



Sunday, April 14, 2019

Pastor Don Denyes

Intro to 2 Timothy 2:8-9

2,000-plus years ago, Jesus rode into Jerusalem as a king. The crowds hailed Him, “Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!” (Matt. 21:9). To be sure, He was not the king that many of them had hoped for. And yet, by the beginning of the following week, He would prove to be a greater king than anyone ever could have imagined.

The title, “Christ,” which is used so frequently in the New Testament, means “anointed king”—specifically, the king whom God chose to rule on David’s throne forever. Sometimes, I fear these great and glorious truths can be lost on those of us who have been around the church for a while. The fact that Jesus is the Christ is the greatest news in the world! Kingdoms rise and fall, people set their hope on uncertain promises, life is full of chaos and disorder. And yet, Jesus is the Christ, the One whom God has appointed to rule over all things at the end of time. Not only that, but He proved this by His resurrection from the dead—a foretaste of what is to come for everyone who is “in Him.”

Context

In this section, Paul continues to develop themes already introduced in this letter. In the very beginning, Paul lays out that he is “an apostle of Christ Jesus...according to the promise of the life that is in Christ Jesus.” One of the main reasons for this is his own impending death (4:6). The hope of the resurrection looms large in a dying man’s mind. But it’s not just in terms of his death that the resurrection was so key for Paul, but also for his ministry. That is why he admonishes Timothy to “remember” that Jesus’ resurrection is at the heart of the gospel message—so that Timothy will likewise have the necessary motivation for faithfulness in ministry after Paul is gone.

Read and Reflect *(Use this section to write down any thoughts you had on the sermon. Make sure to note any questions you had about something in the passage or in the sermon.)*

Read 2 Timothy 2:8-9

“The Heart of the Gospel”

Remember Jesus Christ...

- Humanity
 - Raised to life – implies dying

 - Descended from David – truly human

- Divinity
 - Raised to life – implies death destroyed

 - Raised to life – sacrifice accepted

 - Descended from David – promises fulfilled

- Difficulty
 - Gospel accepted

 - Gospel brings suffering

Discuss

- 1) Pastor Don quoted John Stott as saying, “the Church has often forgotten Jesus Christ,” meaning we have a tendency to get pre-occupied with good, but non-essential things. What might those be?

- 2) What steps can we take as individuals, as a small group, as a church, to make sure that we “remember Jesus”?

- 3) Read Psalm 89:20-37. Why is the fact that Jesus is descended from David a comfort to those who are suffering?

- 4) For Paul and Timothy, there was significant risk involved in adhering to and preaching the gospel. What do we risk in our culture by doing the same?

- 5) The resurrection of Jesus from the dead (a foreshadowing of our own resurrection) is such a foundational element to the gospel according to Paul. How vivid is that hope in your mind?