



Christmas @ Calvary Advent Week #1: HOPE The Most Hope-Filled Invitation to Us from God Pastor Ryan Bunbury December 3, 2023

SERIES TEXT: For a child is born to us, a son is given to us. The government will rest on his shoulders. And he will be called: Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Isaiah 9:6 NLT

SERIES BIG IDEA: God gave the greatest gift in giving us Jesus.

The Most Hope-Filled Invitation to Us from God

Message to the Church in Laodicea

Revelation 3:14-22 (King James Version)

- 14) And unto the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write; These things saith the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of the creation of God;
- 15) I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot.
- 16) So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth.
- 17) Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked:
- 18) I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich: and white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and that the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see.
- 19) As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and REPENT.
- 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, and will sup with him, and he with me.
- 21) To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne.
- 22) He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.

What is the most hope-filled invitation to us from God?

- ◆ Respond to the
- ◆ Everlasting Father's
- ◆ Plea
- ◆ Encouraging
- ◆ None to perish, and
- ◆ Turn back to God

To the Church in Laodicea

Revelation 3:14-22 (New International Version)

- 14) "To the angel of the church in Laodicea write: These are the words of the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the ruler of God's creation.
- 15) I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot. I wish you were either one or the other!
- 16) So, because you are lukewarm – neither hot nor cold – I am about to spit you out of my mouth.
- 17) You say, 'I am rich; I have acquired wealth and do not need a thing.' But you do not realize that you are wretched, pitiful, poor, blind and naked.

18) I counsel you to buy from me gold refined in the fire, so you can become rich; and white clothes to wear, so you can cover your shameful nakedness; and salve to put on your eyes, so you can see.

19) Those whom I love I rebuke and discipline. So be earnest, and REPENT.

20) Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door. I will come in and eat with him, and he with me.

21) To him who overcomes, I will give the right to sit with me on my throne, just as I overcame and sat down with my Father on his throne.

22) He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.”

What is the most hope-filled invitation to us from God?

- ◆ Renounce
- ◆ Evil
- ◆ Practices
- ◆ Excusing
- ◆ None, and
- ◆ Turn back to God

Christ's Letter to Laodicea

Revelation 3:14-22 (The Passion Translation)

14) Write the following to the messenger of the congregation in Laodicea, for these are the words of the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the ruler of God's creation:

15) I know all that you do, and I know that you are neither frozen in apathy nor fervent with passion. How I wish you were either one or the other!

16) But because you are neither cold nor hot, but lukewarm, I am about to spit you from my mouth.

17) For you claim, "I'm rich and getting richer – I don't need a thing." Yet you are clueless that you're miserable, poor, blind, barren, and naked!

18) So I counsel you to purchase gold perfected by fire, so that you can be truly rich. Purchase a white garment to cover and cloth your shameful Adam-nakedness. Purchase eye salve to be placed over your eyes so that you can truly see.

19) All those I dearly love I unmask and train. So REPENT and be eager to pursue what is right.

Repent / μετανοέω | metanoéō:

to change your mind; to feel sorry for your sin and turn with apology to God

20) Behold, I'm standing at the door, knocking. If your heart is open to hear my voice and you open the door within, I will come in to you and feast with you, and you will feast with me.

21) And to the one who conquers I will give the privilege of sitting with me on my throne, just as I conquered and sat down with my Father on his throne.

22) The one whose heart is open let him listen carefully to what the Spirit is saying now to the churches.

What is the most hope-filled invitation to us from God?

Jesus

Dear Jesus: I repent of my sin. Please be my Savior and Lord. In Jesus' Name, Amen