



Lord's Day Worship

May 10, 2020

Opening Scripture Reading & Prayer of Thanksgiving

Read or have someone in your home read Titus 2:11-14 aloud and then have an open time of prayer, giving thanks to the Lord for His goodness and mercy. After closing in prayer, you may begin to play the service audio or video from the church website.

Riverwood Family Greeting

The Myricks

A Mother's Day Message

Song of Praise

"To Christ the Lord Let Every Tongue"

Elder Greeting & Lord's Table

Mark Reed

Song of Praise

"Crown Him (Majesty)"

The Teaching of the Word

Credo – Part 14– “The Righteous Judge of All”

Songs of Response

"Revelation Song"

"Holy Holy Holy (Nicaea)"

Benediction

Read or have someone in your home read aloud Revelation 22:20-21

CREDO

- "I Believe" -

The Christian Faith in a Faithless World

Part 14

"The Righteous Judge of All"

10 May 2020

Introduction: The Disheartening Reality of Injustice

- In recent days, we have been reminded of the reality of injustice in our world through the situation in Georgia involving the killing of Ahmaud Arbery. Instances such as this call to mind the all too painful history of racial injustice throughout our (Southern) history. We are also reminded of the injustices faced by many of our brothers and sisters in Christ throughout the world, as well as those carried out by people allegedly in the name of Christ.

Eccl. 4:1—*Again I saw all the oppressions that are done under the sun. And behold, the tears of the oppressed, and they had no one to comfort them! On the side of their oppressors there was power, and there was no one to comfort them.*

Key Point: In a world filled with injustice, our great hope is the promise that Jesus Christ, the Righteous Judge, will _____ to set right all that is wrong and repay all according to their deeds.

THE APOSTLE'S CREED
I BELIEVE IN GOD THE FATHER ALMIGHTY
MAKER OF HEAVEN AND EARTH;
AND IN JESUS CHRIST
HIS ONLY SON OUR LORD,
WHO WAS CONCEIVED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT,
BORN OF THE VIRGIN MARY,
SUFFERED UNDER PONTIUS PILATE,
WAS CRUCIFIED, DIED & WAS BURIED,
HE DESCENDED TO THE DEAD,
ON THE THIRD DAY HE ROSE AGAIN
FROM THE DEAD
HE ASCENDED INTO HEAVEN,
AND IS SEATED AT THE RIGHT HAND OF GOD THE
FATHER ALMIGHTY;
FROM THERE HE SHALL COME TO JUDGE
THE LIVING AND THE DEAD.
I BELIEVE IN THE HOLY SPIRIT;
THE HOLY CATHOLIC CHURCH;
THE COMMUNION OF SAINTS;
THE FORGIVENESS OF SINS;
THE RESURRECTION OF THE BODY,
AND THE LIFE EVERLASTING.
AMEN.

The Work of the Son:

His Return

"The coming of the Lord Jesus frames the Christian hope." — Albert Mohler, The Apostle's Creed

"The fact that the glorified, holy Son of God could step through the door of heaven at any moment is intended by God to be the most pressing, incessant motivation for holy living and aggressive ministry (including missions, evangelism, and Bible teaching) and the greatest cure for lethargy and apathy."
—Renald Showers, Maranatha: Our Lord, Come!

- We believe that the Lord Jesus, who ascended into heaven, will return.**

Acts 1:9-11—⁹ And when he had said these things, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. ¹⁰ And while they were gazing into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, 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."

⇒ **Jesus will come first for His _____.**

- * The Lord will rapture the believers of this age into His presence before the beginning of the Day of the Lord.

1 Thess. 4:16-17—¹⁶ For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. ¹⁷ Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord.

- * We believe this because the church is promised protection from the day of God's wrath.

Rev. 2:10-11—¹⁰ Because you have kept my word about patient endurance, I will keep you from the hour of trial that is coming on the whole world, to try those who dwell on the earth. ¹¹ I am coming soon. Hold fast what you have, so that no one may seize your crown.

