

WORSHIPING ON THE LORD'S DAY

December 30, 2012

Worship, as God intended, is a supernatural event. As we enter into this service of worship, we cross the threshold of the secular to the sacred, from the common to the uncommon, from the profane to the holy. Prepare yourself therefore for this most holy convocation!

Prelude

Worship Theme

God is Majestic

Exodus 15:3-7a: "The Lord is a warrior; the Lord is His name. Pharaoh's chariots and his army He has cast into the sea; and the choicest of his officers are drowned in the Red Sea. The deeps cover them; they went down into the depths like a stone. Thy right hand, O Lord, is majestic in power, Thy right hand, O Lord, shatters the enemy. And in the greatness of Thine excellence Thou dost overthrow those who rise up against Thee..."

God Calls us to Worship Before the Cross Ps. 68:32-35

+We Adore Him

Hymn #296, "All Hail The Power Of Jesus' Name"

We Confess Our Sin

Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Maker of all things, Judge of all men; we acknowledge and confess our many sins, which we have committed by thought, word, and deed, against Your divine majesty. We do earnestly repent, and are heartily sorry for these our wrongs. The remembrance of them is grievous to us. Have mercy upon us; have mercy upon us, most merciful Father. For Your Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, forgive us all that is past, and grant that we may ever hereafter, serve and please You in newness of life, to the honor and glory of Your name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

We Thank Him For His Forgiveness

Hymn #169, "My Heart Doth Overflow" *From Psalm 45:1-10*

God Calls us to Worship Thru Dedication Ps. 68:19-20

We Give Him Our Offering & Concerns

We Give Him Ourselves

Hymn #323, "Ten Thousand Times Ten Thousand"

God Calls us to Worship Thru Fellowship Ps. 68:34-35

We Read His Word

Sermon

*We Partake Of The Lord's Supper

Hymn #431, "A Parting Hymn We Sing"

God Blesses us in the Benediction

Welcome and Announcements

Postlude

(Containers have been placed in the back for communion cups and small trash)

+You are invited to raise your hands during the prayer of adoration.

*Visitors, please see note below on the Lord's Supper.

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Welcome to Bethel Presbyterian Church! To all who are spiritually weary and seek rest; to all who mourn and long for comfort; to all who struggle and desire victory; to all who sin and need a Savior; to all who are strangers and want fellowship; to all who hunger and thirst after righteousness; and to whomsoever will come-- this church opens wide her doors and offers welcome in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.

We invite you to **sign** the attendance card in your bulletin and drop it in the offering. You are invited to stay for **Sunday School** which begins at 11:30.

REGARDING THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

The Lord's Supper is for baptized believers who are in good standing in a Christian church (that is, not harboring unrepentant sin, not under any discipline of the church, and attending worship services faithfully). As fellow believers, we welcome you to participate in this New Covenant sacrament with us.

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

In preparation for next week's worship (Theme:), please use the following hymns in your personal and/or family devotions this coming week: #s .

The Preface to Heaven, Pt. 4
Select
Study Notes for December 30, 2012

I. Introduction

II. The Preface to Heaven, Select.

1. A General Introduction
2. The Signs of the Times

3. **The Intermediate State, Select.**
 - a. **What is it? Jam. 2:26**

The Intermediate State refers to that time when our souls are separated from our bodies- which is a very important distinction in light of the false doctrine of soul sleep...

It is important to keep in mind that while the Bible frequently represents DEATH as sleep, never does it say that the departed soul is asleep. Rather, according to scripture, the dead in Christ are quite active...

b. Is it something for which we should long? Rom. 6:23

From all of this we conclude death is unnatural! And because death is unnatural so we conclude that the Intermediate State is an unnatural existence (2 Cor. 5:4). And thus, we should be scandalized by death; we should grieve over it, and we properly should dread it!

c. When the Intermediate State begins, will be there the possibility of repentance? Heb. 9:27-28

When physical death does occur in the life of an individual, they are immediately judged- which is a very important truth in light of the false doctrine of purgatory...

d. What then becomes of the sinner before God?

1. The Believer, Lk. 23:42-43.

Though at death the child of God is separated from his body and has yet to enter the final state, from this text we learn that the Intermediate State for the Believer means entering into “paradise.”

We are going to talk about this in greater detail at some other time; for now behold what the Believer who has died in Christ is presently doing...

2. The Non-Believer, 2 Pet. 2:4-9.

Until the Final Judgment, those who have died outside of Christ are kept under punishment until the Day of Judgment.

But it needn't be that way for any listening to me this morning...