

Hebrews 6.19-20

Triumph of the Forerunner

This day is the day that defines us as Christians. It is the day that began the church of Christ, it is the culmination of 3 years of ministry and the inception of a movement that would change the face of the known world forever. This movement was the way, the ongoing walking after the risen Christ in the power of His life. It was secured by the transformative reality of the empty tomb. No one was ready for what they encountered in the risen Christ. They had been warned, they had been told, they had been prepared over and over by the careful instruction of Christ Himself. But all of it faded into oblivion when the stone was rolled away. For what was revealed was a victory so profound that nothing else could ever have even come close. It stands supreme as the very centerpiece of human history, the resurrection of Jesus Christ is the single most important event in the whole of creation. Thus this day defines all of creation, for here the plan of God is revealed as the masterstroke of grace against the forces of evil. Here the mercy of God

triumphs in defeat, and the love of God flourishes in its own destruction... here all things come to the point of all creation, and that very simple point is this: God is a God of mercy and redeeming love... He has revealed His own nature and heart written across the universe in scarlet, unescapable, unassailable, unchangeable, uncompromising and absolutely unearned and un-earnable. He has revealed to us and in us the grandeur of Himself and it is **glorious** in our sight. This day let us consider together the victory of the Forerunner so that as we see His working, we might worship and praise His name and the wonders of His infinite love!

I. HOPE AN ANCHOR

in the midst of the greatest storms of life

Colossians 2.11-15

A. Emotional

1. Loss
2. Sorrow

3. Betrayal
4. Fear

B. Spiritual

1. Sin
2. Separation from God
3. Suffering for rebellion

C. Physical

1. Death
2. Suffering
3. Sickness

D. All were endured by Christ, all were overcome by His victory over the grave -

Colossians 2:15

¹⁵ Having disarmed principalities and powers, He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them in it.

II. SACRIFICE OF ATONEMENT OFFERED ONCE FOR ALL

A. No longer do we need the ongoing sacrifice for sin

Hebrews 7:27

²⁷ who does not need daily, as those high priests, to offer up sacrifices, first for His own sins and then for the people's, for this He did once for all when He offered up Himself.

B. There is no need for a continued sacrifice -

Hebrews 9:12

¹² Not with the blood of goats and calves, but with His own blood He entered the Most Holy Place once for all, having obtained eternal redemption.

C. There is no ongoing death of the mediator

Romans 6.5-11

D. But rather we have the promise of the eternal work ongoing of Christ AS our mediator, a role which belongs to Him alone. -

Hebrews 9.13-15

1 Timothy 2:5–6

⁵ For there is one God and one Mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus, ⁶ who gave Himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time,

E. There is no human priest ever needed again

Hebrews 8.1-6

F. There is no longer any barrier between us and God, there remains no need for further atonement or suffering to pay for sin

Ephesians 2.14-18

III. UNITED UNTO GOD FOREVER

A. We were separated from God by our sin

B. We have been restored to fellowship with Him

C. Beyond that wonderful reality, we have been adopted into the family of God

Romans 8.15-17

D. This is the will of God for us, it is not constrained by any, and is provided by the totality of the Triune God alone and complete

1. God the Father

- a) chose us according to His own pleasure
- b) agrees to accept the sacrifice on our behalf,
- c) He ordains all things to accomplish His purpose in us
- d) He will display His glory to the heavenly places as He fulfills the outworking of His plan

2. God the Son

- a) Agreed to become a man,

- b) Divesting Himself of His glory for our sake
- c) agreed to pay the price for the chosen
- d) He endured the wrath of God for our sin

3. God the Spirit

- a) Calls the chosen to life
- b) Imparts spiritual understanding in them so that they might see their sin and repent
- c) Seals them against the day of redemptions
- d) Works out the ongoing work of sanctification in their lives so that they might bring glory and honor to the Father and the Son as they are conformed to the image of the Son to the Glory of the Father forever.

E. There is no part of this work of redemption which is shared with any saint, false queen or other imagined helper. No demon has the power to disrupt the working of God, and He will NOT share His glory with another.

IV. ETERNAL PRIESTHOOD

The order of Melchizedek is a priesthood apart from bloodlines. Thus His human ancestry and parentage has NOTHING to do with his role or ability to accomplish it.

Hebrews 7.1-3

- A. He does not need an immaculate mother
- B. He does not need a title given by man
- C. He does not need the approval of pope, pastor or pedagogue
- D. He does not need the blessing of any man or institution of men
- E. He is the Son of God; High Priest of His own chosen people; His role is purchased by His own travail and guaranteed by the singular act of His own sovereign will. No man gives it to Him and No Man can usurp any part of His glory.

V. UNCHANGEABLE GUARANTOR –

A. Christ guarantees His promises by the reality of His own victory.

1Peter 1.3-5

B. He has triumphed over the grave and entered once for all into the presence of God.

C. He entered into this presence as an exalted man, the King of righteousness, who has triumphed over all the enemies of God and has won the victory on our behalf.

2Corinthians 2.14-16

D. This victory is guaranteed by His resurrection

1. Death defeated

1 Corinthians 15:54–57

⁵⁴ So when this corruptible has put on incorruption, and this mortal has put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written: “Death is swallowed up in victory.” ⁵⁵ “O Death, where is your

sting? O Hades, where is your victory?”⁵⁶ The sting of death is sin, and the strength of sin is the law.⁵⁷ But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

2. Payment accepted

Romans 4:23–25

²³ Now it was not written for his sake alone that it was imputed to him,²⁴ but also for us. It shall be imputed to us who believe in Him who raised up Jesus our Lord from the dead,²⁵ who was delivered up because of our offenses, and was raised because of our justification.

3. Eternal Life guaranteed

1 Corinthians 15:20–22

²⁰ But now Christ is risen from the dead, and has become the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.²¹ For since by man came death, by Man also came the resurrection of the dead.²² For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ all shall be made alive.

4. Adoption accomplished

Galatians 4:4–5

⁴ But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law, ⁵ to redeem those who were under the law, that we might receive the adoption as sons.

5. Homecoming secured

John 14:2–3

² In My Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. ³ And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also.

6. Strength for our days promised

Philippians 4:13

¹³ I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

1 Corinthians 15:10

¹⁰ But by the grace of God I am what I am, and His grace toward me was not in vain; but I labored more abundantly than they all, yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me.

7. Return a certainty - three times in the last chapter of Revelation Jesus promises His rapidly approaching return

Revelation 22:7

⁷ “Behold, I am coming quickly! Blessed is he who keeps the words of the prophecy of this book.”

Revelation 22:12–13

¹² “And behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward is with Me, to give to every one according to his work. ¹³ I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End, the First and the Last.”

Revelation 22:20–21

²⁰ He who testifies to these things says, “Surely I am coming quickly.” Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus! ²¹ The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen.

E. This is the power of Christ's resurrection and the hope of our souls. This is the anchor that binds us and gives us stability in the darkest of nights. It is the reality that God has assured us of in the rising of the Son and the hope of His coming. This is the promise that is for all who are found in Christ. This is our hope!