Titus 2:13—*waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ,*

⇒ **Those who dwell on the earth will undergo a period of time know as 'The _____ of the Lord.'**

Zeph. 1:14-15—¹⁴ The great day of the Lord is near, near and hastening fast; the sound of the day of the Lord is bitter; the mighty man cries aloud there. ¹⁵ A day of wrath is that day, a day of distress and anguish, a day of ruin and devastation, a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness,

⇒ **The Lord Jesus will return _____ to the earth to rule and reign as King of Kings and Lord of Lords.**

Rev. 19:11-16—¹¹ Then I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse! The one sitting on it is called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he judges and makes war. ¹² His eyes are like a flame of fire, and on his head are many diadems, and he has a name written that no one knows but himself. ¹³ He is clothed in a robe dipped in blood, and the name by which he is called is The Word of God. ¹⁴ And the armies of heaven, arrayed in fine linen, white and pure, were following him on white horses. ¹⁵ From his mouth comes a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations, and he will rule them with a rod of iron. He will tread the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God the Almighty. ¹⁶ On his robe and on his thigh he has a name written, King of kings and Lord of lords.

Key Point: The return of the Lord Jesus will serve to _____ both Him and His people before the unbelieving world!

His Judgements

- **We believe that the Lord Jesus will judge the living and the dead from all ages.**

Acts 10:42-43—⁴² And he commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one appointed by God to be judge of the living and the dead.

Acts 17:30-31—³⁰ The times of ignorance God overlooked, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent, ³¹ because he has fixed a day on which he will judge the world in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed; and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead."

⇒ **Jesus will judge believers of all ages according to their works for the purpose of _____.**

- * Church Age believers will be judged at the Judgment Seat of Christ in heaven following the rapture.

2 Cor. 5:9-10—⁹ So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. ¹⁰ For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive what is due for what he has done in the body, whether good or evil.

1 Cor. 3:11-15—¹¹ For no one can lay a foundation other than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. ¹² Now if anyone builds on the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw— ¹³ each one's work will become manifest, for the Day will disclose it, because it will be revealed by fire, and the fire will test what sort of work each one has done. ¹⁴ If the work that anyone has built on the foundation survives, he will receive a reward. ¹⁵ If anyone's work is burned up, he will suffer loss, though he himself will be saved, but only as through fire.

- * Believers from other ages will be judged on the earth at the 2nd Coming and at the conclusion of the Millennium.

Rev. 20:4—Then I saw thrones, and seated on them were those to whom the authority to judge was committed. Also I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded for the testimony of Jesus and for the word of God, and those who had not worshiped the beast or its image and had not received its mark on their foreheads or their hands. They came to life and reigned with Christ for a thousand years.

⇒ **Jesus will judge unbelievers according to their works for the purpose of _____.**

Rev. 20:11-15—¹¹ Then I saw a great white throne and him who was seated on it. From his presence earth and sky fled away, and no place was found for them. ¹² And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened. Then another book was opened, which is the book of life. And the dead were judged by what was written in the books, according to what they had done. ¹³ And the sea gave up the dead who were in it, Death and Hades gave up the dead who were in them, and they were judged, each one of them, according to what they had done. ¹⁴ Then Death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire. ¹⁵ And if anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.

Key Point: The reality that we will stand before the Lord Jesus should serve to _____ us that our lives are not our own and that we will be required to give an account of them.

Concluding Thoughts

1. **It is good and right for us to long for the coming Christ so that _____ might be done in the world.**

Isa. 11:4— but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.

Psalms 10:17-18—¹⁷ O Lord, you hear the desire of the afflicted; you will strengthen their heart; you will incline your ear ¹⁸ to do justice to the fatherless and the oppressed, so that man who is of the earth may strike terror no more.

"But as this day of judgment is dreadful to the ungodly, so to the godly it is no less desirable, and is most devoutly to be wished. Here [on earth] oppressed innocence sometimes languishes under the [slander] of the wicked, but there it shall be brought forth into light. There ...the wicked that once lived in luxury, now [are] delivered up to a just destruction, and [the godly] shall rejoice in the judgments of the Lord...[and] to them it will be a day of consummate felicity. The mouth of their accusers will be stopped. The Judge is their Friend, and Advocate, and Bridegroom; who was himself unjustly condemned." —Herman Witsius, Sacred Dissertations on the Apostle's Creed

2. **In our longing for God's justice, we must remember that we ourselves are _____ of it apart from Christ.**

Heb. 12:24— and [you have come] to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel.

⇒ **The blood of Abel cries out for God to _____! (Gen. 4:10)**

⇒ **The blood of Jesus cries out for God to _____! (Luke 23:34)**

Rom. 3:25-26—²⁵ whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God's righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins. ²⁶ It was to show his righteousness at the present time, so that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.