

Sermon Notes

Providence Community Church

6-14-15 Ken Carlton

Title: PAPER TIGERS

Main Text: Psalm 49

Sermon Description: The title of this message reflects the perspective of the Word of God on the human claim to power and influence. One author said of this Psalm: “Men of spiritual understanding without worldly honor are higher than the angels of God in heaven – men of worldly honor without the true wisdom are worse than the beasts that perish.” Futile, foolish, and presumptuous are the ambitions of fallen men who feel emboldened to defy the Lord of glory. They are paper tigers... We ought to fear them no more than God Himself is concerned that they will elbow Him off the throne of history. Psalm 49 sets the record straight and rallies the people of God with a Holy Spirit inspired pep talk. The literary style of this song is in the vein of Ecclesiastes, Proverbs, and other wisdom literature. This distinctive genre explains its straight forward structure. Note: the gospel shining like a jewel in this setting of wisdom as the author surprises his hearers with a prophetic glimpse of eternal ransom.

Heading: THE OUTLINE OF PSALM 49 IN 5 POINTS....

1. UNIVERSAL ADDRESS (1-4)

a. Target audience

b. Artistic exemplar

2. RHETORICAL QUESTION (5-6)

a. Questionable fear

b. Apparent impunity

3. OBJECTIVE TRUTH (7-14)

a. No earthly ransom

b. Delusions of immortality

c. Death the great equalizer (Ecc 3:18-21)

4. SUPERLATIVE CONTRAST (15))

a. Supernatural ransom

b. New Covenant cost (I Peter 1:18-20)

5. CONCLUSIVE ADMONITION (16-20)

a. The price of stealing glory & praise

b. Fear the Redeemer (I Cor 7:23)

Close: Never mind the materially well positioned imposters. As a blood bought believer, you are beholden to, and a bond servant of, the one who paid your ransom! Fear your Redeemer and Lord Jesus Christ!

FAMILY WORSHIP SCHEDULE:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Theme:	Theme:	Theme:	Theme:	Theme:	Theme:
Overview	Target audience	Important question	Objective truth	Ransom cost	Admonition
Verses:	Verses:	Verses:	Verses:	Verses:	Verses:
Psalm 49	1-4	5-6	7-14	Ps 49:15, I Pt 1:18-19	Ps 49:16-20

FURTHER STUDY: see 'Excerpts' posted weekly at providencecrosslake.com

NEXT WEEK: Mat 20:17-34