CHURCH AT ELLERSLIE

SUNDAY SERMON NOTES

ERIC LUDY

Heavenly Affection

August 17, 2014

An Intimate Brush with the Affection of God

Who hath believed our report? and to whom is the arm of the LORD revealed? For he shall grow up before him as a tender plant, and as a root out of a dry ground: he hath no form nor comeliness; and when we shall see him, there is no beauty that we should desire him. He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief: and we hid as it were our faces from him; he was despised, and we esteemed him not. Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. Buzt he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all. He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth: he is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he opens not his mouth. He was taken from prison and from judgment: and who shall declare his generation? for he was cut off out of the land of the living: for the transgression of my people was he stricken. And he made his grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death; because he had done no violence, neither was any deceit in his mouth. Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise him; he hath put him to grief: when thou shalt make his soul an offering for sin, he shall see his seed, he shall prolong his days, and the pleasure of the LORD shall prosper in his hand. He shall see of the travail

of his soul, and shall be satisfied: by his knowledge shall my righteous servant justify many; for he shall bear their iniquities. Therefore will I divide him a portion with the great, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong; because he hath poured out his soul unto death: and he was numbered with the transgressors; and he bare the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

Isaiah 53

The Liquid of Heaven

Tears of Affection, Tears of Joy, Tears of Mercy, Tears of Kindness, Tears of Empathy, Tears of Longing

What's Missing?

Why Do We All Feel So Vulnerable in the Church?

The Classic Places of Safety

- 1. A Mother's Womb
- 2. A Marriage
- 3. A Family
- 4. A Church

What Should You Expect of a Mother's Womb?

- Life
- Protection
- Nurturing
- Feeding
- Love and Affection
- Closeness
- Trust

- Assurance
- Direction
- Correction
- Pushing
- Okay, some discomfort, sure
- Even greater Life

A Mother's Womb

It's currently the most dangerous place on earth for a little baby

Marriage

The place of the greatest betrayal and breaking of trust

Family

The place of the greatest pain and the deepest wounds

The Church

The place of abused authority and the open floodgates of disillusionment and pain

A Mother's Womb, Marriage, Family, and Church

What Do These Four Places Have in Common?

They Only Operate Properly When There is Vulnerability and Trust

When the Places of Safety Go Wrong

A Mother's Womb

Miscarriage and Abortion

Marriage

Separation and Divorce

Family

Emotional Disassociation and Abandonment

Church

Cut off from the Splagchnonian Affection

Splagchnon (Splog-hawn)

God's tenderest affections - His deepest and warmest mercies toward us who believe

The Father Peeking Over the Crib

Tears, joy, and the ache of loving affection

Splagchnon

The Father Tears, The Liquid Affection of the Father's Heart, The Stream of Mercy, Kindness, Gentleness, and Love

Introducing the Father's Presence

The Child's Destination in Time of Desperate Need

Running to the Cross

Accessing the Heavenly Father's Presence

The Church

That Which is Born out of the Side of the Last Adam

- God put Adam to sleep and formed the woman from his Side (bone of his bone body of his body)
- God put Jesus to sleep and formed the Bride from His Side (Life of His Life, Splagchnon of His Splagchnon)

Jesus Christ

The Splagchnon of the Father, The Tears of the Father Made Flesh and Poured out Like a Drink Offering for the Ones God so Loved

The Church

The vessel that catches the Liquid Splagchnon of the Father pouring out of the side of Christ and brims full and overflows with the Tears of the Father, the deep affections of Spirit.

The Church, The Body of Christ

The Place From Which the Splagchnonian River Flows

He that believes on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water.

John 7:38

Splagchnon Starts With God

Through the $Splagchnon\ {\rm of\ mercies\ of\ our\ God};$ whereby the dayspring from on high hath visited us . . .

Luke 1:78

Splagchnon is Not Only For God

For God is my record, how greatly I long after you all in the Splagchnon of Jesus Christ.

Philippians 1:8

Splagchnonian Affection is What We, As the Church, Wear

Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, **Splagchnon** of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, long-suffering;

Colossians 3:12

Running to the Father

Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.

