**SERMON NOTES**

**Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus: The Superiority of Christ In All Things**

**A Sermon Series Through the Book of Hebrews**

**“By Faith – Abraham & Sarah”**

**Hebrews 11: 8 – 12**

**Abraham was an \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ who worshipped false gods before the Lord called him by faith to Himself.**

**Every human heart is a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ heart. No one is neutral - all of us are 24/7 placing something on the throne of heart.**

**An idol is anything that captures our heart’s affections and mind’s thoughts more than \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.**

**Just as God called out to Abraham, He calls out to you this morning: “believe the gospel; believe the promises of God; believe that He will do what He has said He will do: forgive you and declare you righteous before Him because of your \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.”**

**Abraham’s *belief* is not his righteousness. He is not righteous. Rather his belief (faith) is the tool by which God gives to him something that is decidedly all together different than what he is: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.**

**Abraham believed immediately and fully what God told him and what God promised him and in that belief and faith he went out immediately in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to God.**

**Faith and obedience are inseparable. As a believer your obedience to God and His word will not always be perfect, but \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ faith in God will give way to increased obedience to God in your life.**

**Faith is not trust in one’s self or one’s own ability. True faith is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in God by believing what He has promised all that He has said.**

**Abraham \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ by faith, waiting on the promises of God to come by looking past the temporal and looking instead forward to the eternal, “for he was looking forward to the city that has foundations whose designer and builder is God” (v10).**

**The great encouragement to the Hebrews and to us is: look \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in faith. Do not look around to the temporal or to the passing.**

**Sarah’s laugh in Genesis 18 was the laugh of doubt and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, the very opposite of faith.**

**In the gospel of Jesus Christ you are not \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ by your worst moments, worst sins, or even your worst occasions of flat out doubt. Faith in Jesus crucified and resurrected for sinners redefines who you are, changes your identity, and makes you right before God in all of the ways you have failed.**

**Our sins are not what defines us in God’s eyes. Through faith, our sins have been swallowed up and dealt with fully and finally on the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.**

**What is true for the one who is repenting of sin and believing in Jesus is that the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ has given to them a righteousness that now defines them over and against whatever / whoever they once were.**

Blanks: idolater; worshipping; God; faith; righteous; obedience; true; trust; endured; forward; unbelief; defined; cross; Lord;

Congregational Scripture Reading – Acts 2: 2-7

And Stephen said: Brothers and fathers, hear me. The God of glory appeared to our father Abraham when he was in Mesopotamia, before he lived in Haran, and said to him, ‘Go out from your land and from your kindred and go into the land that I will show you.’ Then he went out from the land of the Chaldeans and lived in Haran. And after his father died, God removed him from there into this land in which you are now living. Yet he gave him no inheritance in it, not even a foot's length, but promised to give it to him as a possession and to his offspring after him, though he had no child. And God spoke to this effect—that his offspring would be sojourners in a land belonging to others, who would enslave them and afflict them four hundred years. ‘But I will judge the nation that they serve,’ said God, ‘and after that they shall come out and worship me in this place.’