



JESUS: Our Hope- The Message of Prophets

1st Sunday of Advent

The World Needs Hope!

- **Every continent has numerous countries in turmoil**
- **Famine in Africa, Stabbings in Britain, Riots numerous places, live ammo**
- **God is showing us that all the world has to offer is like vapour**
- **Jesus is our Hope – Heb.6:16-20;**

Israel Needed Hope!

- **King Uzziah, King of hope reigned 52 years, died in disgrace – Isaiah 6**
- **Spiritually, people had turned from God**
- **Assyria was the growing world power**
- **God's prophets were telling the people that because of their sin, Assyria was coming and was going to over throw Israel, not Judea – Isa.7:13-25; Isa.8**

Israel Needed Hope!

- **Isaiah 9:1, 2 - Nevertheless, there will be no more gloom for those who were in distress. In the past he humbled the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the future he will honour Galilee of the Gentiles, by the way of the sea, along the Jordan- The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of the shadow of death a light has dawned.**

God Gave a Promise

- **Isaiah 9:6-7 - For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government shall be on his shoulder, and his shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and righteousness from this time forth and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD Almighty will accomplish this.**

God Gave a Promise

- **God gave the Promise of a Saviour to give hope in dark times**
- **Jesus spent most of his time in “Israel”**
- **To let us know he has not forgotten us**
- **Matt.4:12-16 - Jesus tells us He is the fulfillment of this passage**
- **How do we find the Hope in Christ promised by the prophets?**

Finding our Hope in Christ

1. Do a Spiritual Self-Examination

- Have you asked Jesus to be your Saviour?
- Ask God if there is a sin I need to confess.
- Ask what am I worried about?
 - Is there anything you can do about it?
- Am I looking at God or the problem? Put your hope in God, for I will yet praise him, my Saviour and my God! Ps.42:11

Finding our Hope in Christ

- **Ps.42, 43**
- 2. **What Spiritual disciplines do you need to make or remake a part of your life?**
- **V.4 remembering the faithfulness of God**
- **Bible Study; Scripture Memorization**
- **Quiet Meditation – Talking to God then waiting for an answer**

Finding our Hope in Christ

- **Ps.42, 43**
- 3. Make God the center of your life - 6,7**
- **Get out and enjoy nature**
- **God said, “It is good!” Failure to enjoy the gift of creation is an affront to the creator.**

Finding our Hope in Christ

- Ps.42, 43
- 4. Focus on God
- Stop focusing on World's talk, Listen to God – 43:3; Isa.7:2,4-7,9,17,21; Acts 4:23-31
- Focus on the promises of hope for the future - 43:4

Finding our Hope in Christ

- 1. Hope begins with a relationship with Jesus**
- 2. Hope helps us to look beyond the present circumstance to what is eternal Heb.10:23,34-39, 11:10,13, 26, 35**
- 3. Hope in the OT was for a Saviour. Hope in the NT is for a Conquering King. We know the end of the story.**
- 4. Hope in Christ is the anchor of our soul. Heb.6:19,20**