Hebrews 4:16

First, we cling to the Cross

we die to self, we are baptized in His death

Second, we are washed by His Splagchnon

we are forgiven, we are cleansed, our consciences are purged

Third, we are quickened by His Splagchnon

we are raised again to newness of Life, we become a new creation

Fourth, that which was once a symbol of Death transforms into the Throne Room of Grace

as we cling to the Cross we find that we are actually clinging now to the Father, with full access unto the Splagchnonian affections of the Father and His ready desire to shed abroad His mercies in and through our lives

The Five Rules of the Splagchnonian River

Rule #1: It Must Be Kept Free Flowing

Rule #2: It Must Be Kept Pure

Rule #3: The Body of Christ must perpetually maintain Water Rights to this precious life source, even if in the past they have abused this privilege

Rule #4: A Special Access Ramp must be built and maintained for the poor and the weak

Rule #5: Special bottles of this priceless water must be kept in special reserve to be supplied to those who hate, despise, and seek the River's harm

Testing the Waters

Looking for the Two Ingredients to Ensure Authenticity

The Meanies and The Speshies

The Worldly and the Heavenly, the Splagchnonian River is for both

To Bless the Meanies - Praotēs

Gentleness toward those that oppose - The Heavenly Attitude toward those that make life difficult, the Opposite Spirit from this world, the humility and kindness of God toward the untoward

To Bless the Speshies - Philadelphia

The Splagchnon of the Father toward the Saints, The Burden of Heaven for God's people, the Father Tear that has turned into a might rushing river that flows from the innermost of those that believe

To Bless the Meanies - Praotēs

The River of Gentleness

The Opposite Spirit - it's softness when struck with hardness, mildness when hit with harshness, and a gentle word when belted with a spiteful word. Gentleness is divine control and governance over the inner man, holding the flesh in check that it not be given voice or strength in the matter.

And a servant of the Lord must not quarrel but be gentle to all, able to teach, patient, in Praotes correcting those who are in opposition, if God perhaps will grant them repentance, so that they may know the truth, and that they may come to their senses and escape the snare of the devil, having been taken captive by him to do his will.

2 Timothy 2:24-26

Brethren, if a man is overtaken in any trespass, you who are spiritual restore such a one in a spirit of $Praot\bar{e}s$, considering yourself lest you also be tempted.

Galatians 6:1

... Speak evil of no one ... be peaceable, gentle, showing all **Praotes** to all men.

Titus 3:2

To Bless the Speshies - Philadelphia

The River of Brotherly Affection

(Brotherly Love; Brotherly Kindness) Washing the feet of the saints. Seeking the benefit of those who believe. Laboring to see the Body of Christ built strong. Carrying those sick with the palsy to the feet of Jesus. Honoring others above yourself. Seeking the profit of the saints, even if it means you go without. It means, deep abiding affection for those considered brothers and sisters in Christ Jesus.

Be kindly affectioned one to another with philadelphia;

in honor preferring one another;

Romans 12:10

But as touching **philadelphia** you need not that I write unto you: for you yourselves are taught of God to love one another.

1 Thessalonians 4:9

Let philadelphia continue.

Hebrews 13:1

Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit unto unfeigned **philadelphia**, see that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently.

1 Peter 1:22

That Which Stunts, Blocks, and Dams the Rivers of Affection

Seven Satanic Techniques Wielded to Hinder the Splagchnonian Flow

- 1. Grievance, unforgiveness, bitterness, resentment
- 2. Accusation (criticism, implied responsibility for a problem, fault-finding)
- 3. Irritation and frustration (shortness of fuse)
- 4. Anxiety, words to strike fear, evil words of foreboding and doom
- 5. Over-statements, Extreme statements, words like always, never, and the like
- 6. Anger, slights, diminishment, harsh or hurtful words
- 7. Threats of leaving or abandonment, threats of harm, threats of exposure of secrets

Tears of Affection

- God feels towards them, do you?
- Are you willing to feel again?
- Are you willing to unblock the River?
- Are you willing to forgive?
- Are you willing to become their advocate rather than their burr?
- Are you willing to ache over their life with a Father's ache?

