Sermon Notes Heigh-Ho, Heigh-Ho - Rom 1:8-17 August 10, 2025

I. Introduction

- a. sabbath appears around 135 times in bible... time of resting from physical work... my sabbatical was great blessing... very much time of rest, renewal, refreshment... Exo 16:23-29... "tomorrow is day of complete rest... a holy Sabbath to the Lord..." Lev 23... "it will be a Sabbath of complete rest... you must practice self-denial..." Deut 5:12-15... "seventh day is a Sabbath... do not do any work... keep it holy..."
- b. NC sabbath is different than OC... no requirements for us to fulfill... no worry if it should be Saturday or Sunday... rest comes when we believe in the work of Jesus... Mark 2:23-28... "disciples doing what is unlawful on Sabbath... Sabbath was made to meet needs of people, not people the requirements of Sabbath, Son of Man is Lord of Sabbath..." Col 2:16-23... "don't let anyone judge you in the matter of festival, new moon, or Sabbath... these rules are only shadow of reality that is to come, Christ Himself is that reality... don't let anyone condemn you and insist on pious self-denial... they are not connected to Christ... He set you free... rules seem wise but provide no help in conquering a person's evil desires..." Heb 4... "we who have believed have entered the rest... don't harden your heart... therefore, a Sabbath rest remains for God's people... make every effort to enter..."
- c. Jesus did 7 miracles on Sabbath... when people rest, God can work miracles... when people work for miracles, God rests... so what did sabbath teach me... pray... Matt 8:14-15; 12:9-13... Mark 1:21-28... Luke 13:10-17; 14:1-6... John 9:1-41; 5:1-18 John 19:30... "it is finished..."
 Gal 3:5... "does God work miracles because you obey the law... of course not... it is because you believe the message you heard about Christ..."

II. Heigh-Ho

Heigh-Ho, Heigh-Ho, it's home from work we go. Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs

- a. did you get lyrics right... it's not off to work we go... it's home from work we go... that changes that song... digging for riches all day long and finding them wasn't the most important thing... home was more valuable... family was most precious...
- b. our <u>vision</u> at AL is to *Find Family, Find Jesus, Find Grace...* when people ask what we're like... easiest and best answer is just to tell them to come and see... Psa 66:5... "come and see the wonders of God..."
 Matt 28:6... "He is not here, He is risen... come and see the place where He lay..."
 John 1:46... "can anything good come from *Brookings... PJ says*, come and see ..."
 John 4:29... "come and see a Man who told me everything I ever did..."
- c. while on sabbatical... I found I could Find Grace on my own...
 John 1:16... "we have all received grace upon grace from His fullness..."
 Acts 13:43... "Paul urged them to continue in the grace of God..."
 Acts 20:32... "commit you to grace... to build you up... give you an inheritance..."
 Rom 1:5... "thru Him... we received grace... to bring about obedience of faith..."
 Col 2:6... "as you have received Christ (by grace)... continue to walk in Him..."
 Titus 2:11-12... "grace instructs you... to avoid sin... live godly lives..."

- d. while on sabbatical... I found I could Find Jesus on my own...

 1Cor 2:2... "determined to know nothing among you except Jesus crucified..."

 Phil 3:8-11... "everything worthless compared to knowing Him... goal is to know Him..."

 Eph 1:17... "pray God would give Spirit of wisdom... in the knowledge of Him..."

 Col 1:10... "bear fruit in every good work... thru the knowledge of Him..."

 Col 3... "let the message of Christ fill your lives... He is all... and He is in all..."

 Heb 12:1-3... "faith depends on Jesus from start to finish..."

 2Pet 1:1-3... "everything required for life... is found in the knowledge of Him..."
- e. while on sabbatical... I played golf a few times... okay, a lot of times... and I found out it didn't fulfill any deep purpose in my life... it was just something fun to do...

Is it great to be able to win golf tournaments? Yeah, it brings tears to my eyes. To have that kind of accomplishment is a pretty cool feeling. But at the end of the day, it is not a fulfilling life from the sense of the deepest places of your heart. My family is my top priority. Golf is not the most important thing in my life. I'd much rather be a good father than a good golfer. Scottie Scheffler

- f. while on sabbatical... I found out a couple of very important things about life... things I might have known... but things that became crystal clear to me... I cannot Find Family on my own... and you are dearly loved members of my family... Gen 2:18... "it is not good for man to be alone... I will make a helper for him..." Psa 68:6... "God places the lonely in families... sets prisoners free... gives joy..." Prov 17:17 MSG... "families stick together in all kinds of trouble..." Matt 12:46-50... "who is my family... pointed to disciples, this is my family..." Luke 8:26-39... "freed from demons... go tell your family, tell them about God..." John 8:35... "a slave is not a member of the family... but a son remains forever..." Eph 2:19-22... "you are no longer strangers... you are members of God's family..."
- g. while on sabbatical... found I need other people for <u>purpose</u> and encouragement... Rom 1:12... "when we get together... I want to <u>encourage</u> you in your faith... but I also want to be <u>encouraged</u> by yours (present active, continuous, subject performs)..." Col 4:8... "I have sent him for this purpose... to <u>encourage</u> your hearts..." 1Thess 5:11... "encourage one another... build each other up... as you are doing..." Heb 3:13... "encourage each other daily... so you won't be hardened by sin..." Heb 10:24-25... "do not neglect meeting together... but <u>encourage</u> one another..." parakaleo... comfort, instruct, console, strengthen, teach; inspire, support, stimulate...
- h. finding Family, finding Jesus, and finding Grace works best in a community... works best when we do life together... that's why church matters (WYO)... so thankful for my time off... but even more thankful to be back with you again... Rom 1:8-17... "I thank God thru Jesus Christ for all of you because the news of your faith is being reported all over the world... I constantly mention you, always asking in my prayers that I may succeed at last in coming to you... I want very much to see you, so I may strengthen you... that is to be mutually encouraged by each other's faith, both yours and mine... I am eager to preach the gospel to you... I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes... for in it, the righteousness of God is revealed..."
- i. as Pastor Haley so brilliantly shared... <u>church matters</u>... it's God's design to take the good news of Jesus Christ to the world... excited to do that together... pray... Acts 9:31... <u>"church had peace... was strengthened... encouraged by HS... grew..." ekklesia... gathering of people called out from their homes; assembly gathered for worship... 1Cor 14... <u>"build up the church..." build up the church... so church may be built up... excel in building up church... oikodomeo... promote growth in Christian wisdom, love, grace, virtue, holiness, blessings...</u></u>