

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2018

MORNING MESSAGE

“What If Jesus Had Never Been Born – There Would Be No Hope”

Luke 2:36-38

INTRODUCTION

- A. A woman named Anna
 - 1. She was a wonderful woman (vv.36-37a)
 - 2. She was a working woman (v.37b)
 - 3. She was a waiting woman v.38
- I. THE DEFINITION OF HOPE
 - A. The world has a definition of hope
 - 1. Webster says hope is “a feeling that what is wanted will happen”; an optimistic feeling
 - B. The Word has a definition of hope
 - 1. The Greek word is found 52 times in the New Testament
 - a. Romans 8:24, “For we are saved by hope: but hope that is seen is not hope: for what a man seeth, why doth he yet hope for?”
 - b. Colossians 1:27, “Christ in you, the hope of glory”
 - c. 1 Timothy 1:1, “Lord Jesus Christ, which is our hope”
 - d. Titus 2:13, “Looking for the blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Savior Jesus Christ”
 - 2. The Greek word means “a confident expectation”
- II. THE DIMENSION OF HOPE
 - A. There is a past hope
 - 1. People were looking for hope in the Old Testament
 - a. Job 7:6, “My days are swifter than a weaver’s shuttle, and are spent without hope”
 - b. Ezekiel 37:11, “Our bones are dried, and our hope is lost”
 - 2. People were looking for hope in the New Testament
 - a. Simeon and Anna in Luke 2 represent all the men and women
 - B. There is a present hope
 - 1. Where do you find hope today?
 - a. Psalm 46:1, “God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble”
 - C. There is a prospective hope
 - 1. If you are a child of God, you have something to look forward to
- III. THE DECLARATION OF HOPE
 - A. How do you get the kind of hope the Bible speaks of?
 - 1. Revelation 3:20, “Behold, I stand at the door and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him”
 - 2. Colossians 1:27, “Christ in you, the hope of glory”