

Come Let Us Adore Him

Hope



Advent Season – Hope

Websters:

‘cherish a desire with anticipation’

‘desire with expectant obtainment’

‘to expect with confidence’

Hope realized – brings great celebration

Hope dashed – brings discouragement

Hopelessness – despair, depression, abandonment

Culture invites you to hope in false things



Bible invites – place your hope in God

Psalm 33:17-18 “The war horse is a false hope for salvation, and by its great might it cannot rescue.¹⁸ Behold, the eye of the LORD is on those who fear him, on those who hope in his steadfast love...”

Romans 15:13 “May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope”

Biblical Hope – confident expectation in the almighty God and his love evidenced in Christ, and promises towards his children



1 Peter 1:13 “Therefore, preparing your minds for action, and being sober-minded, set your hope fully on the grace that will be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ.”

1. What has just been communicated?

- word ‘therefore’, building off a point just made
 - vs.1 – chosen by God
 - vs.3 – born again to a living hope
 - vs.4 – inheritance for you, imperishable...
 - vs. 5 – protecting you through faith



- vs.6-7 – refining your faith
- vs.8 – experiencing love, faith & joy
- vs. 10-12 – what was yours to know and experience
- Recounts God's incredible action towards you
- therefore – because this is your reality



2. Two factors enabling this full hope

a) Prepare your minds for Action

- note – not conjure up conviction

- arm your mind with the truth

 - exposes lies we believe – about who God is, who we are, where hope lies

 - encouragement not to hope in theories and conspiracies, but engage fully with the truth you are encountering. (Eph. 6:14)



- own the truth about:

- love and redemptive work of God
- grace and mercy of God towards us
- promises of scripture – power of God to do
- care, gifting and empowerment towards us
- return of Christ, eternity

b) Be Sober Minded

- pretty sure doesn't mean boring or never smiling



- drunk or impaired minds distort reality, reduces ability to see in perspective, choose well
- what you choose to put into your mind through your eyes and ears affects your perspective which in turn affects where your hope lies
- choose rational thought through responses based on truth



3. Set your Hope Fully in Christ

- imperative or command “set your hope fully on the grace that will be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ.”

a) Set Hope Fully

- like watching knowing the score
- expectant living in light of Christs actions towards you and promised return
- knowing the outcome and who is making the promise
- perspective on circumstances shifts



b) be real in your circumstances

- often lose sight of where our hope should be

- **Psalm 42:5-6** “Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you in turmoil within me? Hope in God; for I shall again praise him, my salvation and my God. My soul is cast down within me; therefore I remember you.”

- many times when we are hopeless – don't see how this will be redeemed, anything but discouraging or disastrous – return to the only place hope is placed



c) God is pleased and helps us do this

- Psalm 147:10-11 “His delight is not in the strength of the horse, nor his pleasure in the legs of a man, but the Lord takes pleasure in those who fear him, in those who hope in his steadfast love.”



So What?

- 1. World is struggling with hope**
- 2. Christmas season – Jesus hope of the World**
- 3. You are to shine that Hope**
- 4. You can share the Hope**

