



Sunday, September 27, 2009: Hope is Kindled

Scriptures: Psalm 46:1-11; Ephesians 2:11-13

Speaker: Joe Boot

Sermon Notes:

1. Our hope is in Christ and His Word; He will build His church.
2. Preachers must be willing to preach challenging and difficult things to be faithful to the whole counsel of God.
3. Preachers are to be faithful watchdogs, warning their people.
4. Hope is kindled when we listen to God's Word and apply it.
5. Because of the failure of preachers to speak hope in the whole counsel of God, the western Church is hopeless.
6. Preaching must apply the word of God to our lives. It's possible to be orthodox and yet to leave people unaffected.
7. Hope is the fruit of trusting and living obediently under God's covenant promises. A mark of ungodliness is hopelessness.
8. Abraham had hope in God's word. See Romans 4:17-18.
9. Without hope we deny the faith and abandon Scripture.
10. Hope is not mindless optimism. It requires disciplined faith.
11. If we fully trust God, He's going to require all from us. To surrender to Christ is to reject self-will and our fear of victory.
12. We sometimes romanticize the past, but veneration of the past saps the energy from our present ministry.
13. The justice of God falls upon future descendants of covenant breakers. (Exodus 20:4-5). But likewise God is faithful to a thousand generations of those who love Him and keep His commandments. (Deuteronomy 7:7-9).
14. "Be still and know that I am God." Our God is He who made heaven and earth, delivered Israel, raised up kings, raised His Son from the dead; He's still in the resurrection business.

15. We shall overcome for He has overcome all enemies.
16. Our hope in Christ will result in the fruit of righteousness, peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost.
17. All of our cultural activity should be fully directed toward God, done for His glory. 1 Corinthians 10:31.
18. "Every thought captive" means using every ability actively for God. 2 Corinthians 10:5.
19. We seek the glory of God in everything that we do, as history moves towards Christ's final re-creation of all things.
20. The Lord declares liberty to spiritual captives. Isaiah 61:1-4.

Application Questions:

1. Why must a preacher faithfully proclaim the whole counsel of God? See Isaiah 56:10.
2. Do I sometimes dress up my faithlessness as realism?
3. Do you fear the future because of an improper veneration of the past?
4. Read Isaiah 59:14-21. How does this text apply to us?
5. Fear of responsibility or fear of new obligations can lead to unnecessary doctor visits. What promises of God can comfort and strengthen us when facing new challenges?
6. What should be our vision for God's church for our children and future generations?
7. What basis for hope is given to believers in 1 John 5:2-4 ?
8. Am I keeping every thought captive to Christ?