

DEVOTIONAL MESSAGE

A God who Remembers ... by Gareth

READ GENESIS 8:1

- **Q**nd God remembered Noah - *Genesis 8:1*
- Here is a wonderful little phrase: "*God remembered*". As He remembered Noah and his family, so He remembers His people in every age. When Noah had no one else to rely on, he could depend upon God and His faithfulness. We love and serve a God who remembers us. This is said of God again and again throughout the Scriptures.
- **God in faithfulness remembers us.**
- When the text says, "*God remembered Noah*," it does not imply that somehow He got busy with other things and Noah slipped from His mind for a while. Then something reminded Him and He snapped His fingers and said, "*Noah! I forgot all about him down there!*"
- Rather, in the Bible the word is used often of God in the sense of God taking action on His promises. When God was about to destroy the wicked cities of Sodom and Gomorrah, He "*remembered Abraham*" and spared Lot on his behalf (*Gen. 19:29*).
- When Rachel wanted to bear children, but could not, we read that "*God remembered Rachel*" and she conceived (*Gen. 30:22*).
- When Israel was in bondage in Egypt, we read that "*God remembered His covenant with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob*" (*Exod. 2:24*).
- "*Jesus, remember me when You come in Your kingdom*" - *Luke 23:42*.
- In every case, the idea is the same: God remembers in the sense of taking action on His promises.
- From our point of view, it may seem that God has forgotten. Perhaps He has been silent for a long while. But He will act on our behalf in His time. He remembers. He is faithful to those who are His
- The nation Israel felt that way. Isaiah wrote, "*But Zion said, 'The Lord has forsaken me, and the Lord has forgotten me.'*" But God answers, "*Can a woman forget her nursing child, and have no compassion on the son of her womb? Even these may forget, but I will not forget you*" (*Isa. 49:14-15*). God remembers His children. Even when He seems to have forgotten us, we, His children, can rest on His faithful Word.
- **God's Faithful Remembrance is seen in His Past Salvation.**

God's past salvation is seen in the ark. Noah and everyone on board the ark had been spared God's judgment. It was not a luxury liner, but those on board were safe. As Noah and his family felt the ark come to rest on the mountain, even though God was yet silent, they knew one thing for certain--by God's grace they had been spared His awful judgment. If you have trusted in God's only means of salvation, the shed blood of the Lord Jesus Christ, even if God seems silent at the moment, you can rest assured that you are safe in Jesus Christ.

(Continued next page)

WEEKLY EVENTS/NOTICES

● God's Faithful Remembrance is Seen in His Promise of Future Preservation

- As he came off the ark, Noah must have had some mixed emotions. On the one hand, he was grateful for God's deliverance. But on the other hand, he must have felt a bit apprehensive. God had wiped out every other person apart from his family.

But those whom God saves, He keeps. Our final preservation doesn't depend on our grip on God, but on God's strong grip on us (*Jude 24*). It doesn't rest on our great faith, but on His great faithfulness.

Events /Notices

- ▶ **Tiglin women's centre testimony** and song will take place next Sunday 4th March. Jimmy and Jane will also share briefly about the work with the homeless outreach.
- ▶ **Next Bible study** will be *Friday 9th March @ 7pm*
- ▶ **Next Young Adults meeting** *Saturday 10th March @ 7.30pm*
- ▶ **Church weekend** is scheduled to take place in Castledaly Manor. (*June 8th to 10th*)

Extra Services

If you have children with you, these are the facilities provided:

▶ Crèche and Pre-school Praise

Our crèche is based on the floor above the Meeting Room with baby changing facilities and toys to keep your young child occupied if they do not settle during the meeting. Parents are to attend to their children at all times. There is a short and simple pre-school Bible lesson during the sermon for 3 - 7 year olds in the Crèche (as arranged).

▶ Sunday School

Our Sunday School is open to children of school going age and operates during the sermon in the Sunday School room on the top floor. Our teachers have a Bible story and songs prepared for your child(ren), teaching them the need for Salvation and Christian living.

Come, my children, listen to me; I will teach you the fear of the LORD (Psalm 34:11).

▶ Tea and Coffee

After the Sunday morning service, tea, coffee and light refreshments are available on the top floor in the Hospitality Room. Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for by so doing some people have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it (*Hebrews 13:2*).