
Sermon Text Discussion 12/16/18

Far as the Curse Is Found

By Drew Hunter

Overview

Promise 1: Creational Flourishing

Promise 2: Physical Healing

Promise 3: Eternal Rejoicing

What Does This Mean for Advent?

What Does This Mean for Today?

Quotation

“Maybe you’ve lived your whole life with physical limitations. Maybe you’ve watched your parents, or a friend, or a child... suffer with physical limitations. Here’s the promise—the ten or twenty or seventy years that they live with this suffering—will give way not just to seventy years of flourishing, but an eternity of it. They will walk and run and sing and laugh forever.” Drew Hunter

“This is the message of Advent: We celebrate that Jesus has come, and he began to heal and bring our renewal. But he has delayed some promises as well; and we need to wait for his second coming for all to come to fruition.” Drew Hunter

Understanding & Application

1. Why is the idea of escaping physicality not true and consistent with Christian theology? What does Isaiah 35 say about creation?
2. What was God’s design for humanity? In what ways did Adam and Eve’s sin change creation and in what ways did they die?
3. How does God turn our brokenness into something good? Is it okay to acknowledge that our current world was not God’s original design?
4. Verse 8 talks about a highway that shall be called a Way of Holiness. It is symbolic, but where does this highway lead? How is this highway described in Verse 8, 9, and 10? How do we get on this highway? Hint: Two key words found at the end of Verse 9 and the beginning of Verse 10.
5. Who does the ransoming? Where else is this concept seen in scripture?
6. What does it mean that we live between the two comings of Jesus? Explain the phrase “already and not yet” and how it relates to many bible promises. How does this relate to John the Baptist and his wondering if Jesus was really the Messiah?
7. Examine Verse 4; it’s not just an encouragement to us as readers; it’s a command for us to encourage others. Who do you know who needs this hope most acutely this Advent? Who feels the ache of the brokenness of creation? Who is sighing with weariness from wandering in this wilderness. Who doesn’t know Jesus as their redeemer and needs to be invited onto “the way”? Why not share the meaning of Advent with them? Share Isaiah 35’s hope.