

O God, Our Hope and Helper



Big Idea Goal

That Mercy Hill Church would be made new as we follow the One who is making all things new!



Sermon Text

Psalm 90



Big Idea

God is our only hope and help. There are no other anchors save the Eternal God. None could ever suffice, save our Master, Jesus, who gave himself up for our trespasses and was raised for our justification

God the Eternal (vs 1-2)

Despite the vicissitudes of life, Moses has never been homeless. Why? The thirst for location, for home, really for security is quenched in communion with God. Why? Because God is the ultimate place of security. Deut 34:26 says "The eternal God is your dwelling place, and underneath are the everlasting arms." All of this points to the truth that God is never disengaged from us. For God to be a trusted place of security, he cannot be vulnerable to the transient nature of life nor the brevity of life. Moses addresses this in verse 2

The Mortality of Man (vs 3-6)

For all of our exploits, and all that we strive for, we are furnished with a time fuse that will eventually burn out. When you set the longest human life in comparison to God, it is nothing at all. Not anything more than dust. And all this brutal realism is to make us embrace things as they really are, to make us see our need for God. On the other hand, the brevity of our lives as set against the eternity of God should comfort us as regards to God's plan, his interventions and their timings as expressed in 2 Peter 3:8-9. However, why is our life comparatively brief when set against the eternity of God?

The Problem of Sin & the Wrath of God (vs 7-11)

Sin lies at the core of the brevity of mankind. God is light, in whom no darkness can nor does exist in him. And so his wrath is his consistent expression of holiness in response to Sin. Not only is life short, it is spent in toil. If we had any sense of things, the extent of our fear of God, will be commensurate to the extent of God's wrath at Sin. And so with no hope, we are forced to look beyond ourselves to the only One who could help us - the coming Messiah

God, Our Hope and Helper (vs 12-17)

We are altogether helpless before God but we are not hopeless. We are in fact the closest to God's grace, when by his grace, we come to recognize our desperate need for Him. While it is true that God is angry, Moses also knows that it is God's nature to be compassionate and gracious as expressed. In light of the problem of sin and the wrath of the Holy One, what is our lasting hope? God responds by giving us his son as an eternal sacrifice so that the divide between the eternal God and mortal humans is bridged. Hallelujah, Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord



Homework

- Meditate on Psalm 90 and/or Luke 18:10-14. Read it a couple times a day, for a couple weeks. Sit with it and chew on its words
- Do you consider the wrath of God against Sin and the sacrifice of Christ? If not, reflect on this and see how God is both your Judge and Defender
- Make reflection on yourself a mainstay in your relationship with God. Consider the exercise below as an example
- Memento Mori is a latin phrase that means "remember you must die," so imagine you are dead, and your funeral is being held. The real question at funerals is "who was this person?" It is never about accomplishments or potentials or 10 year goals.
- Compare and contrast your traits (positive and negative) to the person you aspire to be. If you are like me, there is an unhealthy gap between these two persons. Take it to God and let it be a discussion point