

SERMON OUTLINE FOR JULY 28, 2013

"It Only Takes One"

Genesis 18:20-33

INTRODUCTION:

1969 song by Three Dog Night: "One is the Loneliest Number"

- I. TODAY WE'RE TALKING ABOUT NUMBERS
 - A. We'll start with 50 and work our way to 1
 - B. The 1 is our Lord Jesus Christ
- II. IN TODAY'S OLD TESTAMENT READING,
 ABRAHAM & GOD ARE "TALKING NUMBERS"
 - A. They are having an auction in reverse (50-40-30-20-10)
 - B. Abraham is pleading for the wicked city of Sodom
 - C. Sodom's wickedness was infamous (Genesis 13:13; Ezekiel 16:49-50)
- III. THIS OLD TESTAMENT READING ABOUT NUMBERS SPEAKS TO US TODAY
 - A. It tells us of the nature of Almighty God to have mercy
 - B. It tells us that for **all of us** to receive God's mercy, **it only took 1** to make it possible
 - C. That 1 is our dear Lord Jesus (Romans 5:18-19), and --
 - D. That is good news for us sinners because **not 1 of us** is righteous (Romans 3:10; 3:23)
 - E. The GREAT NEWS is: it only took 1, and that 1 is Jesus! (2 Corinthians 5:21; John 3:16; Isaiah 53; 2 Peter 3:9)

CONCLUSION:

One <u>is</u> the loneliest number... but **that 1, all by Himself,** won for us the victory over sin, death & the grave.