The Purpose of the Gospel -> Ambassadors

Dec 23, 2018 Oakbrook Community Church (PCA) 2 Cor 5:16-21; Mt 11:2-6; Rev 21:1-4; Rev 22:1-5; Eph 2:8-10 Pastor Mark W. Turner

Advent One: God's Story - Genesis to Revelation...

Advent Two: Two Perspectives: Power & Purpose of Gospel Advent 3: Gospel Power - thematically Eph 2:8-9; Col 1:27-29; 2:6-7

- God—eternal, all powerful, creator of everything
- **Sin**—humanity has all chosen self-rule over submission, in relationship, to God; the penalty for sin is death
- Jesus—God incarnate came to die as a substitute for the penalty of humanity's sins
- Faith—by faith in what Jesus did, not by any effort of our own, we are saved from our sins

Advent Four: Gospel Purpose – the Gospel as a Story lived out

- Gospel is <u>not</u> a one-time event, Gospel is past, present, future past - justification - we have been saved from the <u>penalty</u> of sin present - sanctification - we are being saved from <u>power</u> of sin future - glorification - we will be saved from the <u>presence</u> of sin
- Gospel power is in **Jesus Christ**. He came 1st Advent to call His people for the 2nd Advent: Rev 21:1-4; 22:1-5; Gal 2:16
- Our salvation is for a PRESENT purpose: Eph 2:8-10

Remember God's Story to see our Present Purpose:

Creation -> Fall -> Redemption -> Restoration

- We live between Redemption & Restoration
- How Shall We Then Live?
 - Jesus' Commission: Mt 28:18-20
 - Paul's explanation: 2 Cor 5:17-21
 - We are to start experiencing our future reality now and be ambassadors to those around us.
 - John the Baptist puzzled about kingdom living: Mt 11:2-6
 - Ask: 'what does kingdom living in Jesus look like?'
 - Living redeemed in the Gospel we show the world what Redeemed Relationships look like.

Apply & Think:

- Read Mt 11:2-6. How does that look today?
- Read Mt 28;18-20. How can YOU apply this?
- Read 2 Cor 5:16-21. How should that look for us?
- How do we as a church community get out into the world and rub shoulders with those we are called to be ambassadors to?

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