- Are you willing to delight over the imperfect Body of Christ?
- Are you willing to be the channel through which the Gentleness and the Fatherly Affections of God are expressed to this world?
- Are you willing to be a part in making the mother's womb, the marriage, the family, and the Church the safest places on earth once again?

The Three Channels of the Splagchnonian River to Unstop

- 1. Splagnonian Affection
- 2. Splagnonian Protection
- 3. ???????

The Philadelphian Phalanx

When the Splagchnonian River Flows Unhindered

[excerpted from the Alaskan Park Service official website]

No other animal has the defense method of musk oxen. When danger threatens they do not run away. Muskoxen are known above all else for their clever defense against wolves or other predators. When they see danger approaching, muskoxen run together and they all try to face the threat. If there is one predator—a lone wolf for example—the defense strategy is to form a line. If a wolf pack surrounds the group, the muskoxen will form a tight circle, all facing outward, forming a phalanx of heads and horns. Calves will hug next to their mothers, or huddle inside the circle. Occasionally, one muskox will charge the enemy, but will quickly rejoin the others.

If the herd doesn't run, but stays together in a tight defensive formation, their defense is virtually impenetrable. A muskox caught away from the herd or separated from the others is much easier to kill.





But whose hath this world's good, and sees his brother have need, and shuts up his Splagchnon of compassion from him, how dwells the love of God in him? My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth.

1 John 3:17-18

The **Six** Rules of the Splagchnonian River

Rule #1: It Must Be Kept Free Flowing

Rule #2: It Must Be Kept Pure

Rule #3: The Body of Christ must perpetually maintain Water Rights to this precious life source, even if, in the past, they have abused this privilege

Rule #4: A Special Access Ramp must be built and maintained for the poor and the weak

Rule #5: Special bottles of this priceless water must be kept in special reserve to be supplied to those who hate, despise, and seek the River's harm

Rule #6: S.I.W.M.I.L.

The Three Channels of the Splagchnonian River to Unstop

- 1. Splagnonian Affection
- 2. Splagnonian Protection
- 3. Splagnonian Correction

The Ancient Saw Mill

Powered by the flow of a mighty river, the water's power would be harnessed by a waterwheel, that would translate the great strength of the water into the turning of a cutting blade (a saw).



The Two Ingredients

- 1. A Mighty River
- 2. A House through which to capture and let loose the Strength of the River

The Advent of the Ancient Mill

The Time of the Church

What Builds the House?

The Turning of the Saw, the Preparation of Lumber

What Turns the Saw?

The Power of the River

So, What Unleashes the River?

The Piercing of the Side

But one of the soldiers with a spear pierced his side, and forthwith came there out blood and water.

John 19:34

Letting the River Flow

There is a river, the streams whereof shall make glad the city of God, the holy place of the tabernacles of the most High.

Psalm 46:4

Then shall the lame man leap as an hart, and the tongue of the dumb sing: for in the wilderness shall waters break out, and streams in the desert.

Isaiah 35:6

In that day there shall be a fountain opened to the house of David and to the inhabitants of Jerusalem for sin and for uncleanness.

Zechariah 13:1

And it shall be in that day, that living waters shall go out from Jerusalem; half of them toward the former sea, and half of them toward the hinder sea: in summer and in winter shall it be.

Zechariah 14:8

There is Heavenly Liquid Coming

- There will be enough of it to make up a river
- this river will bring joy and celebration
- it will make the lame man leap
- it will cause the dumb tongue to break forth in song
- it will water the desert
- it will be for sin and uncleanness
- And the water in this river, is living water

What's the Difference Between Water and "Living" Water?

Rule #6: S.I.W.M.I.L. - Suffering Is What Makes It Live

The Place of Greatest Danger is Also the Place of Greatest Safety

We Must Risk the Pain

. . . He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon Him; and with His stripes we are healed.

Isaiah 53:5