. HE IS THE ONE who will build a house for my Name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. I will be his father, and he will be my son. When he does wrong, I will punish him with the rod of men, with floggings inflicted by men. But my love will never be taken away from him, as I took it away from Saul, whom I removed from before you. Your house and your kingdom will endure forever before me; your throne will be established forever.

Though not called a covenant here, David later referred to it as a covenant (2 Sam 23:5; Psa 132:12). Ethan, a converted Canaanite who wrote one of the messianic psalms, also referred to it as a covenant (Psa 89:3).

Instead of David building a house for the Lord, God would instead build a "house" out of David!

Promise 4: Davidic Covenant, had ALL the same elements of Promise 1: Abrahamic: Great name, land, blessing to the nations and the seed of the Serpent Crusher! **THEN ADDED:**

- **FIRST:** it clarified some of the pieces from the other promises... we had seen there was a Divine Seed (Gen) that was passing down... then we saw there would be kings... NOW we see the Divine Seed is also the KING. This Divine Seed King was the one through whom the Nations would be blessed!
- **SECOND:** David's lineage would give birth to kings and the **final King** who would bring about the **fulfillment of Promise 1&2!** And he would be righteous – **he could fulfill Promise 3!**
- **THIRD:** A king would sit on David's throne FOREVER. He would establish a peace that would NEVER end.
- **FOURTH:** it is UNCONDITIONAL – just like Promise 2!

And for much of the time during David's reign... the people wondered if he was that King!

- But David's reign didn't last... even the BEST of them! The MAN AFTER GOD'S HEART – he couldn't KEEP THE LAW! **He was NOT ENOUGH!**
- He committed adultery, murder, then failed his family and didn't protect his daughter when she was raped, which led to him being chased from his kingdom, only to return and give into satan and do a census which God had prohibited him from doing!
- After 100 years the United Kingdom of Israel was divided.
- 500ish years later and BOTH Southern & Northern Kingdoms were in EXILE.
- ISRAEL was NOT ENOUGH.

We are seeing the pieces of a puzzle come together and through it all we are seeing God's plan of redemption unfolding.

1. **Promise 1: Edenic** – We are promised a solution for the SIN mankind brought into creation
2. **Promise 2: Abrahamic** – We see God beginning to unveil his plan... he would use ONE nation, put them in a specific place and use them to bless everyone else... and the seed of SC would come through them...
3. **Promise 3: Mosaic** – we see the nature of the people that would bring about the blessing... how they would act.. we see what the people of the land will be like
4. **Promise 4: Davidic** – we see that this kingdom has a KING who will bring peace to the entire world! WOW! And will reign forever...

BUT WE STILL HAVE A PROBLEM!!

Genesis 6:5 The Lord saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intention of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.

NOT ENOUGH!! No matter what people tried – they were NEVER ENOUGH! They always landed in rebellion! They always ended up destroying each other! NOTHING WORKED – total hopelessness!

They had tried: Restart, dispersion, captivity and deliverance, miracles! Priests! Perfect Law! Abundant land! The best King! And STILL – they were here... in exile! Further away from the promises than ever before!

THERE WAS ONE MORE PIECE NEEDED FOR THIS PUZZLE – Promise 5: The NEW Covenant!

C. Putting the puzzle together: Promise 5: NEW Covenant

The New Covenant was given to address the BIGGEST problem of all! Mankinds evil heart and powerlessness to live according to God’s standard!

Jeremiah – Prophet before & during Exile in Southern Kingdom

Jeremiah 31:31-34 “Behold, the days are coming, declares the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah, not like the covenant that I made with their fathers on the day when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt, my covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, declares the Lord. For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts. And I will be their God, and they shall be my people. And no longer shall each one teach his neighbor and each his brother, saying, ‘Know the Lord,’ for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, declares the Lord. For I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more.”

