

Sermon Outlines

Christ Crossing The Kidron/Cedron

Readings

- a) 2 Samuel 15:23 - “And all the country wept with a loud voice, and all the people passed over: the king also himself passed over the brook Kidron, and all the people passed over, toward the way of the wilderness”
- b) John 18:1- “When Jesus had spoken these words, he went forth with his disciples over the brook Cedron”

Introduction

The journeys of the Lord:

- a) The journey of Christ from glory to earth
- b) The journeys of the last week
- c) The last journeys immediately before Gethsemane and the cross

David's Crossing The Kidron (The brook is called “Cedron” in the New Testament)

In 2 Sam. 15:23 several facts are recorded. They are why he was leaving Jerusalem, why in the middle of the night, and the grief of his soul as he crossed the brook.

That narrative leads to several considerations:

- a) When David went out that night, “How did he go over the brook Kidron?”
 - i) To all outward appearances he went out in apparent defeat but yet as an overcomer.
 - 1. In the time of war, he fulfilled the will of his father by looking after the sheep, thus overcoming an inquisitive spirit (1 Sam. 17:13-15).
 - 2. When looking after the sheep, he meditated on the wonders of God and creation (Psa. 8:3-7-8), the overcoming of empty amusement.
 - 3. His bothers accused him wrongfully but He overcame the temptation to retaliate against their ignorance and assumption (1 Sam. 17:34-37).
 - 4. There was a time came when he faced the lion, the bear and ultimately Goliath, but he overcame intimidation (1 Sam. 17:34-37).
 - 5. Opportunity arose when he could have had Saul slain, but did not, thus he overcame impatience (1 Sam. 24:3-16).
- b) What did he go over as?
 - i) Recalling that the word Kidron means “dark”, it symbolized the darkness of David’s soul.
 - 1. There are several sorts of darknesses, the darkness of lack of light or the darkness of a tragedy.
 - (a) When a loved one dies it is a dark day irrespective of how brightly the sun may shine.
 - ii) This was a dark night for David, because:
 - 1. He went over being a broken hearted father despite his showing kindness to an unrepentant son who was now committing treason, and David was an outcast.
 - 2. He went over as the God appointed, but humanly rejected Shepherd king.
 - 3. He went over weeping.
 - 4. Yet in the darkness of his soul, stopped and worshipped God (2 Sam. 15:30, 31, 32).
 - (a) Job in his dark hour worshipped God (Job 1:20-22).
 - (b) Paul and Silas in the prison worshipped God (Acts 16:25).

Christ Crossing The Kidron

- 1) Christ lived as the supreme Overcomer
 - a) He overcame every temptation by Satan (Matt. 4:1-11).
 - b) En route to Gethsemane he said, “I have overcome the world” (Jn. 16:33).
 - c) He was soon to face death, the very citadel of Satan, and will overcome that (Heb. 2:14).
 - d) In Revelation He is the glorious Victor, overcoming the armies of the earth (Rev. 19:11-21).
 - e) He will overcome the government of Satan in finality (Rev. 20:10).

Sermon Outlines

Christ Crossing The Kidron/Cedron

- 2) Over the Kidron, what darkness lay ahead of Him.
- a) He went over as the God appointed but humanly rejected Shepherd king.
 - i) It was an ultimate act of treason against the Messiah, of whom God said, “My King” (Psa. 2:6).
 - (1) Israel had rejected God as King (1 Sam. 8:7).
 - (2) Soon they were to shout, “We have no king but Caesar” (Jn. 19:15), thus rejecting Christ as King.
 - b) He who had shown nought but kindness to Israel was rejected.
 - i) Our Lord, like David, had shown such open friendship to an unrepentant Judas in giving Him the sop (Jn. 13:26).
 - ii) Even as the Lord is crossing the Kidron, Judas was fulfilling the covenant he had made with the religious leaders (Matt. 26:15; Lk. 22:5).
 - c) Christ went over the Kidron and began to weep.
 - i) When David went across there were those who went with Him weeping, but there was no one weeping with and for Christ.
 - (1) He was bearing the burden alone.
 - (2) He went a little further (Matt. 26:39).
 - (3) He wept strong crying and tears (Heb. 5:7).
 - d) David, in his rejection, stopped to worship God (2 Sam. 15:30, 31, 32).
 - i) Our Lord, knowing that full rejection would soon be the attitude of His own people, goes over the Kidron, and in His grief of soul, He worships God.
 - ii) What depth of worship is in the words, “Not my will, but thine be done” (Lk. 22:42).
 - e) Jacob wrestled close to the brook Jabbok, but the wrestling the Lord underwent, close to Kidron, had an intensity Jacob knew nothing about (Gen. 32:24).

The Practical

The Kidron was the end of idolatry.

- a) “And the king commanded Hilkiah the high priest, and the priests of the second order, and the keepers of the door, to bring forth out of the temple of the LORD all the vessels that were made for Baal, and for the grove, and for all the host of heaven: and he burned them without Jerusalem in the fields of Kidron, and carried the ashes of them unto Bethel” (2 Kgs. 23:4).
- b) “And he brought out the grove from the house of the LORD, without Jerusalem, unto the brook Kidron, and burned it at the brook Kidron, and stamped it small to powder, and cast the powder thereof upon the graves of the children of the people” (2 Kgs. 23:6).
- c) Paul and John would have never written what they did if there was no danger of idolatry among the saints. Paul wrote:
 - i) “Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth; fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and covetousness, which is idolatry” (Col. 3:5).
 - ii) John wrote: “Little children, keep yourselves from idols. Amen” (1 Jn. 5:21).
- d) Crossing the Kidron says, “Not my will but thine be done”.

May God grant us good understanding as He, by His Holy Spirit, deigns to guide us into all truth.
John 16:13

Rowan Jennings, Abbotsford, British Columbia