

Assignment 8

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1. Acts 1:7-8

This is when Jesus had assembled all His disciples together to issue the Great Commission before He ascended in to Heaven where He still is until He returns. When He was on Earth the Jews were preoccupied with overthrowing the occupying Romans and restoring Israel as a sovereign nation from a province of the Roman Empire and even some of the disciples were still of that mind set. Jesus tells them not to worry about Earthly matters, the important thing is His kingdom and He said to Pilate "my kingdom is not of this world". He moves on to give them their first instructions for building is kingdom which is when the Holy Spirit will come upon them at Pentecost which will be soon.

A great summary, Arthur.

! Corinthians 11:27-32

Paul was aware of the bad behaviour of the believers in Corinth, during shared meals and communion (may have been the same thing). Corinth was a port city and a very wealthy town and the social divisions within society were also manifesting themselves in the church, just like in society now people tend to stick with their own socio economic groups and so they were in church too. Like the British social class divisions poor attitudes were emerging between the groups some thinking they were better than others. As a wealthy city many new believers would have previously lived a hedonistic life style with parties, binge eating, and possibly drinking and maximising gain. Paul criticises those who pig out probably for the free feed while others go without and reminds them that such behaviour is contrary to Christian values. The Lord's Supper is a solemn occasion so those who treated it like another party were misusing God's gifts and should examine themselves as to their motives for partaking, fellowship or a licentious feast which is why some were sick and others had died.

2. Sections of Jonah

Jonah's disobedience.

God calls Jonah on a mission to Nineveh but instead he takes a ship to Tarshish (Spain).

The storm at sea.

God causes a storm to scare the sailors in to finding Jonah, waking him and establishing the cause of the storm.

Jonah thrown in to the sea.

Despite JJonah's advice the crew battle on reluctant to throw him overboard, but they do, Jonah is headed back to his mission and the storm stops.

Jonah's prayer and deliverance.

God sends a fish to transport Jonah back to where he can restart the mission, in the 3 days inside the fish he has time to reflect and reconnect with God.

Jonah preaches at Nineveh.

God tells Jonah to get on with the mission, he travels 3 days to Nineveh, preaches telling the people to repent, the king repents and uses his authority to make the population repent and God relents from what He was going to do.

Jonah's anger and God's kindness.

Jonah is upset that the population repented, tells God he wants to die and sits outside the city and sulks. God provides a plant to live for 24 hours to keep him cool from the sun, and when the plant dies Jonah gets sentimental about the plant, God uses that situation to convey to Jonah how much the people of Nineveh meant to Him.

8.2.3

Verses 13 -16 are in the heat of the context, from the beginning the crew knew the storm was a supernatural phenomenon because everyone had been asked to pray to their own god and after drawing lots determined that Jonah was responsible for the storm, he had even admitted to it. The crew's dilemma was to throw Jonah overboard would be murder of an innocent man which they feared could anger God more and make their situation worse, and maybe some still believed it was a natural event but that idea is possibly from today's secular mind set. They tried stubbornly to beat the storm and eventually realised you can not beat the Living God, they reluctantly did as Jonah told them but confessed and repented of their sins in advance.

Afterwards we see just how God was in control of the whole situation by calming the sea and providing Jonah with transport back to dry land to get on with his mission.

We are not told whether he went back to the ferry office in Joppa to ask for a refund on his fare as he never got to Tarshish!!!LOL

SMILE - nice "refund" comment Arthur.

Thank you for your work on this assignment, as well as early submission.
Much appreciated.

Do you think you have a sermonette somewhere in the above?