



Beyond the Sermon

A Sermon Application Guide

Title: Hope of the Future (The Full Story of Jesus pt 5)

This guide offers a simple tool for those wanting to take the next step with Sunday's message. You can print this guide to study on your own or use it in a group and experience transformation together.

Message Theme

The End and Things to Come

Prayer Focus

Father, thank You for the promise of spending eternity with You. Your plan for how things will play out fills me with hope. I'm grateful for Jesus' sacrifice, which saved me and ensured my place in Your eternal Kingdom. Please help me live with faith and courage, trusting in Your perfect design for the future. In Jesus' name, amen.

Key Truths

Discussing end times is necessary because Jesus is coming back, and our hope lies in His return. First, He'll come *for* the Church, then He'll come *with* the Church. When He does, He'll rule and reign with the faithful for a thousand years. After this millennial reign, the Lord will destroy everything and create a new Heaven and Earth. In the beginning, humanity deviated from God's design, and in the end, we'll return to His original intent: God dwelling on Earth with His people.

A judgment day will come when Christ returns and rights every wrong. The truth is, when we die, we'll be carried somewhere very real. Heaven isn't merely a state of mind but a tangible place filled with people, all made in the image of the Father who created them. Every believer who died before us will be waiting to greet us joyfully.

When we ponder Heaven, we know everything truly important will be there: the Triune God, our inheritance, our eternal rewards, our brothers and sisters in Christ, and so much more. God will restore our bodies, and we'll find ourselves in the company of the elite. There'll be no death, pain, or sickness. It'll be absolute perfection.

Practical Application

Talking about the end times might seem intimidating or overwhelming. Still, we can find hope by knowing how the story ends. God's plan and design for us require faith and trust. Keep walking in the direction of Christ, pursue Him, and hold on to hope for the future.

Reference Verses

- Titus 2:13
- 1 Thessalonians 1:9-10, 4:13-18
- Romans 5:9
- Luke 21:36
- Jude 1:14-15
- Zechariah 14:4-9
- Psalms 110:5-6, 9:7-8, 78:24-25
- Revelation 20:1-10, 21:1-6
- Philippians 3:11, 3:20-21
- Daniel 2:44-45, 12:11-12
- 2 Peter 3:10-13
- Ecclesiastes 3:11
- Hebrews 12:9, 11:16
- John 14:2-3

Declarations

My hope is in the return of Christ, who will reign forever.
Heaven is my eternal home, where I'll dwell with God in peace and joy.
I'll walk by faith, trusting God's perfect plan for the future.

What's Next?

This week's sermon reminds us that our future with Christ is not just a distant hope but a present reality that should shape how we live today. By embracing this eternal perspective, we can live with purpose, share our faith boldly, and stay connected to a strong community of believers. Here's how you can put this message into action:

1. Live with Eternity in Mind

Our hope in Christ is not just for the future—it should influence our daily lives. Prioritizing your relationship with God is key. Set aside time for prayer, Bible reading, and worship, allowing these spiritual disciplines to strengthen your faith. Invest in eternal things by focusing on meaningful relationships, serving others, and sharing the Gospel. Let your decisions reflect your eternal values, ensuring that your choices align with God's Word and the hope of heaven.

2. Share the Hope

The return of Jesus and the promise of a glorious future is good news that the world needs to hear. Be intentional about sharing your faith—talk to friends and family about what you've learned and how it has impacted your life. Invite others to church or encourage them to watch the sermon online, so they too can experience this message of hope. Use social media as a platform to spread the Gospel by sharing Bible verses, sermon insights, or personal reflections that inspire and encourage others.

3. Stay Connected

Faith is a journey best walked alongside others. Surround yourself with a strong community that will encourage and challenge you to grow spiritually. Join a small group or Bible study to build relationships with other believers and receive support through prayer and accountability. Stay engaged with your church by utilizing resources like WhatsApp - 616-370-2404. Keep learning and growing by attending church regularly, reading Christian books, and listening to uplifting sermons or podcasts.

By taking these steps, you can actively apply this message to your life and experience the transformative power of living with an eternal mindset. As you grow in faith, share the hope of Christ, and stay connected to a community of believers, you will find strength, encouragement, and purpose in every season of life. Keep pressing forward with confidence, knowing that your future with Christ is secure!

Scripture References

Hope of the Future

Titus 2:13 NKJV ...looking for the blessed hope...

Titus 2:13 NKJV ...looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ...

