

Sermon Notes – September 3, 2023

Review

- ⇒ This is our final sermon in our “We Believe” summer preaching series, aiming to clarify and affirm key biblical truths and align our hearts and minds with truth that God has revealed in His inerrant, infallible, and authoritative Word, the Bible.
- ⇒ We have studied the key doctrines of the Trinity, the deity and humanity of Jesus Christ, the person and work of the Holy Spirit, the reality and gravity of sin, the atoning work of Jesus on the cross, the resurrection (Christ’s and ours), salvation by grace alone through faith alone in Christ alone, the inerrancy and authority of Scripture, and the Church!

The Sunset Bible Church Doctrinal Statement says...

We believe that the souls of the redeemed are, at death, absent from the body and present with the Lord...

We believe that the souls of unbelievers remain, after death, in conscious misery...

Living With “The Eternal State” In View (Eschatology)

It becomes us to spend this life only as a journey toward heaven...to which we should subordinate all other concerns of life. Why should we labor for or set our hearts on anything else, but that which is our proper end and true happiness? (Jonathan Edwards)

Soon you will read in the newspaper that I am dead. Don’t believe it for a moment. I will be more alive than ever before. (D.L Moody)

*Earth recedes...Heaven opens before me!
(D.L. Moody on his deathbed)*

I must keep alive in myself the desire for my true country, which I shall not find till after death. I must never let it get snowed under or turned aside; I must make it the main object of life to press on to that other country and to help others to do the same. (C.S. Lewis)

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and first earth had passed away... (The Apostle John)

Eternity: “One Minute After You Die” (Thank you, Erwin Lutzer)

(READ Revelation 21:1-8, 22-27; 22:1-5)

- ⇒ Heaven is a _____. It is not a dream, an ethereal place of ghosts or phantoms. Jesus’ resurrection body was a physical/spiritual body; it could be seen and touched. He ate. John says, “*I saw...I saw...I heard...*”
- ⇒ Heaven is heaven because _____. It’s not about ponies, hot fudge sundaes, fishing, or golf. “*God Himself will be with them...*” The presence of God with His people is a major biblical theme running deep in OT Scripture. God says, “I will dwell in the midst of them...” and His glory is, at times, visible or absent (due to sin). Cf. **Exodus 29:45-46; 33:14-15; Ezekiel 48:35**
- ⇒ Heaven is the place of ultimate _____. Not a hammock in the sky, but true Shalom: wholeness, peace, rest, fulness of joy. **Rev. 21:4; Isaiah 25:6-8**
- ⇒ Heaven will reveal what is truly _____. What people value the most in this life will be seen for what it is. No one will be digging up the streets of gold. Cf. **I Corinthians 3:12-15**
- ⇒ Heaven will be a place of _____ between people and nations, and a place of celebrating the glory of God in the redeemed _____ of the world.
- ⇒ Heaven is an _____ place, not a humdrum existence defined by “cloud-sitting” and harps. It will be a place of glory, beauty, worship, and service. Cf. **I Corinthian 6:3; Rev. 22:3-5.**

Two Choices, Two Destinies (READ Revelation 20:11-15; 21:8)

- ⇒ Hear God’s word: **II Thessalonians 1:3-10**. Do you see the two destinies outlined here? This is why there is urgency to communicate the gospel.
- ⇒ Jesus describes two paths in **Matthew 7:13-14**.
- ⇒ Listen to the Apostles as they preached: **Acts 2:38-39; 3:19-21; 4:12**

Responding to God’s Word in Worship & Obedience

- ⇒ Remember the old song, “When the Roll is Called Up Yonder”? Two questions: **WILL** you be there? And if you say yes, **WHY** will you be there?
- ⇒ **Romans 10:13** – “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.” To “call on the name of the Lord” is to trust Christ as your Savior.

Worship Next Sunday: September 10, 2023

“The Church In The World: Remembering The Mission”

(Acts 1:1-8) Pastor Jay Mosser