

All Creation Groans...And So Do We (Romans 8:18-31)

- ⇒ The Fall = thorns, thistles, struggle, tears, death (Genesis 3)
- ⇒ Creation groans. We groan, longing for a yet-future day when we and all of creation will be healed from all that is broken. Are you groaning today?
- ⇒ Notice how _____ and longing are woven together with _____. The Bible does not call us to live in a false world in which we pretend that everything is perfect today. It isn't perfect. The Bible calls us **not to separate groaning and longing from hope** but to maintain an eternal perspective. (THIS topic is what next week's sermon will be about!)

And He Shall Reign Forever And Ever (Rev 11:15-19; 19:6-9)

- ⇒ There is coming a Day of final victory (Remember I Cor 15:25).
- ⇒ There is coming a Day when God's justice will be obvious, even in judgment (15:3-4; 16:4-7; 19:1; II Peter 3:13).
- ⇒ There is coming a Day when the groaning will give way to glory (Romans 8:18 – "the glory that is to be revealed to us"); the imperfect will give way to the perfect, the mortal will give way to immortality; we will trade these "tents" for what is truly called _____ (II Cor 5:1, 6; Phil 3:20-21).

Responding to God's Word in Worship & Obedience

- ⇒ **Be encouraged!** No, we're not home yet. Yes, we still live in a broken world. The music still plays in minor keys but **be encouraged!** The God who will one day draw all things together under His rule, holds you in His hands today.
- ⇒ **Be there!** On that great and final Day when God wraps up all of human history and the struggles of living in a broken world are all finally past, **be there!** Not by being good enough or earning your way there...but by trusting Christ and Him alone as your Savior from sin.
- ⇒ **Be at peace!** It is our prayer that the Peace of Heaven – that is Jesus Himself – would rule & reign in your heart throughout this entire holiday season, because ultimately indeed, "He will reign forever and ever." And with the saints in heaven, our hearts will say, "Hallelujah! For the Lord our God, the Almighty, reigns!"

Advent Communion Worship Next Sunday: December 4, 2022

"The Peace of Heaven: Feeling The Weight Of Glory"

(I Peter 1:3-9; II Corinthians 4:16-18)

Pastor Jay Mosser

Sermon Notes – November 27, 2022

Setting the Stage

- ⇒ Welcome to Christmas season at Sunset Bible Church! Here at Sunset, we celebrate the four Sundays of Advent with a special sermon series that is connected with our Christmas production. This year that will be December 10th & 11th.
- ⇒ During Advent we mark each Sunday with the lighting of a candle in our morning worship services accompanied by selected Scripture readings to identify the theme of each week.
- ⇒ This year's Christmas production is entitled, "The Peace of Heaven." We'll be thinking about creation and eternity. We'll be thinking about life and death. We'll be remembering that what we see around us today is not the only reality...it isn't *final* reality. We'll be looking back at the coming of Jesus from the vantage point of heaven where the peace and wholeness you long for – true Shalom – will be yours in full measure.

Today's texts: Romans 8:18-31ff; Revelation 11 & 19

Some helpful definitions for today's study:

Eschatology = the study of _____

Individual Eschatology: John 3:36; II Corinthians 5:1; Phil 1:23

A person who trusts Jesus Christ as Savior need not fear death.

Death for a believer in Jesus is a _____ from this life to the next. Being with Jesus is indeed _____!

Final or Ultimate Eschatology: I Cor 15:20-26; Heb 2:8; Eph 1:10

The Bible speaks of a day when everything is "*in subjection to Him*" (Hebrews 2:8).

Ephesians 1:10 (NLT): "*And this is the plan: At the right time He will bring _____ together under the authority of Christ – everything in heaven and on earth.*"

We do not yet live in this final day, but all through the Bible, the _____ of the final day is playing, at times in minor keys, but one day in a mighty crescendo!