

The Caller

A Weekly Newsletter of the Elizabethtown church of Christ Vol. XXXXIV October 28, 2018 No. 41

Confidence Comer John F. Board In this week's Confidence Corner we want to look at one of the names used of the God of Scripture. In Genesis 21:33 God is called 'El 'Olam which is translated as God Everlasting. 'Olam has

the thought of a hidden time, an unlimited time, or per some, an indefinite time. I have heard others refer to 'Olam as "age lasting" but in case my memory fails me or I heard incorrectly, I don't want to attribute something to someone that is not accurate. I do believe this is a good way to describe the 'Olam—as something that will last "as long as it is intended to last."

I point this out because though many things are said to be "everlasting," that English term can be misleading to some. Just like the trumpet blowing of the Aaronic priests was referred to as everlasting, it only lasted or was intended to last until that priesthood was replaced with Christ as the new High Priest. The same is true in principle for the Sabbath and circumcision. So many things of this earth that are referred to as everlasting ('Olam), will last as long as God intended for them to last.

But when the term 'Olam' is referring to Deity, all such limitation is removed. God is everlasting in the sense of no beginning and no end (Is. 57:15; Ps. 90:1-2). His name, "I am that I am" not only conveys eternal existence but it is said that it is His name "forever" or "'Olam" (Exodus 3:15). Other attributes are also referred to as being 'Olam (love, mercy, truth and righteousness). In prophecy Jesus also possesses the quality of 'Olam (Micah 5:2).

Though there are contextual limitations placed on 'Olam' when used in reference to things other than Deity, there are no such limitations when 'Olam' is used of the Godhead. What an amazing God in whose presence we live! God has always been and will always be. He is unlimited. He loves us and if we choose to follow His will He will bless us eternally!

Zacchaeus was a wee little man and a wee little man was he. In Luke 19:1-10 we read about Zacchaeus, a tax collector. Jesus passed through Jericho and while passing through he was surrounded by a crowd. Zacchaeus was unable to see Jesus through the

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crowd, so he climbed up in a Sycamore tree so he could see. Instead of waiting for Jesus to find him in a crowd he climbed up in a tree just to see Jesus. Though he wasn't expecting Jesus to notice him, much less come to his house, he was eager to have Him. Zacchaeus knew that in order to allow Jesus to come into his house he had to be prepared to do so. He knew that inviting Jesus into his home meant that he had some things he needed to change. He was a successful tax collector, which meant he was fairly wealthy, and he made a living by taking others' living. He had to choose between his wealth and Jesus. He says in verse 8 ""Behold, Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor. And if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I restore it fourfold."

Are you actively seeking Jesus? Is your house prepared for Jesus? Are you willing to let go of the things of this world in order to reach for the hand of Jesus? Zacchaeus was prepared to have Jesus to come to his house. He was prepared to let go of his riches in order to follow Jesus. He was joyful of the opportunity he was given. Jesus then invited him into His house in heaven in verses 9 &10. "Today salvation has come to this house, since he also is a son of Abraham. ¹⁰ For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost." Are you lost? Are you looking for Jesus? Are you prepared to have Him enter into your life? If you're truly looking for Christ you will find Him. If you're ready to have Him in your life all you have to do is follow the process. Repent of your past sins as well as proclaiming that Jesus is the Christ. After doing so the blood of Jesus can cleanse you, by being immersed. Are you ready, willing, and able?

Sunday's Sermons:

A.M. — Steadfast 1 Corinthians 15:50-58

P.M. — A Hero Joshua 1:6-8

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