Boasting

3-22-20

Jeremiah 9:23 (ESV)

Thus says the LORD: "Let not the wise man boast in his wisdom, let not the mighty man boast in his might, let not the rich man boast in his riches, "BUT"

Jeremiah 9:24 (ESV)

Let him who boasts boast in this, that he understands and knows me, that I am the LORD who practices steadfast love, justice, and righteousness in the earth. For in these things I delight, declares the LORD."

Then as now the scholar, athlete, warrior, and financier were highly esteemed. The world is increasingly moving down this anti-God path trusting in their own resources. However, the Bible clearly says that our highest good is to know God, not just intellectually or philosophically, but in spirit and in his true character. Our trust and dependence are to be in God alone. Therefore, we stand as lights in a dark world. Only God is true and lasting wisdom.

John 17:3 (ESV)

And this is eternal life, that they know YOU, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom YOU have sent.

Not only is God the true and lasting wisdom, the wisdom of this world actually draws us "away" from God. 1 Corinthians 1:21 (ESV)

For since, in the wisdom of God, <u>the world did not know God</u> <u>through wisdom</u>, it pleased God through <u>the folly of what we</u> **preach** to save those who believe.

The world did not know God through its wisdom. Plus, God is pleased that through the "folly of preaching" Christ, we have the wisdom of God. Therefore, we have God's approval and encouragement to "boast" in the Lord!

1 Corinthians 1:31 (ESV) & 2 Corinthians 10:17 (ESV)
As it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

These are direct quotes from our opening verses in Jeremiah 9:23-24. We Boast in the Lord and never need to vindicate ourselves. Don't think, "I must explain myself," or, "I must get people to understand." Jesus never explained anything—He left the misunderstandings or misconceptions of others to correct themselves. He just proclaimed the truth to others. Therefore, we are unashamedly to boast in the Lord!

We Boast in the Lord in Knowledge without Fear!

Jeremiah 10:2 (ESV)

Thus, says the LORD:

"Learn not the way of the nations, nor be dismayed at the signs of the heavens because the nations are dismayed at them."

God has promised turmoil for the unbelieving world. We know God is revealing HIMSELF as the one and only true God.

Jeremiah 10:10 (ESV)

But the LORD is the true God; HE is the living God and the everlasting King. At HIS wrath the earth quakes, and the nations cannot endure HIS indignation.

This may be what we are witnessing now. Since God has told us this beforehand, we are not dismayed, but we rest in God in knowledge and without fear. We know God is moving throughout this entire world! Things are not out of control!

We can Boast in the Lord in Knowledge without Fear, because God has told us all things beforehand!

Jeremiah 11:18 (ESV)

The LORD made it known to me and I knew; then YOU showed me their deeds.

We can Boast in the Lord in Knowledge without Fear, because HE cares for us. This is especially applicable to BCC. We are a small church of dedicated believers in Jesus Christ and God says to us:

Luke 12:32 (ESV)

Fear not, <u>little flock</u>, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom.

God takes special note of our "little flock" and it is HIS pleasure to give us everything in HIS kingdom.

We have Jesus. Therefore, we have all authority through Jesus! We are fully equipped through the Word of God.

BCC Boasts in the Lord without fear, equipped with The Sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God. (Ephesians 6:17)

BCC Boasts in the Lord in Knowledge without fear because we have the greatest message ever known throughout all eternity!

John 3:16 (ESV)

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.

I close with this, "Fear not, <u>little flock</u>, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you everything you need."

Prophetic Team

Hear from the Holy Spirit to change the current situation or impact the future.