

Sunday, August 30, 2020

Three Sure Promises of Hope!

Series: Covid-19...23

Text: John 14 and Acts 1

Introduction:

What an amazing year 2020 has been. Not just Covid – 19, but numerous situations in the lives of many friends. Some have had surgeries – praise God for the successful ones and praying for recovery for others, extended family member being tested for cancer, Jeremy Crowe had a cousin die in an accident this last week; we all have family and friends that are being pressed.

1. I Will Prepare a Place for You:

John 13:36 – John 14:6

1.1) Have you ever felt that you had failed the Lord and there was no longer any hope?

Consider briefly the disciple Peter:

John 13:36 – 38 Luke 22:57, 58, 60

Mark 16:6 – 8, “*And he said to them, “Do not be alarmed. You seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has risen; he is not here. See the place where they laid him. (7) But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going before you to Galilee. There you will see him, just as he told you. (8) And they went out and fled from the tomb, for trembling and astonishment had seized them, and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.”*”

1.2) “*Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me.*” John 14:1 - 6

Jesus is addressing all the disciples including Peter; Jesus reveals that He is going to leave!

This causes anxiety in all of the disciples; but the word given to Peter surely caused greater anxiety in him. The key is “*Believe in God; believe also in me.*”

To believe I need to repent of lies that I have bought into; this is a progressive process. As we continue to walk in the truth more err is exposed in our thinking. Satan is the father of lies but Jesus said, “*I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.*”

1.3) Promise of Hope:

Notice some of the elements of the promise made by the Lord Jesus Christ:

vs. 2 - Father's house has many rooms.

vs. 2 - I go to prepare a place for you

vs. 3 - I will come again and take you to myself

vs. 3 - That where I am you may be also

vs. 6 - No one comes to the Father except through me

2. I Will Not Leave You as Orphans:

2.1) “*I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you.*” John 14:16 - 31 Here is the wonder and the mystery of the Trinity, the triune God!

vs. 16 - 20, “*And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another*

Helper, to be with you forever; (17) even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you. (18) I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. (19) Yet a little while and the world will see me no more, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. (20) In that day you will know that I am in the Father, and you are in me, and I in you.”

Romans 8:11, “*If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you.*”

Ephesians 1:13 – 14, “*In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, (14) who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.*”

2.2) “*And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever,*”

Helper – G3875 parakletos: summoned, called to one's side, esp. called to one's aid; one who pleads another's cause before a judge, an advocate; one who pleads another's cause with one, an intercessor; in the widest sense, a helper, succourer, aider, assistant

2.3) “*for he dwells with you and will be in you*”

You cannot be a Christian, a follower of the Lord Jesus Christ, and NOT have the Holy Spirit!

The Holy Spirit is WITH every believer!!!

The Holy Spirit is IN every believer!!!

We are NOT orphans in this world and in situations alone; the Holy Spirit is with and in every believer! The question I have to ask is, “*Am I following the leading of the Holy Spirit or am I walking in the flesh?*” Romans 8:1 - 4

3. This Same Jesus...: Acts 1:1 – 11

3.1) vs. 11, “*and said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.”*”

“This Jesus” ... not another one, or one like Jesus, but this very same Jesus; the one and only! See Matthew 24:15 - 27

3.2) The blessed hope... Titus 2:11 – 14, “*For the grace of God has appeared, bring salvation for all people, (12) training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age, (13) waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our God and Savior Jesus Christ, (14) who gave himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to purify for himself a people for his own possession who are zealous for good works.*”

3.3) Revelation 22:20 – 21 “*He who testifies to these things says, “Surely I am coming soon.” Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!*”

21 “*The grace of the Lord Jesus be with all. Amen*”

Conclusion: The Comforter Has Come

Frank Bottome, 1823 – 1894

William J. Kirkpatrick, 1838 – 1921