

KESSID SERMON NOTES

**EXTRAORDINARY
TOGETHER.**

Sermon
"Extraordinary Together"

Date
1-7-18

Speaker
Pastor Danny Clinton

2018 Theme for Kessid- "Extraordinary Together"

Definition of Extraordinary: Remarkable, exceptional, amazing, astonishing, astounding, sensational, stunning, incredible.

- But the first thing that comes up in the dictionary is "Very Unusual" or "Beyond what is usual"

#ExtraordinaryTogether

- Remarkable Together
- Exceptional Together
- Very Unusual Together...

In a few weeks, we will start a brand-new series about the book of Acts called, "Rise."

(Vs) Acts 26:16 - "But RISE and stand on your feet; for I have appeared to you for this purpose, to make you a minister and a witness both of the things which you have seen and of the things which I will yet reveal to you."

Today - I want to talk to you about both, a Seen, and Unseen Vision.

Seen Vision:

- **Story:** A Man named Nehemiah felt led to help Jerusalem rebuild...
- Nehemiah's a cup bearer - The job was to protect the king by tasting the wine before the king drank it. Quote about the Cup Bearer... "If he didn't fall over dead, it was a job well done. If he did fall over dead, it was also a job well done." - Not a complicated job though...

(Vs) Nehemiah 2:17,18 - Then I said to them, "You see the trouble we are in: Jerusalem lies in ruins, and its gates have been burned with fire. Come, let us rebuild the wall of Jerusalem, and we will no longer be in disgrace." ¹⁸I also told them about the gracious hand of my God on me and what the king had said to me."

- At this point some people buy in and some people sell out... But the rebuilding begins!
- Then... Nehemiah Ch. 3 is a list of normal, ordinary, boring people that we have never heard of. There's nothing special about any of them. (Vs) *Nehemiah Ch 3:1-4* Are all the names of those who built.
- God used them all to do an amazing and humanly impossible task; to rebuild the city and do it in an extraordinary timeframe.

This is our Church... "Ordinary people worshiping an extraordinary God, accomplishing extraordinary things for His glory."

- Nehemiah knew that the task before him, was not dependent on him and that what was dependent on him was to depend on God for the city to be restored.
- **Note:** The point of the book of Nehemiah destroys our tendency to believe that God can't use us because we think we don't have what it takes.
- The point here is, "That nobody has ever had what it takes." But when we depend on God and step out in faith, He accomplishes the impossible and extraordinary through us.

Now - Look what happens next in Nehemiah's City...

(Vs) Nehemiah 8:1 - After this... "All the people came together as one in the square before the Water Gate."

- And they read scripture and prayed and worshipped, and eventually they confessed their sins saying...

(Vs) Nehemiah 9:5.5, 6 - "Blessed be your glorious name, and may it be exalted above all blessing and praise. 6 You alone are the Lord. You made the heavens, even the highest heavens, and all their starry host, the earth and all that is on it, the seas and all that is in them. You give life to everything, and the multitudes of heaven worship you."

We at Kessid have an opportunity to follow this example...

- To See that we must Humble ourselves
- Read Scripture, Pray, Worship, and Confess our sins

All for one purpose, and this is the last thought for this section...

Notice: At the beginning of chapter 3, the very first gate they build is the Sheep Gate.

- This was the gate that would be opened so that people could bring in their sheep to sacrifice to atone for their sins...
- It's a place where we can swing open the doors and lost people can come and experience the mercy and grace and salvation of Jesus Christ...
- These are the Extraordinary times we have all SEEN and get to live in!

Question: So... What's Next?

Unseen Vision:

(Vs) Heb 11:1-3 - Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. For by it the people of old received their commendation. By faith we understand that the universe was created by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things that are visible.

Story: Elijah's Greatest Miracle and some much-needed Rain...

- Waiting on Rain... for 3 years...(Vs) 1st Kings 18:41-45b
- This is a great picture of all the Extraordinary times yet to come!

I Feel... We are stepping into a "God Only" kind of future...

- A Future in which we simply receive from Him because of Him...
- And not because we can somehow "See It" being fulfilled, but because He said He would...

(Vs) Isaiah 46:9b-10 - "For I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like me, declaring the end from the beginning and from ancient times things not yet done, saying, 'My counsel shall stand, and I will accomplish all my purpose,'"

There's an unknown Cloud of Promise in the Distance...

- Kessid 2018 will be like an Extraordinarily Needed Storm
- I Say... Let It Rise, Let It Come, Let It Be Done! ...