

Worship September 11, 2022 – 14th Sunday after Pentecost

Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church – Dade City Florida

Sermon Notes “What Will the LORD Do?”

WWJD? What Would Jesus Do?

What has the LORD God done for us?

Memory Verses: I Timothy 1:15-17 “¹⁵ The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the foremost. ¹⁶But I received mercy for this reason, that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display his perfect patience as an example to those who were to believe in him for eternal life. ¹⁷To the King of ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.”

14th Sunday after Pentecost/ patriot day /grandparents day.

Therefore, it could also be appropriate to consider the heritage given to our ancestors.

**American Patriots Bible; Thomas Nelson, publishers 2009 NKJV
Editor, Dr. Richard Lee questions in the introduction:**

How would she (the new USA) acquire and preserve her freedom from the British and other powers who would seek to impose their wills upon her? If independence was achieved, upon what principles of law and government would her constitution be formed? Through what lens of understanding would she view the world outside her own people? ... source for these answers in the Holy Bible. ...

concerning the Bible, “That book, Sir, is the rock upon which our Republic rests.” – President Jackson

**Today, many have abandoned the Bible and its basic truths. ...
“What will the LORD Do?” “...there is nothing new under the sun...”
(Eccl. 1:9) reminds issues are not new ... when shepherds become very selfish and uncaring for God’s people. How does the Lord God call them to accountability. For example see Ezekiel 34...**

Can you find the things that God said he would do in that situation?

Ezek. 34:11 ff. "...Behold, I, I myself will search for my sheep and will seek them out. ... rescue them from where they have been scattered. ... bring them out and gather them from the countries and will bring them into their own land. And...I will feed them with good pasture...I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep..."

I will seek the lost, bring back the strayed, bind up the injured, strengthen the weak, and the fat and the strong I will destroy...

I will feed them in Justice...tender, loving care for His fallen creatures demonstrates God of the Old Testament is not a wrathful ogre but the Father who sent His Son to seek and to save the lost. Link through King David to Jesus Christ as Savior (Matthew 1:6b-16)

So what does Jesus do? Jesus is the Good Shepherd who faithfully provides God's Word to all generations. He brings restoration to a world weary with sin.

In Psalm 119, the Psalmist asks for understanding and deliverance as he affirms the commandments of the Lord; confesses going astray like a lost sheep; prays the LORD would seek him as His servant.

Paul's first letter to Timothy written to stop false teaching among the Ephesian churches and to promote true doctrine.

Paul (aka Saul) –had actively persecuted the followers of Jesus (Acts 7:58-8:3) in fact, was persecuting the Lord Jesus himself (Acts 9:4-5) Paul was recipient of undeserved and unearned-mercy from the Lord, can be received only as a gift. Paul's admission that he acted ignorantly not offered as excuse for his sin; not willfully rejecting the Savior because he was ignorant Jesus was the Christ, the Son of God.

We have the promise that, "Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners." (1 Tim. 1:15) This truth is the beating heart of all our hope and joy. God's patience and mercy are at work to save all sinners, whether they are blinded by ignorance (like Paul) or have actively rejected the faith (like Hymenaeus and Alexander). God's mercy and patience for us is demonstrated at the cross, where Jesus died as the substitute for all sinners and won eternal life for all who believe.

Luke 15, In the first of three similar parables, Jesus uses the devotion of a shepherd to illustrate God's willingness to find the wayward sinner. God does not abandon us to our foolishness, but seeks us out, calling us to repentance and to faith in the Gospel.

In the second parable, the repentant sinner is like a coin. Unlike the wandering sheep, the coin is inanimate, emphasizing its complete helplessness. The neighbors represent the angels, who are invited to share the joy of God, for He has found something precious.

The unrepentant sinner is like the coin lost in the darkness. Once lost, we have no more ability to find the Lord than the coin has to find its owner. Yet the good news of Christ is “light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death” (1:79)

What did Jesus Do? He saved us by His amazing grace! John Newton who once was enslaving others, was set free from his sins and inspired to write the familiar hymn – Amazing Grace...

**Amazing Grace!--How sweet the sound--that saved a Wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found; Was blind, but now I see.**

**'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears
relieved;
how precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed!**

**Through many dangers, toils, and snares I have already come;
'tis grace has brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.**

**The Lord has promised good to me; His word my hope secures;
He will my shield and portion be as long as life endures.**

**When we've been there 10,000 years, bright shining as the sun,
we've no less days to sing God's praise than when we'd first begun.**

Let's pray;

Thank you, merciful LORD, for seeking us when we had no power to seek You. Bring us home, dear LORD, and let there be joy in heaven. Grant us daily repentance . Amen.