

## **"The Testimonies of God"**

**Text:           Genesis 18:17-19**

**Intro:**

- I believe to have one's name mentioned in the Bible is extraordinary.
- However, to have the God of the Bible actually provide a testimony in a person's behalf is hardly imaginable.
- When any of us stand in the presence of God
  - We realize as Isaiah did we are - "**people of unclean lips**"
  - We realize as the Apostle Paul did - "**O wretched man that I am!**"
  - We realize as the Apostle Peter did - "**I am a sinful man**"
- The Bible declares -
  - "**As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one**"
  - "**For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God**"
- Despite this God testifies in His Word about some of His Saints.
- We want to look at this morning some of "**The Testimonies of God.**"

**I.     Abraham - Genesis 18:19**

- Notice God's testimony about Abraham
  - God says, "**For I know him**"
  - God had no doubt about the statement that He was about to make about Abraham.
- "**that he will command his children and his household after him**"
  - God said that Abraham had his family and household in order.
  - He rules them well.

- o They were in complete submission to him because Abraham was in complete submission to God.
- **"they shall keep the way of the LORD, to do justice and judgment"**
  - o Abraham was obedient to God and set the example for his family.
  - o He spent time in instructing his family on the things of the Lord.
  - o **See Deut. 6:4-9.**
  - o He made sure that his family had a time of devotion each.
  - o He was not a hypocrite.
  - o He practiced what he preached.
  - o His walk matched his talk.
  - o Therefore, Abraham's family was obedient to God.
  - o As Abraham was just and fair in his business dealings and so would his family.
- In fact notice what the Word of God says about Abraham's relationship with God.
  - o **See James 2:23**
  - o Can you imagine being called **"The Friend of God"**
  - o I believe the reason that Abraham was called The Friend of God is because he was obedient to God.
- We see his life of obedience begin when God told him in Genesis 12:1
  - **"Now the LORD had said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy**

**country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, unto a land that I will shew thee:"**

- Abraham was not perfect.
  - o He was a sinner just like you and me.
  - o However, overall his life reflected a life that was obedient to God.
- **Abraham had the testimony of OBEDIENCE to God**

## **II. Job - Job 1:8**

- Notice God's testimony about Job -
- **"there is none like him in the earth"**
  - o Job was in a class all by himself.
- **"a perfect and an upright man"**
  - o God did not say Job was sinless.
  - o Job was a perfect man
    - A man who was a mature saint.
    - A man who consistently right with God.
    - A man who confessed his sins to God on a regular basis.
  - o Job was an upright man.
    - A man who could be trusted in his business dealings.
    - A man who was honest and would never cheat anyone.
    - A man was known as being fair in his business dealings.
- **"one that feareth God"**
  - o Job had the testimony that he feared God.
  - o That is why he was a perfect and upright man.

- The Word of God has a lot to say about "**the fear of the Lord**"
  - "**the fear of the Lord, that is wisdom**"
  - "**the fear of the Lord is the instruction of wisdom**"
  - "**the fear of the Lord prolongeth days**"
  - "**the fear of the Lord is a fountain of life, to depart from the snares of death**"
- "**escheweth evil**"
  - Job had the testimony that he avoided evil.
  - The Word of God tells us "**to depart from evil is understanding**"
- **See James 5:10-11.**
  - We see that Job had a testimony of being patient when it came to suffering.
  - The Word of God tells us in **Romans 5:3** - "**...knowing that tribulation worketh patience**"
  - Job certainly had his share and more of tribulation but through it all he was patient and trusted in God.
- **Job had the testimony that he FEARED GOD.**
  - As a result he was an upright man and avoided evil.

### **III. David - Acts 13:22**

- Notice God's testimony about David
- "**a man after mine own heart**"
  - A believe the key word is "heart"

➤ **See Isaiah 66:2**

- Notice the kind of man God takes notice of -
  - A man that has a poor and contrite spirit
  - A man that trembles at God's Word.
  - David was such man.

➤ **See Psalm 51:17**

- Notice the kind of sacrifices that God will not despise
  - **"broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart"**

➤ You see the reason David was a man after God's own heart was because he saw sin as God saw sin.

- Something wicked and vile.
- Despite his sins of committing adultery with Bathsheba and having her husband Uriah murder.
- David was still a man after God's own heart because he acknowledged his sin and took full responsibility for it
- He confessed his sin to God and was broken hearted because of his sin.
- He asked God for his forgiveness and mercy
- This evident from **Psalm 51** which he wrote.
- David had godly sorrow which worketh repentance to salvation.
  - David was sorrow for offending God.
  - Not for getting caught.

- Being sorrow getting caught is worldly sorrow which worketh death.
- Notice also in **Acts 13:22** what God has to say about David.
  - **"which shall fulfil all my will"**
  - God knew with out a doubt that David was totally submitted to will of God for his life.
  - God knew whatever He told David to do that he would do it.
- **David had the testimony of being a MAN AFTER GOD'S OWN HEART.**
  - A heart that would weep and hurt over sin that he had committed against God.
  - A man surrendered to the will of God.

#### **IV. Mary - Luke 1:30**

- Notice God's testimony about Mary.
- **"for thou hast found favour with God"**
  - Mary found kindness with God.
  - Mary found God's support.
  - **Why you might ask?**
  - Of all the virgins in Israel why did Mary find favour with God?
- Let's look at some of the statements that Mary made.
  - **See Luke 1:38 - "And Mary said, Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word"**
  - Mary had a humble spirit.

- She called herself a handmaid of the Lord.
- A position of servitude and submission.
- Most women if they were told that they were going to bring the Saviour of mankind into the world would have been pretty puffed up - Amen!
- If they believed the angel Gabriel to begin with.
- Mary was submitted to whatever the Lord had for her to do.
- Notice something else about Mary.
  - She recognized her lost condition.
  - **See Luke 1:46-47**
    - Her soul magnified the Lord not herself.
    - She her spirit rejoiced in God her Saviour.
- **Mary had the testimony of being HUMBLE.**
- **Mary had the testimony that she would serve the Lord in any way He saw fit.**

**Conclusion:**

- I believe that each one of these testimonies of God should reflect the life of the believer.
- I believe each one of us should have the **Testimony:**
  - Of being obedient to God as Abraham was.
  - Of fearing God as Job did to keep us upright and to avoid evil.
  - Of having a broken and contrite heart over our sin as David did.

- Of having heart of humility, totally surrendered to will of God as Mary did.
- How about you my dear friend - **What is God's Testimony regarding you?**