



Christmas at Calvary 2024
A Journey to Grace

Grace Inspires Hope in the Face of Everything!

Date: December 15th, 2024

Text: Matthew 1:12-17

Passage Summary: As we survey the _____ that leads to the birth of Christ, God made one thing abundantly clear; it would be a journey wholly and completely characterized by _____!

180 Degree Truth #1: See how Matthew incorporates the genealogy of Christ to show his Jewish audience that Jesus truly does have the necessary genealogical _____ to be the _____! (1:12-17)

Application: Recognize that when it comes to the genealogy of Christ, He arrives through a line of unique UNdividuals: Unlikely, unqualified, unexpected, and altogether unworthy...

- But _____ inspires _____ in the face of everything! (v.12-17)

“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.”
Jeremiah 29:11

Portraits of Grace: Zerubbabel

Grace evidenced through strengths: Demonstrated tremendous resolve in the tumultuous times that characterized the return of the exiles to the land, providing not perfect leadership, but _____ leadership through which the remnant drew inspiration to _____ the course; he did not allow his early struggles or the legacy of his grandfather to neither define nor limit the special purposes God had for his life.

“Then Zerubbabel son of Shealtiel, Joshua son of Jehozadak, the high priest, and the whole remnant of the people obeyed the voice of the LORD their God and the message of the prophet Haggai, because the LORD their God had sent him. And the people feared the LORD.”
Haggai 1:12

Grace evidenced through weaknesses: The implication of God’s messages to the remnant who had returned was that to some degree, Zerubbabel had also grown complacent and discouraged concerning the _____ of God in _____ the temple; he may have been tempted to give up, but God was not about to give up on him.

“In the second year of King Darius, on the first day of the sixth month, the word of the LORD came through the prophet Haggai to Zerubbabel son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and to Joshua son of Jehozadak, the high priest: This is what the LORD Almighty says: ‘These people say, ‘The time has not yet come for the LORD’s house to be built.’”
Haggai 1:1-2

Remember: When it comes to the genealogy of Christ, being perfect is not in any way a prerequisite; for the line that leads to Christ is _____ with _____ individuals whose lives serve as the timeless reminder that grace inspires hope in the face of everything!

“After the exile to Babylon...”
Matthew 1:12

“But now be strong, O Zerubbabel,” declares the Lord. “Be strong, O Joshua son of Jehozadak, the high priest. Be strong, all you people of the land,” declares the Lord, “and work.”
Haggai 2:4

Core Conviction to Live By: Resolutely determine that while you may not be in the genealogical line that leads to Christ, that you stand in a long line of faith filled followers whom God is using to prepare the way for the return of Christ; and if at points along the way you wonder if _____ or the _____ of God are going to make it, remember those words of the prophet Haggai to Zerubbabel, and think again!

“This is what the LORD Almighty says: ‘In a little while I will once more shake the heavens and the earth, the sea and the dry land. I will shake all nations, and the desired of all nations will come, and I will fill this house with glory,’ says the LORD Almighty.”
Haggai 2:6-7