Promise 5: The NEW Covenant → A new heart, new spirit, the ability to obey the Law

- They would have a NEW heart – not an evil one! Sin Nature will be SOLVED.
- They will have a NEW Spirit – the Holy Spirit! To empower them! To DO GOD’S LAW!
- They will KNOW GOD – from the least to the greatest! No teachers needed! My job GONE!
- And God himself will rule them!

Ezekiel 36:22-36 “Therefore say to the house of Israel, Thus says the Lord God: It is not for your sake, O house of Israel, that I am about to act, but for the sake of my holy name, which you have profaned among the nations to which you came. And I will vindicate the holiness of my great name, which has been profaned among the nations, and which you have profaned among them. And the nations will know that I am the Lord, declares the Lord God, when through you I vindicate my holiness before their eyes. I will take you from the nations and gather you from all the countries and bring you into your own land. I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse you. And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules. You shall dwell in the land that I gave to your fathers, and you shall be my people, and I will be your God. And I will deliver you from all your uncleannesses. And I will summon the grain and make it abundant and lay no famine upon you. I will make the fruit of the tree and the increase of the field abundant, that you may never again suffer the disgrace of famine among the nations. Then you will remember your evil ways, and your deeds that were not good, and you will loathe yourselves for your iniquities and your abominations. It is not for your sake that I will act, declares the Lord God; let that be known to you. Be ashamed and confounded for your ways, O house of Israel.

“Thus says the Lord God: On the day that I cleanse you from all your iniquities, I will cause the cities to be inhabited, and the waste places shall be rebuilt. And the land that was desolate shall be tilled, instead of being the desolation that it was in the sight of all who passed by. And they will say, ‘This land that was desolate has become like the garden of Eden, and the waste and desolate and ruined cities are now fortified and inhabited.’ Then the nations that are left all around you shall know that I am the Lord; I have rebuilt the ruined places and replanted that which was desolate. I am the Lord; I have spoken, and I will do it.

CLOSING: THIS is what they were celebrating on Palm Sunday – this is what the people were so excited about! Now, they were still missing part of the puzzle! The last piece – which we have!!!

The people celebrated because they SAW the Serpent Crusher – the Divine King – who would defeat EVERY enemy and give them a NEW heart and Spirit and establish a Kingdom that had NO end! A Kingdom free from WAR – free from: famine, sickness, death, brokenness, sexual sin, anxiety, depression, divorce! Abuse! Free from the enslavement to SIN that every person was bound to!

SO they cried HOSANNA!! HOSANNA TO THE KING!! BUT THERE WAS ONE PROBLEM STILL TO SOLVE THAT NO ONE SAW COMING! NEXT WEEK WE LOOK AT THAT!

SPECIAL PALM SUNDAY -> ENDING.

LAST SONG: “Not enough” where do you need God’s help?

- 1. Anxiety? Depression? Cutting? Stress? Overwhelm? Addiction? Pride? Fighting? Bad attitudes towards others? Perfectionism?**
- 2. CONFESS & ASK: Tell Jesus where you are not enough and ask Him for help!**

Matthew 6:33 *But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.*

CLOSE in PRAYER: AFTER SERVICE PRAYER → MARANATHA!

AFTER SERVICE PRAYER – PRAYER ROOM – 9AM and 11AM

MARANATHA!! Come soon Lord!

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SC CHURCH WIDE PRAYER REQUESTS 2024

Cruise ship → → → → → Battleship

- 1. Life on Mission** (Mt 28:18-20, Mt 22:37-40): Love, serve & disciple people to Jesus
- 2. Next Gen** (Ps 78:7-8): Encounters with Jesus, strong mental health, boldness & belonging
- 3. Israel & Persecuted Church** (Lk 21:13): Faith, fortitude & wisdom “to not waste the opportunity to share the Gospel”
- 4. Heart of Prayer** (Ps 27:4): Every generation to find Jesus & learn to bring their needs to Him in prayer
- 5. Church Renewal:** Directors for India and other new countries & many global disciple makers