

REDEMPTION

Two Lies and a Truth | We Have This Hope

ISAIAH 59:20-21

20 "And a Redeemer will come to Zion, to those in Jacob who turn from transgression," declares the Lord.

21 "And as for me, this is my covenant with them," says the Lord: **"My Spirit that is upon you, and my words that I have put in your mouth, shall not depart out of your mouth, or out of the mouth of your offspring, or out of the mouth of your children's offspring,"** says the Lord, **"from this time forth and forevermore."**

Ephesians 2:8-10

"For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them."

In our final week of the series, Steven recalls the bleak undertones of Isaiah 59 and encourages us with this truth: **WE STILL HAVE HOPE!**

"God's Word is as relevant today as the day it was written." Isaiah 59 is a perfect representation of this truth as it reminds us that when the church fails, culture will implode. As a result truth and justice can no longer be found. This passage has played out before our very eyes in today's world. However, the end of this chapter points us to a beautiful future-- a *hopeful* future. Steven walks us through three reasons we have hope according to Isaiah 59:20-21.

Notes:

Four Reasons for Hope

#1. I have hope in a sure Salvation.

"And a Redeemer will come to Zion..." (v20a)

- 800 years before Christ's arrival as a baby, Isaiah predicted it.
- This scripture was fulfilled through Christ's first coming as a baby. It is through Christ's birth in the manger, death on the cross, and resurrection from the dead, that we have been offered *salvation, redemption, and eternal life*.
- Our Salvation does not depend upon any work or gift we could offer, instead it is a free gift from God. (Romans 6:23; Ephesians 2:8-10)
- This scripture will be fulfilled once more when Christ returns to conquer Satan and begin the building of the New Heavens and the New Earth.
- Because Christ already came as a baby, we can be confident that He will come back again for His church. While we cannot be certain of WHEN He's coming back, our hope and desire is that when He returns, He will find us (His church) hard at work for His Kingdom. (Matthew 24:42; Hebrews 9:28; Revelation 3:11)

Hebrews 9:28

"So Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, **will appear a second time**, not to deal with sin but to save those who are eagerly waiting for him."

Acts 1:8

"**But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses** in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

Hebrews 4:12

"**For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword**, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart."

Now What?

Hebrews 6:19-20 says, "We have this as a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul, a hope that enters into the inner place behind the curtain, where Jesus has gone as a forerunner on our behalf, having become a high priest forever."

Because of this hope, we can live emboldened lives for Christ. We can speak the truth in love to a world that desperately needs to hear it. We can stand in confidence knowing that Jesus will return and reign forever.

#2. I have hope in the power of the Holy Spirit.

"And as for me, this is my covenant with them," says the Lord: "My Spirit that is upon you..." (v20a)

- Philippians 1:6 tells us that God is faithful to complete the 'good work' in us. How does he accomplish this? Through the unearned gift of His Holy Spirit.
- The Holy Spirit commissioned and empowered Christ's work and ministry. (Matthew 3:16-17)
- The Holy Spirit commissioned and empowered the church for its partnership in Christ's ministry. (Acts 2:1-4)
- The Holy Spirit commissions and empowers us individually as we partner with Christ and His ministry. (Acts 1:8; 1 Corinthians 12-14; Galatians 5:13-26)
- For further study on the work of the Holy Spirit check out our series on Acts [here](#).

#3. I have hope in the power of God's Word.

"...and my words that I have put in your mouth, shall not depart out of your mouth, or out of the mouth of your offspring, or out of the mouth of your children's offspring," says the Lord." (v21b)

- God's Word is alive and active. It tells us what did happen, what is happening, and what will happen all at the same time. Satan is trying to attack this truth right now by making us believe that God's Word has nothing to offer to our current situations. Hebrews 4:12 clearly contradicts this faulty thinking.

#4. I have hope in a church that will never die.

"...from this time forth and forevermore." (v21b)

- Since the church was formed, Satan has been trying to stop it. We see this in six chapters of Acts. Starting in Acts 3, Satan tries to use an incredible miracle (*the healing of the lame beggar*) to bring charges against Peter and John, who were then arrested and put into custody. In Acts 5, the government officials charge Peter and John to no longer preach the name of Jesus. In Acts 7, one of the leaders of the church is assassinated. In Acts 8, there is a launch of persecution against the church. Despite Satan's deliberate attacks, nothing could stop God's church from accomplishing His plan.
- Why do we have hope that His church will never die? Because...

1. Jesus planted it.

2. The Holy Spirit empowers it.

3. The Word instructs it.

4. God's people operate it.