

Dead in Our Asking
2 Kings 13:1-9, Pew Bible p. 319
January 14, 2024

I. God's View of Sin (V. 1-2)

- A. Our life is not measured by the standard of the world, but by the eyes of the Lord.
 - 1. His standard of holiness is not based on people's history of obedience.
 - 2. His greatest concern is our relationship with Him.

- B. A note on generational sin
 - 1. The sins of our fathers can predispose us to sin.
 - 2. The sins of our fathers cannot make us sin.
 - 3. We are not responsible for the sins of our fathers.
 - 4. We are responsible for reproducing the sins of our fathers.

II. Asking God for Help (V. 3-9)

- A. Our First and Second Greatest Problems
 - 1. Humanity's greatest problem is separation from God.
 - 2. Humanity's second greatest problem is it doesn't know its first greatest problem.

- B. You do not have to repent in order to receive compassion from God, but you do have to repent in order to be reconciled to God.
 - 1. Knowing we are in pain does not mean we are ready to change.
 - 2. Trusting God through trials does not always lead to trusting God in prosperity.

- C. Being saved by God from trouble is not the same as being saved by God from sin.

Group Discussion Questions

1. Read 2 Kings 13:1-9.
2. What was King Jehoahaz's greatest problem in life? Why? What is humanity's greatest problem today?
3. What are most common ways people ask God for help today? Why?
4. Did the people of Israel change after God helped them, according to verses 5-6? Why do people often fail to change even after God saves them from something?
5. What is the difference between being saved by God from troubles and being saved by God from sin? Why is it often hard for people to know the difference?
6. What does this passage say about God's willingness to help unrepentant people? How can it warn us against taking advantage of God's mercy?
7. Pray for our church members to prioritize our relationship with God over all other struggles of life. Come to the church prayer meeting this Wednesday from 6:00–6:30 pm in Worship Center Room 103.

Church Reading Plan (1/15-1/21)

Read 1 John 1-5, 2 John, and 3 John

Ephesians 4:1-3 (ESV)

¹ I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, ² with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, ³ eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

Wednesday Night Prayer Meeting

- PRAYING for God's direction in filling staff vacancies in the year 2024 and for the Lord to unite our church in an important season of change.

Pray for Our Church Family Needs:

- PRAY for missions and missionaries:
Andy & Lindsay M. in Spain; Luke P. in Maricopa, Arizona; Nathan & Becky F. in Indonesia; Doug & Cheryl D. in Thailand; Jules S. in Thailand; and Sylvia M. and Andrew M. at ASU West, Glendale, Arizona.
- PRAY for all our students: elementary school, middle school, high school, and college. No matter whether they are in the classroom, an online setting, or a home school setting, our students are forming minds that need to focus on Christ.
- PRAY for family & friends of church members who need salvation or to renew their relationship with Jesus:
Sharon L. (children & grandchildren); Marge D. (son, Matthew); Rezwana D. (parents); Margaret J. (Tom & Bob); Sophia W. (husband); Ida S. (granddaughter & her husband); Charity M. (daughter); Kayla P. (nephew, Jordan); and Gary & Betty B. (grandchildren & siblings)
- PRAY for families who are grieving the recent loss of loved ones:
Nancy C., Marie B., and Yvonne P & families (husband & father); Greg C. (wife); family of Sam B.; and Dorothy C. (sister's husband)
- PRAY for those struggling with ongoing health and other issues:
Michelle L. (health); Leon V. (chemo); Jan B. (health); Stan & Twyla H. (health & other issues); Mimi M. (health); Edna N. (health); Helene D. (eyesight); Ann C.-W. (pain); Elaine W. (health); John & Debbie P. (health); Ed G. (health); Marge D. (health); Anne W. (chest pain/lung issue); Michelle LaM. (upcoming procedure & CT scan; financial concerns); Sherri O. (heart issue); Ken & Darlene R. (health); Debbie B. (surgery recovery); Margaret J. (surgery recovery); Kelly J. (surgery recovery); Rita H. (hip surgery recovery); Laura M. (health); Nancy S. (rehab); April H.-F. (surgery recovery & upcoming treatment); and Larry D. (cataract surgery)
- PRAY for others that you are aware of.