

WORSHIPING ON THE LORD'S DAY

March 31, 2013

Worship, as God intended, is a supernatural event. As we enter into this service of worship, we cross the threshold of the secular to the sacred, from the common to the uncommon, from the profane to the holy. Prepare yourself therefore for this most holy convocation!

Prelude

Worship Theme

Christ is Triumphant

Matthew 24:29-31: "But immediately after the tribulation of those days the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will fall from the sky, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken, and then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in the sky, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of the sky with power and great glory. And He will send forth His angels with a great trumpet and they will gather together His elect from the four winds, from one end of the sky to the other."

God Calls us to Worship Before the Cross Rev. 11:15-16

We Adore Him

Hymn #277, "Christ The Lord Is Risen Today"

We Confess Our Sin

Blessed Lord Jesus, before Thy cross I kneel, and see the heinousness of my sin, my iniquity that caused Thee to be "made a curse," the evil that excites the severity of divine wrath. Show me the enormity of my guilt by Your: crown of thorns, pierced hands and feet, bruised body, dying cries.

Thy blood is the blood of incarnate God, its worth infinite, its value beyond all thought. Great is the evil and guilt, that demands such a price. Sin is my malady, my monster, my foe, my viper, born in my birth, alive in my life, strong in my character, dominating my faculties, following me as a shadow, intermingling with my every thought, my chain that holds me captive in the empire of my soul. Sinner that I am, why should the sun give me light, the air supply breath, the earth bear my tread, its fruits nourish me, its creatures subserve my ends?

Yet Thy compassions yearn over me; Thy heart hastens to my rescue; Thy love endured my curse; Thy mercy bore my deserved stripes. Let me walk humbly in the lowest depths of humiliation, bathed in Thy blood, tender of conscience, triumphing gloriously as an heir of salvation. In Christ's name. Amen!

We Thank Him For His Forgiveness

Hymn #275, "The Strife Is O'er, The Battle Done"

God Calls us to Worship thru Dedication 1 Thes. 5:4-6, 11

We Give Him Our Offering & Concerns

Hymn #198, "Lift Up Your Heads"

Based on Psalm 24

God Calls us to Worship thru Fellowship Rev. 22:6-7

We Read His Word

Sermon

*We Partake Of The Lord's Supper

Hymn #309, "Rejoice, The Lord Is King"

God Blesses us in the Benediction

Postlude

Welcome and Announcements

(Containers have been placed in the back for communion cups and small trash)

+You are invited to raise your hands during the prayer of adoration.

*Visitors, please see note below on the Lord's Supper.

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Welcome to Bethel Presbyterian Church! To all who are spiritually weary and seek rest; to all who mourn and long for comfort; to all who struggle and desire victory; to all who sin and need a Savior; to all who are strangers and want fellowship; to all who hunger and thirst after righteousness; and to whomsoever will come-- this church opens wide her doors and offers welcome in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.

We invite you to **sign** the attendance card in your bulletin and drop it in the offering. You are invited to stay for **Sunday School** which begins at 11:30.

REGARDING THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

The Lord's Supper is for baptized believers who are in good standing in a Christian church (that is, not harboring unrepentant sin, not under any discipline of the church, and attending worship services faithfully). As fellow believers, we welcome you to participate in this New Covenant sacrament with us.

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

In preparation for next week's worship (Theme:), please use the following hymns in your personal and/or family devotions this coming week: #s .

The Preface to Heaven: The Second Coming of Christ, Pt. 3

1 Thessalonians 4:13-5:5a

Study Notes for March 31, 2013

I. Introduction

Notice in 1 Thes. 4:14 that Paul grounds the Second Coming of Christ in His resurrection...

Truly a discussion on the implications of the Second Coming of Christ is a study on the implication of the Resurrection of Christ from the dead! They are that close when it comes to their fruit and bearing on the child of God!

II. Heaven, Select.

- A. The Priority of Heaven, Mt. 6:9-13.
- B. The Value of Heaven, Lk. 10:17-20.
- C. A Portrait of Heaven, Select.

D. The Preface to Heaven, Select.

- 1. A General Introduction: Five Truths we Must Confess when it Comes to the End Times, Select.
- 2. The Signs of the Times, Mt. 16:1-4; 24:4-14.
- 3. The Intermediate State, Select.

4. The Second Coming of Christ, 1 Thes. 4:15-17; 5:1-5a.

- a. The Second Coming of Christ will be Impartial, 1 Thes. 4:15, 16b-17a.
- b. The Second Coming of Christ will be Glorious, 1 Thes. 4:16a.
- c. The Second Coming of Christ will Bring Unbreakable Communion with Christ, 1 Thes. 4:17b.
- d. The Second Coming of Christ will be Sudden, 1 Thes. 5:1-3.
- e. The Second Coming of Christ will Catch Many Off-guard, 1 Thes. 5:2- 3a, c.
- f. The Second Coming of Christ should be no Surprise, 1 Thes. 5:4-5a.

g. The Second Coming of Christ Provides the Answer to Man's Most Burdening Question, 1 Thes. 4:13a.

Uninformed: ἀγνοέω [agnoeō]; primarily denotes “being mistaken” or “in error.” The implication is that the Thessalonians already had a belief about what happens when a person dies. Truly this question continues to haunt mankind...

The Greco-Roman conception of death at the time of Paul

The Biblical Teaching Regarding Death

h. The Second Coming of Christ Brings Hope in the Time of Sorrow, 1 Thes. 4:13b-14.

A Contrast in “Hope”

The Non-Believer

The Child of God

Consider how this truth affected David, 2 Sam. 12:23...

i. The Second Coming of Christ Gives Comfort in the Midst of Pain, 1 Thes. 4:18.

Notice a rather striking difference in Paul’s choice of words in vv. 14 and 13 concerning the demise of Christ and the demise of the believer...

It is very obvious that Paul is being purposed in his use of “sleep” for the death of a Christian!

The Expression as Used in the Pagan Cultures in Paul’s Day

The Expression as Used by Paul

Christ’s resurrection and the promise of His second coming change how we approach the grave!

Illustration: Buddhism