

GOFYN Y CWESTIWN ANGHYWIR!

Emyn: 331 *'Pa le, pa fodd dechreuaf.'*

Darlleniadau: Luc 13:1-5; 22-30.

A. GALWAD I EDIFARHAU.

Sut oedd newyddion yn teithio cyn y ffôn, y we a chyfryngau cymdeithasol? Trwy gael ei lefaru. Yn ein darn cyntaf mae grŵp o bobl wedi clywed newyddion ofnadwy am Galileaid yr oedd Pilat wedi eu lladd wrth gyflwyno eu hebyrth yn Jerwsalem. Y cwestiwn ar eu meddyliau oedd, 'Beth oeddent wedi gwneud i haeddu hyn? A oeddent yn waeth pechaduriaid na'r holl Galileaid eraill?' Pa mor aml yr ydym ni wedi gofyn y cwestiwn, *"Pam mae hyn yn digwydd i mi?"* Yn yr Hen Destament mae hanes am wŵr o'r enw Job, a gollodd bron y cyfan oedd gydag ef. Daeth tri cyfaill ato, a dyma hwynt yn datgan, 'Gan fod dioddefaint yn ganlyniad o bechod, mae'n rhaid dy fod ti'n dioddef oherwydd dy bechod.'

Sut wnaeth Iesu ymateb i hyn? i) Yn gyntaf, gwnaeth ddysgu nad yw dioddefaint yn dod i ran pobl oherwydd eu pechodau. Aeth ymlaen i ddatgan enghraifft arall yn Siloam, ble'r oedd tŵr wedi syrthio a lladd 18 o bobl. A oeddent yn waeth troseddwy'r nag eraill? *"Nac oeddent,"*

meddai'r Iesu. ii) Yn ail, mae Iesu'n datgan dwywaith, *"Os nad edifarhewch, fe dderfydd amdanoch oll yn yr un modd,"* 3, 5. Nid yw Iesu yn dweud nad yw pechod dynol yn medru arwain at ddiodeffaint. Mae canlyniadau i bob gweithred. Ond nid yw'n hawdd gweld cyswllt rhwng diodeffaint person a'i bechod bob amser. Yr hyn gwna Iesu bwysleisio yw'r angen i edifarhau o'n pechodau a throi at Iesu. Rhyw ddydd byddwn oll yn gorfod ymddangos gerbron y Barnwr Cyfiawn sef ef Iesu, ac fe fydd ein gweithredoedd yn cael eu hasesu'n gywir. Felly, yn hytrach na gofyn, 'Pam mae hyn neu'r llall yn digwydd i mi?' Yr hyn dylwn ofyn yw, 'A ydwyf wedi edifarhau o'm pechodau a throi at Iesu, yr un sy'n maddau'n llwyr?' Diolch bod maddeuant ar gael i bawb sy'n gwir alw ar yr Iesu. *'Os cyffeswn ein pechodau, y mae ef yn ffyddlon ac yn gyfiawn, ac felly fe faddeua inni ein holl bechodau,'* 1 Ioan 1:9.

B. CREDU YN IESU.

Yn ein hail ddarlleniad ceir cwestiwn arall. 'Meddai rhywun wrtho (Iesu), *"Arglwydd ai ychydig yw'r rhai sy'n cael eu hachub?"* 13:23. Roedd llawer o'r arweinwyr Iddewig yn amser Iesu yn credu y buasai'r rhan fwyaf o

Iddewon yn cael eu hachub oherwydd pobl Dduw oeddent.

Beth oedd gan Iesu i ddweud am hyn? i) Y cwestiwn sydd angen gofyn yw, nid 'Ai ychydig neu lawer syn cael eu hachub,' ond '**A ydw i wedi fy achub?**'

ii) Gwnewch bob ymdrech '*i fynd i mewn trwy'r drws cul,*' 24. Nawr yw dydd iachawdwriaeth. Un diwrnod bydd hi rhy hwyr! '*Arglwydd, agor inni'; ond bydd ef yn eich ateb, 'Ni wn o ble'r ydych,'* 25. [Mathew 7:21-23; 25:11-13].

iii) Gwnaeth Iesu rybuddio pobl ei oes, nad oedd ei weld a'i glywed yn ddigon i'w hachub, adnod 26. I ninnau, nid yw clywed amdano yn ddigon chwaith. Rhaid ei adnabod yn iawn.' '*O diolch am Gyfryngwr, Gwardwr cryf i'r gwan; O am gael ei adnabod, fy Mhriod i a'm rhan, fy ngwisgo â'i gyfiawnder yn hardd gerbron y Tad, a derbyn o'i gyflawnder wrth deithio'r anial wlad.'* (C.Ff. 331). Mae adnod 29 yn dweud wrthym y daw pobl o'r dwyrain a'r gorllewin, o'r gogledd ac o'r de i mewn i deyrnas Dduw, sy'n dweud wrthym y bydd llawer yn cael eu hachub. Y cwestiwn pwysig yw, '**A ydw i wedi fy achub?**'

Sut mae cael ein hachub? Dyma'r cwestiwn gwnaeth ceidwad y carchar yn Philipi ofyn, ar ôl i ddaeargryn

rhyddhau Paul a Silas o'r carchar. Pa ateb a roddwyd? "**Cred yn yr Arglwydd Iesu, ac fe gei dy achub,**" Actau 16:31. Sut mae dyfod yn blentyn Duw a chael mynediad i'w deyrnas? Rhaid credu yn Iesu Grist gyda'r holl galon. Credu yn ei berson fel Mab Duw ei hun a'i dderbyn fel y Meseia, y Crist a ddanfonwyd gan Dduw y Tad i gyflawni'r gwaith o'n maddau a'n gwisgo gyda chyfiawnder uwch. A ydym wedi ein hachub? A ydym yn wir adnabod Iesu?