1 Thessalonians 1:10 NKJV and to wait for His Son from heaven, whom He raised from the dead, even Jesus who delivers us from the wrath to come.

1 Thessalonians 1:10 NKJV ...even Jesus who delivers us from the wrath to come.

1 Thessalonians 4:13-14 NKJV But I do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning those who have fallen asleep, lest you sorrow as others who have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who sleep in Jesus.

1 Thessalonians 4:15-18 NKJV For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord will by no means precede those who are asleep. For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord. Therefore comfort one another with these words.

Romans 5:9 TPT For through the blood of Jesus, we have heard the powerful declaration, "You are now righteous in my sight." And because of the sacrifice of Jesus, you will never experience the wrath of God.

Philippians 3:11 NKJV ...if, by any means, I may attain[a] to the resurrection from the dead.

Luke 21:36 NKJV Watch therefore, and pray always that you may be counted worthy to escape all these things that will come to pass, and to stand before the Son of Man."

Jude 14-15 NKJV Now Enoch, the seventh from Adam, prophesied about these men also, saying, "Behold, the Lord comes with ten thousands of His saints, to execute judgment on all, to convict all who are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have committed in an ungodly way, and of all the harsh things which ungodly sinners have spoken against Him."

Zechariah 14:4 NKJV And in that day His feet will stand on the Mount of Olives, Which faces Jerusalem on the east. And the Mount of Olives shall be split in two...

Zechariah 14:5 NKJV Thus the Lord my God will come, And all the saints with You.

Psalms 110:5-6 NKJV The Lord is at Your right hand; He shall execute kings in the day of His wrath. He shall judge among the nations, He shall fill the places with dead bodies, He shall execute the heads of many countries.

Psalms 9:7-8 NKJV But the Lord shall endure forever; He has prepared His throne for judgment. He shall judge the world in righteousness, And He shall administer judgment for the peoples in uprightness.

Revelation 20:1-7 NKJV Then I saw an angel coming down from heaven, having the key to the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. He laid hold of the dragon, that serpent of old, who is the Devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years; and he cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal on him, so that he should deceive the nations no more till the thousand years were finished. But after these things he must be released for a little while. The Saints Reign with Christ 1,000 Years And I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and judgment was committed to them. Then I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded for their witness to Jesus and for the word of God, who had not worshiped the beast or his image, and had not received his mark on their foreheads or on their hands. And they lived and reigned with Christ for a thousand years. But the rest of the dead did not live again until the thousand years were finished. This is the first resurrection. Blessed and holy is he who has part in the first resurrection. Over such the second death has no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with Him a thousand years. Satan's Rebellion Crushed Now when the thousand years have expired, Satan will be released from his prison...

Philippians 3:11 Weymouth ...In the hope that I may attain to the resurrection from among the dead.

Zechariah 14:9 NKJV And the Lord shall be King over all the earth.

Daniel 2:44 NKJV And in the days of these kings the God of heaven will set up a kingdom which shall never be destroyed; and the kingdom shall not be left to other people; it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand forever.

Isaiah 65:25 NKJV The wolf and the lamb shall feed together,
The lion shall eat straw like the ox,
And dust *shall be* the serpent's food.
They shall not hurt nor destroy in all My holy mountain,"
Says the LORD.

2 Peter 3:10 NKJV But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away...

2 Peter 3:10 NKJV But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up.

2 Peter 3:11 NKJV Therefore, since all these things will be dissolved, what manner of persons ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness...

2 Peter 3:12-13 NKJV ... looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be dissolved, being on fire, and the elements will melt with fervent heat? Nevertheless we, according to His promise, look for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells.

Daniel 12:11-12 NKJV "And from the time that the daily sacrifice is taken away, and the abomination of desolation is set up, there shall be one thousand two hundred and ninety days. Blessed is he who waits, and comes to the one thousand three hundred and thirty-five days."

Revelation 21:1 NKJV Now I saw a new heaven and a new earth...

Revelation 21:2 NKJV Then I, John, saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

Revelation 21:3-5 NKJV And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, "Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them and be their God. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away." Then He who sat on the throne said, "Behold, I make all things new." And He said to me, "Write, for these words are true and faithful."

Psalms 78:24-25 NKJV REF ...and had rained down manna upon them to eat, and had given them of the corn of heaven. Man did eat angels' food: he sent them meat to the full.

Revelation 21:1 NKJV Now I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away...