

The Only Hope for the World

- I. Introduction:
 - a. (**Eph 2:12-17**) “That at that time ye were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope, and without God in the world: But now in Christ Jesus ye who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ. For he is our peace, who hath made both one, and hath broken down the middle wall of partition between us; Having abolished in his flesh the enmity, even the law of commandments contained in ordinances; for to make in himself of twain one new man, so making peace; And that he might reconcile both unto God in one body by the cross, having slain the enmity thereby: And came and preached peace to you which were afar off, and to them that were nigh.”
 - b. Without Jesus Christ there was no hope for the world
- II. The Eternal plan of God
 - a. (**1 Peter 1:18-20**) “Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers; But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot: Who verily was **foreordained before the foundation of the world**, but was manifest in these last times for you.”
 - i. The incarnation, death, and resurrection of Christ were not the result of a change of purpose to meet unforeseen circumstances; they were foreseen and foreordained in the eternal counsels of God.
 - b. (**Eph 3:8-12**) “Unto me, who am less than the least of all saints, is this grace given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ; And to make all men see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the world hath been hid in God, who created all things by Jesus Christ: To the intent that now unto the principalities and powers in heavenly places might be known by the church the manifold wisdom of God, According to the eternal purpose which he purposed in Christ Jesus our Lord: In whom we have boldness and access with confidence by the faith of him.”
 - c. The promise of this plan given to Abraham
 - i. (**Gen 22:18**) “And in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed; because thou hast obeyed my voice.”
 - d. The promise of blessing was fulfilled in Jesus Christ
 - i. (**Gal 3:16**) “Now to Abraham and his seed were the promises made. He saith not, And to seeds, as of many; but as of one, And to thy seed, which is Christ.”
- III. Mankind’s Condition
 - a. Sin entered the World by Adam
 - i. (**Rom 5:12-14**) “Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that

all have sinned: (For until the law sin was in the world: but sin is not imputed when there is no law. Nevertheless death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over them that had not sinned after the similitude of Adam's transgression, who is the figure of him that was to come.)"

- ii. One man's sin made all men sinners – all have sinned
 - 1. Not because of inherited sin – "...even over them that had not sinned after the similitude of Adam's transgression" – Some have not sinned like Adam – had not violated a positive law
 - 2. Adam's sin gave us the ability to sin
 - a. Before the eating of the fruit – one precept – "Do not eat"
 - b. After eating – Conscience was awoken – had the ability to know right from wrong
- iii. We are sinners because of our transgression
 - 1. Sin – Transgression of Law
 - a. **(1 John 3:4)** "Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law."
 - 2. We are all guilty of our own sin
 - a. **(Rom 3:23)** "For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God"
 - b. **(Ezek 18:20-21)** "The **soul** that **sinneth**, it shall **die**. The son shall not bear the iniquity of the father, neither shall the father bear the iniquity of the son: the righteousness of the righteous shall be upon him, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon him. But if the wicked will turn from all his sins that he hath committed, and keep all my statutes, and do that which is lawful and right, he shall surely live, he shall not die."
- iv. The wages of sin is death
 - 1. **(Rom 6:23)** "For the wages of sin is death"
- b. Guilty of one – guilty of all – utterly lost – no hope of salvation
 - i. **(James 2:10-11)** "For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all. For he that said, Do not commit adultery, said also, Do not kill. Now if thou commit no adultery, yet if thou kill, thou art become a transgressor of the law."

IV. Utterly Lost? No hope of Salvation. Why is this so?

- a. Why didn't God just forgive of those sins? Is he not merciful?
 - i. Sure he's merciful, but he's also righteous and just
 - 1. God does not just "cover up" sin – doesn't just sweep it under a rug – That would not be just – Sin can not go unpunished

