



A FINAL MESSAGE AT BCC with Pastor Max Frazier

Ecclesiastes 3:1-4, Joshua 24:1-15

ECCLESIASTES 3:1-4

There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heaven: a time to be born and a time to die, a time to plant and a time to uproot, a time to kill and a time to heal, a time to tear down and a time to build, a time to weep and a time to laugh, a time to mourn and a time to dance...

The events in life have a beginning and they have an ending:

A class begins and it ends.

A game begins and it ends.

A career begins and it ends.

A period of ministry begins and it ends.

A CHALLENGE TO REMEMBER THEIR HISTORY

Joshua 24:2-12

Joshua is 110 years of age.

He has guided Israel through those turbulent years of the conquest of the

Promised Land.

Now he gathers the people for one final time.

They meet at Shechem (*Joshua 24:1*)

Joshua has a heavy heart as he speaks to the people.

He had begun to see the people sliding back into idolatry.

Joshua takes the people back to the very beginning – to the story of Abraham.

Abraham left his idolatrous practices behind when he followed God.

Yet idolatry was embedded into the lives of Abraham's descendants (*Genesis 35:2-4*)

Joshua reminds the people of all that God had done for them:

Delivered from Egypt.

Delivered through the Red Sea.

Delivered them from the oppression of their enemies.

His question: Why do you continually resort back to idols? Where is your trust in the power of God?

As one looks back into BCC's past, one marvels at the things God has done.

Gospel has been proclaimed unapologetically since 1885.

Dozens of missionaries have been sent.

Families have rediscovered the importance of discipling their own children.

Warning: success can easily become an idol!

We are not to celebrate our successes, but rather celebrate the God of those successes.

A CHALLENGE TO CELEBRATE THE PRESENT

Joshua 24:13

At times it is easy to overlook what God is doing in the present.

A snapshot of BCC today:

A strong dedicated staff .

A faithful team of volunteers.

A congregation that truly cares for one another.

A CHALLENGE TO MAKE A CHOICE

Joshua 24:14-15

In anticipating the future, Joshua challenges the people to make a choice.

The opportunity for compromise is always lingering in the background.

There are some areas in which we can compromise.

But, when it comes to the things of God – we must NEVER compromise:

That the Bible is the Word of God.

That we are created in the image and likeness of God.

That there is only one way to salvation, and that is through Jesus Christ.

That Jesus is truly God and truly man.

That Jesus is coming back.

It all begins with a choice – a commitment to remain anchored on the foundation of biblical truth and authority.

“But if serving the LORD seems undesirable to you...”

“...then choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve.”

“But for me and my household, we will serve the LORD.” – this is a daily decision.

A CHALLENGE

Last words can be among those most remembered.

Joshua’s final words impacted the next generation (*Joshua 24:31*)

But, sadly, those words were not remembered, but soon forgotten – book of Judges.

It takes discipline by fathers to communicate biblical truth to their children.

It takes vigilance, on the part of BCC’s leadership, to safeguard those core values and foundations upon which this church is grounded.

It will not be easy – being diligent for truth never is easy.

Be anchored securely in the legacy those who have come before have left to you.

Be celebrating what God is doing right now as He is showing Himself strong in your midst.

Be vigilant and discerning as you move into the future, aware of those “wolves in sheep’s clothing” who would seek to devour you.

