

Cornerstone Church

November 27, 2016

**Sermon Series: Practicing Our Readiness Drills for
Christ's Return - Seeking God's Guidance from 1st and
2nd Peter**

Today's Sermon: Our Treasure Is Our Hope

Today's Passage: 1 Peter 1:20-21

[20] He was foreknown before the foundation of the world but was made manifest in the last times for the sake of you [21] who through him are believers in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God. (1 Peter 1:20-21 ESV)

Main Point: We were redeemed at the greatest of infinite costs and the more we appreciate that cost and the one who paid it, the more we will treasure Him above all else.

Link to main theme of strength to endure suffering:

- That adoration will cause us to desire Him more than our own lives so that if threatened with our lives we will be quick to lose them knowing we will gain them back instantly through our own resurrection.

Review:

And if you call on him as Father who judges impartially according to each one's deeds, conduct yourselves with fear throughout the time of your exile, knowing that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot. (1 Peter 1:17-19 ESV)

How much does the Father treasure the Son?

Answer: **He was foreknown before the foundation of the world**

Foreknown = progynosko (perfect, passive, participle) Pro= prior, gynosko = love relationship

1. This relationship was expressed at Jesus' baptism and at the Mt. of Transfiguration experience.

(Matthew 17:5 ESV) He was still speaking when, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him."

- Jesus is God's **beloved** Son. The degree of agape love the Father had for the Son is infinite and vice versa.
 - God is also **pleased**, or finds infinite **pleasure** in His Son.
2. It was/is necessary for the Trinity to have existed in eternity past as a Tri-une Godhead since the attribute of love (as well as many other divine attributes) cannot be displayed apart from community. There needs to be someone to love.

How much does the Father love us?

Answer: Enough to share His Son with us!

but was made manifest in the last times for the sake of you

1. Jesus existed eternally with the Father (and Spirit) in spirit form. Yet 2,000 years ago Jesus took on a human body for our sakes (can't shed blood without veins). That was a sacrifice for each member of the Godhead.

(Philippians 2:5-7 ESV) Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men.

2. He did this for our sakes.
 - Not for the sake of earning favor with the Father
 - Not for the sake of seeking His own comfort
 - Not for the sake of earning the praise of men
 - He did it because we need(ed) a Redeemer.

How important is Jesus' incarnation into the world?

Answer: We would not be saved had he not arrived as our Savior.

who through him are believers in God,

If Jesus:

- Hadn't chosen to leave heaven and become a man,
- And hadn't lived the perfect sinless life here on earth,
- And hadn't learned obedience to the Father (Hebrews 5:8)
- And hadn't chosen to let the vile Roman soldiers, spit, slap, punch, whip and finally crucify Him
- We would be forever condemned to hell and not be glad believers in God's salvation and kindness.

How critical is Jesus' resurrection to our faith?

Answer: Without it, we would have no faith at all.

who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God.

If God did not raise Jesus from the dead then:

- It would have been a rejection of the sin offering Jesus paid, and
- It would have proved Jesus was not God and a liar (since He prophesied that He would be raised on the third day) and,
- We would have no hope of being raised from the dead ourselves if Jesus Himself failed to do so.

But God did raise Jesus from the dead and honored Him with a throne that is above every throne.

(Philippians 2:8-11 ESV) And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Because our Redeemer is so highly valued and honored by the Father we can know that His payment was fully accepted and we will not have to doubt our salvation is in jeopardy.

Practical application:

Here are a few places the world hopes in:

1. Not getting old and dying
2. Having enough money to pay for good doctors who will keep us from dying of cancer.
3. Belief that there is no hell where sinful rebels go after they die.
4. Belief that all roads lead to heaven and only the worst of mankind will not go there.