

MESSAGE OUTLINE

Occasion : Morning Worship
Date : June 11, 2017

TITLE : THE REASONABLENESS OF FAITH
Text/s :

Heb 11:6

6 But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

KJV

Heb 11:23-27

23 By faith Moses, when he was born, was hid three months of his parents, because they saw he was a proper child; and they were not afraid of the king's commandment.

24 By faith Moses, when he was come to years, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter;

25 Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season;

26 Esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt: for he had respect unto the recompence of the reward.

27 By faith he forsook Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king: for he endured, as seeing him who is invisible.

I Jn 5:9-13

9 If we receive the witness of men, the witness of God is greater: for this is the witness of God which he hath testified of his Son.

10 He that believeth on the Son of God hath the witness in himself: he that believeth not God hath made him a liar; because he believeth not the record that God gave of his Son.

11 And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son.

12 He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life.

13 These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God.

Bible Reading :

Ps 119:1-13

1 Blessed are the undefiled in the way, who walk in the law of the Lord.

2 Blessed are they that keep his testimonies, and that seek him with the whole heart.

3 They also do no iniquity: they walk in his ways.

4 Thou hast commanded us to keep thy precepts diligently.

5 O that my ways were directed to keep thy statutes!

6 Then shall I not be ashamed, when I have respect unto all thy commandments.

7 I will praise thee with uprightness of heart, when I shall have learned thy righteous judgments.

8 I will keep thy statutes: O forsake me not utterly.

9 Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed thereto according to thy word.

10 With my whole heart have I sought thee: O let me not wander from thy commandments.

11 Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.

12 Blessed art thou, O Lord: teach me thy statutes.

13 With my lips have I declared all the judgments of thy mouth.

KJV

Song :

INTRODUCTION

rea·son·a·ble·ness

'rēz(ə)nəb(ə)lnəs/Submit

noun

noun: reasonableness

1. sound judgment; fairness. "days which demand wise restraint and calm reasonableness" the quality of being based on good sense. "he critically evaluated the reasonableness of each assumption"
2. the quality of being as much as is appropriate or fair; moderateness. "disputes about the reasonableness of certain costs"

- Noun
1. reasonableness - the state of having good sense and sound judgment; "his rationality may have been impaired"; "he had to rely less on reason than on rousing their emotions" rationality, reasonableness, sanity - normal or sound powers of mind
 2. reasonableness - goodness of reason and judgment; "the judiciary is built on the reasonableness of judges" sensibleness - the quality of showing good sense or practical judgment wisdom, soundness, wisdom - the quality of being prudent and sensible
 3. reasonableness - the property of being moderate in price or expenditures; "the store is famous for the reasonableness of its prices"; "the modestness of the living standards here becomes obvious immediately" moderateness, modestness
 4. reasonableness - moderation in expectations; "without greater reasonableness by both parties

When we say that something or a person is reasonable, we mean that that something or that person is governed by or is in accordance with reason or sound thinking. To be reasonable is to be within the bounds of common sense. To be reasonable is to mean fair or not extreme or excessive. But is faith reasonable? Does it conform to logic?

Many things in this world are "past finding out"

Job 9:2-10

- 2 I know it is so of a truth: but how should man be just with God?
- 3 If he will contend with him, he cannot answer him one of a thousand.
- 4 He is wise in heart, and mighty in strength: who hath hardened himself against him, and hath prospered?
- 5 Which removeth the mountains, and they know not: which overturneth them in his anger.
- 6 Which shaketh the earth out of her place, and the pillars thereof tremble.
- 7 Which commandeth the sun, and it riseth not; and sealeth up the stars.
- 8 Which alone spreadeth out the heavens, and treadeth upon the waves of the sea.
- 9 Which maketh Arcturus, Orion, and Pleiades, and the chambers of the south.
- 10 Which doeth great things past finding out; yea, and wonders without number.

Rom 11:33-34

- 33 O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! how unsearchable are his judgments, and his ways past finding out!
- 34 For who hath known the mind of the Lord? or who hath been his counsellor?

But there is a reason for everything bad or good. And in Christianity, faith operates from the beginning to the end of life. It is God's purpose that the principle of faith operate in every aspect of our lives. We are saved through faith and we must live by faith until we die in faith. Faith is comprehensive and a progressive in nature.

We know that faith is always a response to God's Word. It is not a presumption or a belief without reason. It is based on God's Word.

Rom 10:17

17 So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

If faith is by the Word of God, then it is never against reason. And it is above reason. It is not a presumption with we say, "I am saved" or "I am a child of God..." It is not a presumption to act upon the promises of God's Word. True faith is a response to the preaching of God's Word in salvation or for service. It is hearing the Word of God and in spiritual things, hearing is more important than seeing.

1 Peter 3:15

15 But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear:

KJV

A) Faith is reasonable because it trusts a God "Who is"

Heb 11:6

6 But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

I Jn 5:9-12

9 If we receive the witness of men, the witness of God is greater: for this is the witness of God which he hath testified of his Son.

