

Great Expectations

Behold, I have Come
Psalm 40:1-10
December 8, 2019

Then I said, “Behold, I have come; in the scroll of the book it is written of me: I delight to do your will, O my God; your law is within my heart.” - **Psalm 40:7-8**

I. UP FROM THE PIT

- Past deliverances give us hope for future grace (vss. 1-3; Job 19:25-27; Heb. 12:1-3).
- Our God saves people. That very fact is a witness to a watching world (vs. 3; John 10:25).
- An experience of God’s saving work leads naturally to:
 1. Heartfelt worship (vss. 4-6)
 2. Joyful obedience (vss. 7-8)
 3. Glad witness (vss. 9-10)

II. SWEEPING THE SHADOW AWAY

- The Old Testament sacrificial system was never a means to finally expiate sins (vs. 6; Ps. 50:7-23, 51:16-19; Prov. 14:9; Isa. 1:11-17; Hos. 6:6; Col. 1:21-22, 2:16-17; Heb. 10:8-10).
- It is in Christ that our hope for salvation and the forgiveness of sins lay. No other system or name will suffice (Acts 4:11-12; Col. 1:21-22, 2:16-17).

III. THE REVELATION OF THE SUBSTANCE

- The law was a shadow — Jesus is the substance (Heb. 10:1).
- King David “delighted” to do God’s will, but was a failure at delivering on his delight, as are we all (vs. 8; 2 Sam. 11-12; Rom. 7:21-24).
- David’s words are Jesus’ words — fulfilled. David’s desire is Jesus’ desire — fulfilled (Heb. 10:5-7).
- In the Incarnation, God “prepared” a body for Jesus. In and through the Incarnation fulfillment, salvation, and ultimate hope were accomplished. All of this was written of Jesus “in the scroll of the book” (vss. 6-8; Luke 24:25-27).

KNOW: The Psalms are the songbook of Israel, and the songs of Jesus the Messiah. God made a body for Jesus, and in the body he came to do the will of his Father. God’s deliverance came through Jesus, and has not been hidden from us.

DO: Speak openly of the truth that Christ has come!

Suggested Reading:

Let the Nations Be Glad by John Piper (LifePoint Library #264 PIP).

Questions/Discovery Points for Life Groups/Families

Please Read Psalm 40:1-10

1. What comes to your mind as you read Psalm 40:1-10? Emotional response? Intellectual response?
2. Have you had an experience with the Lord drawing you up from the pit? What was that like?
3. Prior to Sunday’s message, had you considered Psalm 40 as a messianic psalm? Talk about how it points to Jesus (see Heb. 10:5-7).
4. Have you, in any way, hidden God’s deliverance in your own life? How can you make it known?
5. Are you doing anything intentional this Advent season to focus on Christ’s Incarnation?
6. What are your take-a-ways from Sunday’s message?