The Place of God, Genesis 50:1-26 - Bradley Bell

August 7, 2022

Genesis 37-50: Worst Thing, Best Thing

Length

in mins

0:00 Call to Worship - Isaiah 45:18, 20, 22

Church, we've spent the last four summers walking through the entire book of Genesis, and today we bring that journey to an end. Genesis is so important to us because it allows us to see the beginning of God's relationship with his creation.

The question "Who am I?" is one of the deepest questions of the human heart. Another way of asking that might be, "What is my place in this world?" And we have the great grace of knowing the foundation of the answer: we are created by God, for God. Listen to his words in Isaiah 45:

18 For thus says the Lord,who created the heavens (he is God!),who formed the earth and made it (he established it;he did not create it empty, he formed it to be inhabited!):"I am the Lord, and there is no other.

20 "Assemble yourselves and come; draw near together, you survivors of the nations! They have no knowledge who carry about their wooden idols, and keep on praying to a god that cannot save.

22 "Turn to me and be saved, all the ends of the earth! For I am God, and there is no other. Isaiah 45:18, 20, 22

Let's celebrate this truth as we sing and we pray and we lift our hands and our hearts: no one can take God's place! Blessed be his glorious name!

0:00 Blessed Be Your Name [Default Arrangement in A]

0:00 Confession - Isaiah 45:5-7

We have learned from the story of Joseph that many evil things came his way in life. And yet he experienced the providence of God even in the malice of man. If we are to do the same, then we must confess this mysterious truth, as reflected also in Isaiah 45:

5 I am the Lord, and there is no other, besides me there is no God; I equip you, though you do not know me, 6 that people may know, from the rising of the sun and from the west, that there is none besides me; I am the Lord, and there is no other. 7 I form light and create darkness; I make well-being and create calamity; I am the Lord, who does all these things.

Isaiah 45:5-7

How the Lord rules over evil without himself being tainted by it, is a reality that can be hard to explain. And yet here's what it requires of us: trust. We cannot see all things with his view from the mountaintop, so we dare not seek to take his place. So let us confess together this simple yet profound truth:

Father, we trust you.

- 0:00 In Feast Or Fallow [Default Arrangement in B]
- 0:00 He Will Hold Me Fast [Default Arrangement in G]
- 0:00 Evidence of Grace Sandy Dicus
- 0:00 Sermon Genesis 50:1-26
- 0:00 Communion 1 Corinthians 11:23-28
- **3:00** Now Why This Fear [Default Arrangement in A: In A]
- 0:00 Sovereign Over Us [Default Arrangement in B]

0:00 Benediction - Isaiah 45:23

You may be seated. Thank you for joining us in today's gathering! We hope that you have experienced the welcome of Jesus.

Family Groups - This gathering is only a secondary part of the life of Antioch. We would love to have you in one of our Family Groups, which meet in homes throughout the week in order for us to grow in the context of deep relationships. If you would like to join one of them, there is info in the hallway, or talk with one of us and we'll make a direct connection for you.

Giving & Visitors - Also now is our time for giving—ushers please come forward. If you are a visitor with us this morning please grab a visitor card from the basket so that we can get to know you more. You can give it to someone with a lanyard or leave it in your seat, and the pen is yours to keep.

Antioch members, remember that giving is part of how we participate in God's mission. If you prefer to give digitally, visit our website or find us on GivApp.

Announcements

For everyone, here are a few ways to take the following steps (which first and always include specific ways you can serve—we encourage you to see the servant's wall in the hallway after the gathering as there are numerous new needs listed there):

1) 9 AM Classes - Our adult 9 AM class will continue in the book of James. Childcare is provided.

2) Antioch Family - Next Sunday, August 14th will kick off our annual Antioch Family series, where we speak not only to the many young families in our church, but what that means for us as one big church-wide family. Here are the emphases this year:

August 14 - children August 21 - singles August 28 - youth

Also, after next Sunday's gathering, we will be having a pop-up to celebrate the promotion of children to new classes and the appreciation of our servants. There will be light refreshments and something fun for kids.

3) Antioch Arts --Next week, August 14, right after the gathering, Antioch arts will be having a luncheon here at the church. If you're interested in arts or creativity at all - whether you are a maker or just someone who enjoys engaging with the arts - feel free to stop by. If you have any questions on what this is all about, you can talk with Josh Thomas.

We begin each gathering with a call to worship and we end with a benediction, which is simply a reminder that we are blessed to be a blessing.

Church, because God has accomplished the best thing through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, every knee shall bow and every tongue swear allegiance to him. Therefore may you go, no longer seeking to take the place of God, and inviting others into the freedom of doing the same.

Based on Isaiah 45:23

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God the Father and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

WE ARE SENT