10 He that believeth on the Son of God hath the witness in himself: he that believeth not God hath made him a liar; because he believeth not the record that God gave of his Son.

11 And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son.

12 He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life.

Heb 7:25

25 Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them.

KJV

John 14:6

6 Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

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Matt 16:15-16

15 He saith unto them, But whom say ye that I am?

16 And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God.

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John 8:58

58 Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Before Abraham was, I am.

KJV

Ex 3:14

14 And God said unto Moses, I AM THAT I AM: and he said, Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, I AM hath sent me unto you.

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Rev 1:8

8 I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty.

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- 1) God is greater than anyone, king, monarch or any highest office
- 2) God deserves our trust in Him more than our trust in any great man.

B) Faith is reasonable because of the firm foundation of what is believed.

This foundation renders all unbelief as sin and wrong

John 11:25-27

25 Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live:

26 And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. Believest thou this?

27 She saith unto him, Yea, Lord: I believe that thou art the Christ, the Son of God, which should come into the world.

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Heb 10:35

35 Cast not away therefore your confidence, which hath great recompence of reward.

KJV

Heb 6:19

19 Which hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and stedfast, and which entereth into that within the veil;

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2 Tim 2:19

19 Nevertheless the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, The Lord knoweth them that are his. And, Let every one that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity.

KJV

Heb 2:1-3

1 Therefore we ought to give the more earnest heed to the things which we have heard, lest at any time we should let them slip.

2 For if the word spoken by angels was stedfast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just recompence of reward;

3 How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation; which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed unto us by them that heard him;

KJV

Gal 6:9

9 And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.

KJV

1 Cor 3:10-12

10 According to the grace of God which is given unto me, as a wise masterbuilder, I have laid the foundation, and another buildeth thereon. But let every man take heed how he buildeth thereupon.

11 For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ.

12 Now if any man build upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble;

KJV

Rom 8:28-29

28 And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

29 For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren.
 30 Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified.
 31 What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?
 32 He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things?
 33 Who shall lay any thing to the charge of God's elect? It is God that justifieth.
 34 Who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us.
 35 Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?
 36 As it is written, For thy sake we are killed all the day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter.
 37 Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us.
 38 For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come,
 39 Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.
 KJV

John 3:19-20

19 And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.
 20 For every one that doeth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light, lest his deeds should be reproved.

John 3:36

36 He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him.

- 1) The sin that condemns the soul to hell is unbelief;
- 2) Atheism is unreasonable and to be one is to disregard any reason to exist;
- 3) Anything that contradicts faith is sin

Rom 14:23

23 And he that doubteth is damned if he eat, because he eateth not of faith: for whatsoever is not of faith is sin.

C) Faith is reasonable because of its eternal profit to the believer (and eternal loss to the unbeliever)

- 1) There is never a profit to the unbeliever

John 3:18

18 He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.

John 3:36

36 He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him.

- 2) Mark 8:36-37

36 For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?

37 Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?

D) Faith is reasonable because of the assurance it brings

- 1) The assurance that we are God's children
John 1:12
12 But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:
- 2) The assurance that we have eternal life
I Jn 5:13
13 These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God.
- 3) The assurance that we will be in heaven
John 14:1-3
1 Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me.
2 In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.
3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.

E) It is reasonable because there is no other way man can approach and understand God

Heb 11:6

- 6 But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

John 8:24

- 24 I said therefore unto you, that ye shall die in your sins: for if ye believe not that I am he, ye shall die in your sins.

F) It is reasonable because "whatsoever is not of faith is sin..." (Rom. 14:23)

Rom 14:23

- 23 And he that doubteth is damned if he eat, because he eateth not of faith: for whatsoever is not of faith is sin.

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Pleasure in this life is but for a season. Temporal gain do not last.

Matt 6:19-21

- 19 Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal:
- 20 But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal:
- 21 For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

G) It is reasonable because of our future glory

And our future glory is far better than anything we have here.

Rom 8:18

- 18 For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.

2 Cor 4:17-18

- 17 For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory;

18 While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal.

KJV

1 Peter 1:3-13

3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,

4 To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you,

5 Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

6 Wherein ye greatly rejoice, though now for a season, if need be, ye are in heaviness through manifold temptations:

7 That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ:

8 Whom having not seen, ye love; in whom, though now ye see him not, yet believing, ye rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory:

9 Receiving the end of your faith, even the salvation of your souls.

10 Of which salvation the prophets have inquired and searched diligently, who prophesied of the grace that should come unto you:

11 Searching what, or what manner of time the Spirit of Christ which was in them did signify, when it testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ, and the glory that should follow.

12 Unto whom it was revealed, that not unto themselves, but unto us they did minister the things, which are now reported unto you by them that have preached the gospel unto you with the Holy Ghost sent down from heaven; which things the angels desire to look into.

13 Wherefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and hope to the end for the grace that is to be brought unto you at the revelation of Jesus Christ;

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