Gweddi: O Dduw Dad, yr wythnos hon cofiwn am ein nawddsant Dewi. Diolch am ei fywyd duwiol, am iddo ddysgu am Iesu Grist ac am symlirwydd ei fywyd bob dydd. Cofiwn am ei eiriau pwysig, "*Byddwch lawen a chedwch eich ffydd a'ch cred a gwnewch y pethau bychain a welsoch ac a glywsoch gennyf i.*" Diolchwn fod Dewi yn blentyn i Ti o Dduw, nid oherwydd ei weithredoedd a'i ffordd o fyw, ond oherwydd ei ffydd a'i gred yn Iesu.

Fel rydym wedi darllen yn dy Air heddiw, yn hytrach na phoeni am amgylchiadau bywyd, trwy ffydd, helpa ni i edifarhau o'n pechodau a throi at Iesu. Yn hytrach na cheisio dirnad faint fydd yn cael eu hachub, ein bod ninnau'n dod i'th wir adnabod, trwy dderbyn Iesu yn Arglwydd ac yn Waredwr. Parha i'n cadw'n ddiogel a rho i ni dy obaith yn y dyddiau anodd rhain. Yn Ei enw, Amen.

ASKING THE WRONG QUESTIONS!

Hymn: 919 'There is a green hill far away.'

Readings: Luke 13:1-5; 22-30.

A. A CALL TO REPENTANCE.

How did news travel before there were newspapers, phones, the internet and social media? By word of mouth. In our passage a group of people had heard the terrible news that the Galileans had been killed by Pilate while they were offering sacrifices in Jerusalem. The question on the people's minds was 'What had they done to deserve this? Were they worse sinners than all other Galileans?' How often have we asked the question, 'Why is this happening to me?' In the Old Testament a man called Job lost almost all that he had. Three of his friends came to him and focused on the assumption, 'Since suffering is the result of sin, you must be suffering because of your sin!'

How did Jesus respond? i) Firstly, he teaches that suffering is not experienced by people simply because of their sin. He mentions a tragedy where people in Siloam died as a result of a tower collapsing on a crowd of people. Had these people been worse offenders than others in

Jerusalem? Jesus' firm answer is No! (3). ii) Secondly, Jesus tells them twice, "*Unless you repent, you will all likewise perish,*" 3, 5. Jesus is not denying that human sin can lead to human suffering. Actions have consequences. What he is saying is that there is not always a connection between a person's suffering and a particular sin. What Jesus does emphasise is the need for repentance of our sin and turning to Jesus for forgiveness. One day we all be accountable to the Just Judge (Jesus) for our actions, and we will all be judged perfectly. Rather than asking, 'Why has this or that happened to me?' What we should be asking is, 'Have I repented of my sin and called on Jesus for complete forgiveness?' John writes, "*If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness,*" 1 John 1:9. We give thanks that there is forgiveness for all who call on Jesus.

B. BELIEVE IN JESUS.

In our second reading another question is raised. '**Lord, will those who are saved be few?**' 13:23. Many Jewish leaders in Jesus' time believed that most Jews would be saved, on the basis that they were God's people. What did Jesus have to say about this?

i) The question that needs to be asked is not, 'How many or how few will be saved?' but **'Will I be saved?'**

ii) Make every effort *'to enter through the narrow door'* now! (24). Now is the day of salvation, one day it will be too late. *'Lord, open to us,' then he will answer you, 'I do not know where you come from,'* 25. [See Matthew 7:21-23. *"Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only he who does the will of my Father.'* See also 25:11-13].

iii) Jesus warned the people of his time that seeing him and hearing his words was not enough for salvation. For us, merely hearing his words being read or preached is not enough. We need to truly know Jesus. *'O dearly, dearly has he loved, and we must love him too, and trust in his redeeming blood, and try his works to do.'* [919]. Verse 29 tells us that people from the east and west, from the north and south will enter the kingdom of God. This tells us that many will be saved. But the important question is, *"Will I be saved?"*

How are we saved? This was the question asked by the jailer of the prison in Philippi after an earthquake set Paul and Silas free from the prison. The answer given to him was, ***"Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved,"***

Acts 16:31. It calls for believing with all our heart in Jesus. Believing that he is the Son of God, and therefore true God. Believing that he is the Messiah, the Christ, the One sent by God the Father to undertake the work of forgiving people and saving them from their sins, thus restoring them to a right relationship with the Father. **Have you been saved? Do you truly know Jesus as Lord and Saviour?**

Prayer:

Heavenly Father, this week we remember our patron saint David; his godly life, his faithful teaching about Jesus and the simplicity of his life. We remember also his precious words, 'Be joyful and keep your faith and belief, and do the little things that you saw and heard from me.' We give thanks that David was your child, not because of his actions and way of living but because of his faith and belief in Jesus Christ.

As we have heard in the readings today, rather than worrying about life's circumstances, help us to repent of our wrongdoings and turn to Jesus. Rather than trying to establish how many or how few will be saved, let us truly come to know Jesus by receiving Him as Lord and Saviour of our lives. Please, continue to protect us during this difficult time, and give us hope we pray. Amen.

