

Title: LET'S REMEMBER GOD, 2 CORINTHIANS 4:3-6
(Chatham, NJ; 2/11/18, AM) [D – Topical]

Theme: Seeing God and seeing the face of God in Jesus Christ are things that will sustain us through hardships and struggle.

Purpose: To remember that we have the power of God at our disposal.

Introduction:

1. We read repeatedly in the Old Testament that Israel “forgot” God.
2. It usually means they went after idols.
3. We “forget” Him as well when we enter times of turbulence and trial not because we reject Him but because we fail to depend on him and trust him.
4. Tribulation brings doubt, but we should move toward faith, not away from it.
5. Today let's remember God.

Don't You Remember, Isaiah 40:9 – 31

- A. The Word of God stands forever, 9-20
 1. Isaiah 40 began with a word of comfort (1-2), certainty of God's coming (3-5), and the longevity of God's Word versus the brevity of human life (7-8)
 2. Isaiah's response to these: “Behold your God!” (9)
 3. He describes God in a series of statements and rhetorical questions:
 - a. His power, might, and justice (10)
 - b. He tends his flock gently (11)
 - c. Who can do what he has done in creation? (12)
 - d. Who can counsel Him? (13-14)
 - e. Worried about world powers? They are nothing to him (15-17)
 4. Can you really compare him to idols? (18-20)
- B. Don't you remember who your God is, 21-26?
 1. Creator, 22
 2. Ruler of nations, 23-24
 3. No comparisons for God, 25-26
 4. God is in control of all creation
- C. Addressing doubt, 27-31
 1. The issue: Israel feels neglected by God, 27
 2. Isaiah reminds them to remember God, 28-29
 3. He is the one who empowers us
 4. Wait for him, 30-31

Peter Can't Forget, 2 Peter 1:16-18

- A. We saw and we heard
 1. We were with Christ on the mountain
 2. The Transfiguration event, Mark 9:2-9
 3. We were “eyewitnesses to his majesty,” 16
 4. We heard the voice of God, 17-18
 5. He was left with an indelible memory; it didn't fade with time like some memories
- B. The certainty of the message
 1. Not a cleverly devised story, 16
 2. The words of prophecy reinforce his witness, 19
 3. Thus, pay attention!

4. Thus, remember the glory of God!

The Face of Christ, 2 Corinthians 4:3 – 6

- A. The glory of God in Christ, 6
 1. What Peter saw on the mountain
 2. The light of the knowledge of the glory of God
 3. God, who created light, has shone this in our hearts
 4. Though we haven't seen literally like Peter saw, we affirm by our faith that Jesus is the very face and image of God
- B. The power of God in Christ
 1. Thus, Isaiah's address fits us as well: don't feel neglected by God, have greater faith in the middle of tribulations
 2. God demonstrated his power at the resurrection of Christ, Ephesians 1:19-20
 3. Christ is seated with Him above all rule and power, 21-22
 4. Look to Him as looking to God, Hebrews 12:1-2

Conclusions:

1. Your assigned devotional for the week is to read Psalm 50 and Isaiah 40 together.
2. In both we are reminded of the power and majesty of God.
3. Psalm 50 challenges the evil person to remember God: He does not depend on us, He is not like us, and the Psalmist warns God's enemies of his judgments but also encourages the thankful ones that he will show them the way of salvation.
4. Isaiah 40 challenges his people to remember God: he gives strength when it seems there is no human strength left.
5. Remember God; wait for God; trust God!