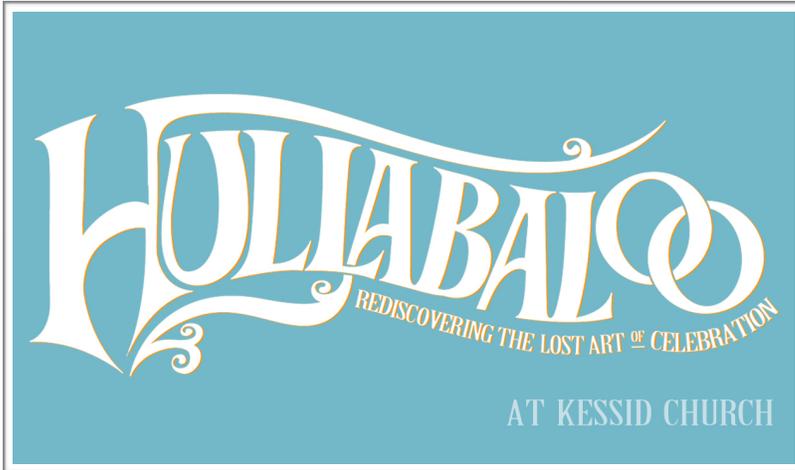


KESSID SERMON NOTES



Sermon

"Dancing Madly"

Date

8-12-18

Speaker

Pastor Danny Clinton

Question: How do you explain why one qualified person is available for the moment of celebration when other qualified persons are not?

- Do the Biblical texts themselves introduce any unique factor?

A wonderful example of Celebration, as it should be, is seen in a story surrounding King David...

- (Vs) *2nd Sam. 6:14-22*

"Although the music on the streets fell upon his ears, it was the music in his soul David could not contain. His heart burned with passion, joy, hope, gratefulness, and love. He rejoiced freely before his audience of One." – Ashley White

David's dancing is not some neutral act of praise.

- The king is unashamedly stripped of royal vestments and unreservedly committed to abandoned dancing in devotion to the God who is His truest source of Celebration.
- From a scriptural based standpoint - David's robust intimacy with God is seen in this dance, as a genuine recognition of that truth.

You can see this when comparing King David to his predecessor King Saul.

- Both were bigger than life people: Popular, courageous, skilled in battle, and anointed by the prophet Samuel as a sign of God's calling.
- Yet, Saul was constantly falling out of connection with God.
- He is fearful when he should be trusting, cautious when he should be bold, and envious when he should be welcoming.
- But, "The biggest difference comes when Saul forgets that his source of celebration lies beyond himself, and centers in the God who called him."

By contrast, David seems to be constantly engaged in prayer and praise.

- He has wonderful personal traits and gifts, but he refuses to rely on his own traits alone.
- He faces Goliath, but only after prayer.
- He includes two priests (Abiathar and Zadok) in his closest circle, even while running from Saul in the wilderness.

- He prays so often that his men sometimes grow impatient.
- He refuses to raise his hand against Saul, who is trying to kill him, out of respect for God's anointed...The text repeatedly says that (Vs) "the LORD was with him" (1 Sam. 16:18b; 17:37; 18:12, 14, 28; 20:13; 2 Sam. 5:10).
- David becomes "A man after God's own heart." – (Vs) 1st Sam 13:14

David's trust in the Lord is such that he repeatedly takes actions that break the rules (Mad Behavior) when he is convinced of the direction God would have him take.

- He requests and receives the holy bread of the priests when his men are famished and, on the run, (1 Sam. 21)
- He takes refuge with the Philistines, Israel's traditional enemy (1 Sam. 27).
- So, the bringing of the Ark and his dancing before it, is just really another "Mad" example of David's celebratory trust in who God is.

Previous Question: "How do you explain why one qualified person is available for the moment of celebration when other qualified persons are not?"

"It seems that the secret of true Celebration is a robust intimacy with God."

- **Think:** It is not accidental that tradition attributes much of the most intimate prayers and praises of the Psalms to David.

It seems that quite often God is calling us to put off the robes of our comfortable roles and madly dance into His presence with Celebration...

- Indeed, as David's story continues, it is when he loses touch with that intimate relationship with God and trusts in his own authority that he gets into trouble.
- It's when David was at the height of his success that his loss of being centered in God's presence brought his kingdom and his family to tragedy.

"A life filled with Celebration must be constantly measured by evidence of an ongoing and intimate relationship with God." – Parks & Birch

- **Question:** What will your foolish act of devotion look like?