2. Apply this to our judicial system today – What if when a man commits murder our judicial system would just sweep it under the rug? – no justice at all – injustice
- b. His mercy gives a way of hope, and yet allowed him to continue to be just
- i. (1 John 4:10) “Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.”
 1. God’s love and mercy is shown not in Him covering up sin but He sending a substitute
 - ii. (Rom 3:25-26) “Whom God hath **set forth to be a propitiation** through faith in his blood, **to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past**, through the forbearance of God; To declare, I say, at this time his righteousness: that **he might be just**, and the **justifier of him which believeth in Jesus.**”
 1. God paid the price for human redemption: “God hath set forth to be a propitiation”
 2. Propitiation – “an atoning sacrifice” “to gain or regain the favor or goodwill of” (Merriam-Webster’s Dictionary)
 - a. (Isa 53:4) “Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted”
 - b. (Isa 53:6) “All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the Lord hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.”
 - c. (Isa 53:10) “Yet it pleased the Lord to bruise him; he hath put him to grief: when thou shalt make his soul an offering for sin, he shall see his seed, he shall prolong his days, and the pleasure of the Lord shall prosper in his hand.”
 - iii. “To declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God”
 1. (NKJV) “...to demonstrate His righteousness, because in His forbearance God had passed over the sins that were previously committed...”
 2. The sins of those under the Old were never forgiven but moved forward. – Finally are forgiven on the cross
 3. Those before the death of Christ were given a promise of forgiveness – but the forgiveness was not realized until the Death of Christ – Only Christ’s blood can atone for sins
 4. (Heb 9:15) “And for this cause he is the mediator of the New Testament, that by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions that were under the first testament, they which are called might receive the promise of eternal inheritance.”
 5. (Heb 10:1-7) “For the law having a shadow of good things to come, and not the very image of the things, can never with those sacrifices which they offered year by year

continually make the comers thereunto perfect. For then would they not have ceased to be offered? because that the worshippers once purged should have had no more conscience of sins. But in those sacrifices there is a remembrance again made of sins every year. For it is not possible that the blood of bulls and of goats should take away sins. Wherefore when he cometh into the world, he saith, Sacrifice and offering thou wouldest not, but a body hast thou prepared me: In burnt offerings and sacrifices for sin thou hast had no pleasure. Then said I, Lo, I come (in the volume of the book it is written of me,) to do thy will, O God.

- c. (**Rom 3:26**) “To declare, I say, at this time his righteousness: that he might be just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus.”
 - i. By giving us this plan – Justified in being a Justifier
- V. In no other plan can we have hope
 - a. (**Heb 2:3**) “How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation; which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed unto us by them that heard him?”
 - b. No other plan gives us such a complete and justified salvation
 - i. (**Heb 2:9**) “But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honor; that he by the grace of God should taste death for every man.”
- VI. The Only Hope for the World is Found in Christ
 - a. (**John 14:6**) “I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.”
 - b. In Christ there is Eternal Life
 - i. (**1 John 5:11-12**) “And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life.”
 - c. In Christ you can obtain all spiritual blessings
 - i. (**Eph 1:3**) “Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ”
 - ii. This is the same blessing that was promised to Abraham that his seed would bring
 - 1. Salvation
 - a. (**Acts 2:40**) “Save yourselves from this untoward generation.”
 - 2. Forgiveness of sins
 - a. (**Col 1:14**) “In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins”
 - 3. Born into the family of God
 - a. (**Gal 3:29**) “And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.”

- d. In Christ you can become a new creature
 - i. **(2 Cor 5:17)** “Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.”
- VII. How Do We Partake of this Hope?
- a. By Obeying the Gospel of Christ
 - i. **(Heb 5:9)** “And being made perfect, he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him.”
 - ii. **(Matt 28:18-20)** “All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen.”
 - iii. **(Rom 6:1-5)** “What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound? God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein? Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection.”
 - iv. **(Rom 6:17-18)** “But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you. Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness.”
 - b. Believe the Gospel of Christ
 - i. **(Mark 16:15-16)** “Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.”
 - c. Repent of your sins
 - i. **(Acts 17:30)** “And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men every where to repent.”
 - d. Confess Jesus to be the Son of God
 - i. **(Acts 8:37-38)** “And Philip said, If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest. And he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God. And he commanded the chariot to stand still: and they went down both into the water, both Philip and the eunuch; and he baptized him.”
 - e. Be baptized into Jesus Christ
 - i. **(Gal 3:27)** “For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ.”
 - ii. **(Acts 2:38)** “Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.”

- f. This is where we receive our Hope – without being in Christ you have no hope at all.