

Sermon Notes

Providence Community Church

7-15-18 Ken Carlton

Title: PREACHING TO PRINCES

Main Text: Psalm 82

Aim: TO REALIZE THE WORSHIP VALUE OF EXTOLLING THE GOVERNMENT OF GOD OVER GOVERNMENTS OF MEN.

Sermon Description: In Psalm 82 – albeit in song form – Asaph assumes the role of preacher to the state. This role of the clergyman is rarely practiced these days. Why?, we should ask. Generally it seems reasonable to conclude this is because the government has become an idol. Modern man is a state worshipper in most cases. There is no sermon appropriate to preach to one's god after all. A closer analysis may reveal a situation where a prophetic voice to government is effectively silenced by subtle compromise. These days the relationship of evangelical leaders to politicians seems to be, in most cases, a mutually beneficial situation where the magistrate is happy to court the endorsement of a religious leader representing a segment of the voting public while the evangelical leader is happy to secure a seat at the political table, hoping to influence policy. We seldom see prophet Nathan to King David type confrontations declaring: “You are the man!” (II Sam 12:7) calling the magistrate to repentance upon his having fallen short of the law of God. This is a lesson Nathan and Asaph can teach us. Another lesson occurs to the reader as an answer to the question: “what worship value does a Psalm oriented as a rebuke to governing authorities contain for the church?”. When we proclaim the law of God and His reprimands to the rulers of men in our praises, our allegiances and our fears are redirected from the earthly realm to the heavenly realm. Psalm 82 glorifies God and encourages His people proclaiming heaven's perspective on politics...

Heading: ...ASAPH PROCLAIMS TO THE PRINCE/JUDGE...

1. HIS OBLIGATION (Ps 82:3,4)

- a. Chiastic structure
- b. Godly justice
- c. Test cases

2. AN INDICTMENT (2, 5-7)

- a. Playing favorites
- b. Reckless obstinance
- c. Verdict (Acts 12:20-23)

3. A SUMMONS (1, 8)

- a. Divine council
- b. Day of the Lord
- c. Messianic praise (Rev 11:15)

FAMILY WORSHIP SCHEDULE:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Theme:	Theme:	Theme:	Theme:	Theme:	Theme:
Judge's obligation	Indictment	Summons	Example	Fulfilled	Next week
Verses:	Verses:	Verses:	Verses:	Verses:	Verses:
Ps 82:3-4	2, 5-7	1, 8	Acts 12:20-23	Rev 11:9-15	Acts 8:26-38

FURTHER STUDY: see 'Excerpts' posted weekly at providencecrosslake.com

NEXT WEEK: Acts 8:26-38...Word, Preacher, Convert, Baptism...