

SUBJECT: Salvation.

TITLE: Hope: The anchor of the soul.

PROPOSITION: To look at hope, as our anchor.

OBJECTIVE: To see where our hope is found.

INTRODUCTION:

1. Read the text.

2. Regarding the text.

(1) Hope is a very neglected topic today.

A. Heavenly hope is lost in today's mindset of materialism and sensualism (1 Tim. 6:9-11; Gal. 5:19-21).

B. Even religious people have given it up for a hope of living on this earth with only 144,000 living in heaven (Rev. 7:4).

C. The one hope is lost in unjustifiable confusion (Eph. 4:4).

(2) Both the Old and the New Testaments give us the message of a heavenly hope for all who will obey.

A. David had hope (Psa. 119:81, 114, 116; 146:5).

B. We are to rejoice in hope (Rom. 5:2)

C. How can we rejoice in hope if there is no hope?

(3) Let us look at our hope, the anchor of the soul.

3. Reference To S.T.P.O.

DISCUSSION: IN OUR LESSON, LET US NOTICE--

I. How Hope Is Used In The Bible.

1. People use it improperly--

(1) People talk about hope as if it is something that is past: "I hope I got all the right answers on the test."

(2) Or as if it is current: "I hope I am making the right decision."

2. How does the Bible use the word?

(1) The Bible uses the word hope looking forward to the future, *expectation elpis* (Rom. 8:24).

(2) The Bible uses the word hope in the sense of *trust elpizo* (Phil. 2:23).

3. We need to use Hope as it is used in the Bible.

II. Where Hope Is Not Found.

1. Our hope is not found in Islam.

(1) The Quran does not have Jesus as God's Son ("The Jews call 'Uzair a son of God, and the Christians call Christ the Son of God. That is a saying from their mouth; (in this) they but imitate. What the Unbelievers of old used to say. God's curse be upon them: how they are deluded. Away from the Truth!" Sura ix, 30).

(2) The Ethiopian Eunuch could not be baptized until he believed that Jesus Christ was the Son of God (Acts 8:37).

2. Our hope is not found in Premillennialism.

- (1) In Premillennialism the only hope that any of us have (other than the 144,000) is to live on a rejuvenated earth (2 Pet. 3:10,11).
- (2) Both Peter and Paul wrote of an incorruptible crown of righteousness in the life after this one (2 Tim. 4:8; 1 Pet. 1:4).
3. Any doctrine that goes in opposition to the Bible does not give hope and we cannot trust it (2 Jno. 9-11).

III. Where Hope Is Centered.

1. Christ is both Priest and King (Zech. 6:12,13).
 - (1) God speaks to us by his Son, so he is also a prophet (Heb. 1:1,2).
 - (2) He is a Priest after the order of Melchisedec (Heb. 5:10).
 - (3) He is a King (Rev. 19:16).
2. Hope is emphasized in Hebrews for the following reasons--
 - (1) For the same reason that Christ was emphasized, to stop their rapid exit from Christianity back into Judaism (Gal. 5:4).
 - (2) To let the Jews know that Christ was the center of hope, not Mosaic law (Heb. 10:1-4).
3. Since hope is centered in Christ, then it cannot even be found in denominationalism (Jno. 14:6).

CONCLUSION:

SUMMARY: We have seen in this lesson--

1. How The Bible Uses Hope.
2. Where Hope Is Not Found.
3. Where Hope Is Centered.

APPEAL: Let us hold fast to the anchor of the soul.
Preached at Belle, MO on 5/10/09, morning lesson.

SUBJECT: The book of Philemon.

TITLE: Having Faith and Love Towards God.

PROPOSITION: To look at Paul's statement to Philemon.

OBJECTIVE: To see that we are to have the same.

INTRODUCTION:

1. Read the text.

2. Regarding the text.

(1) As Christians we cannot live without people hearing of how we live.

A. This is the reason for Paul's admonition to Philippi (Phil. 1:27).

B. This is the reason for Jesus' command (Mt. 5:16).

(2) Whether it was by Onesimus or someone else, Paul had heard of Philemon's love and faith toward the Lord Jesus Christ.

A. Philemon was a man who loved Jesus Christ.

B. Philemon was a man who had faith in Jesus Christ.

(3) Let us look at having faith and love towards Jesus Christ.

3. Reference To S.T.P.O.

DISCUSSION: IN OUR LESSON, LET US NOTICE--

I. What Having Faith And Love Towards Christ Involves.

1. Having faith and love towards Christ involves determination.

(1) We must be determined to live for Christ (1 Cor. 15:58).

(2) We cannot live with doubt in our lives (Jas. 2:6-8).

2. Having faith and love towards Christ involves sincerity.

(1) Whatever we do must be done heartily (Col. 3:23).

(2) We must obey from the heart (Rom. 6:17).

3. Without these two things we cannot have faith and love towards Christ.

II. How Faith And Love Towards Christ Affects Us.

1. It affects our spiritual lives--

(1) We have peace with God (Rom. 5:1).

(2) We have love for our brethren (Jno. 13:34,35).

(3) We learn to have love for our enemies (Mt. 5:43,44).

2. It affects our physical lives--

(1) People who truly have peace with God are more likely to be happy (Mt. 5:2-12).

(2) People who truly love God will love their families and their fellow man (Eph. 5:23,25; Mk. 6:34).

3. Without faith and love towards Christ we become selfish and self-centered.

III. Why Faith And Love Towards Christ Affects Us For Good.

1. If we put God first in our lives--

(1) We will follow his word on how to love our spouses (Eph. 5:28,29).

- (2) We will follow his word on how to love our children (Eph. 6:4).
2. By following God, we are taking the attention off ourselves.
- (1) We cannot know everything about child rearing (Tit. 2:4; Eph. 6:4; Prov. 22:6).
- (2) We cannot know everything about loving one's spouse (Tit. 2:4).
3. We are putting these things in God's hands and learning from him.

CONCLUSION:

SUMMARY: We have seen--

1. What faith and love towards Christ involves.
 2. How faith and love towards Christ affects us.
 3. Why faith and love towards Christ affects us for good.
- APPEAL: Having faith and love towards Christ will bring us closer together as Christians, as families and as a nation.
- Preached at Belle, MO on 5/10/09, evening service.