

THE CLARION OF THE NEW CREATION

Heb 1:1-3

Banska Bystrica, 27th March 2016

Πολυμερῶς καὶ πολυτρόπως πάλαι ὁ θεὸς λαλήσας τοῖς πατράσιν ἐν τοῖς προφήταις ² ἐπ' ἐσχάτου τῶν ἡμερῶν τούτων ἐλάλησεν ἡμῖν ἐν υἱῷ, ὃν ἔθηκεν κληρονόμον πάντων, δι' οὗ καὶ ἐποίησεν τοὺς αἰῶνας· ³ ὃς ὢν ἀπαύγασμα τῆς δόξης καὶ χαρακτήρ τῆς ὑποστάσεως αὐτοῦ, φέρων τε τὰ πάντα τῷ ῥήματι τῆς δυνάμεως αὐτοῦ, καθαρισμὸν τῶν ἁμαρτιῶν ποιησάμενος ἐκάθισεν ἐν δεξιᾷ τῆς μεγαλωσύνης ἐν ὑψηλοῖς,

Heb 1:1-3 Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, ² but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world. ³ He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power. After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high...

Ephesians 1:16 οὐ παύομαι εὐχαριστῶν ὑπὲρ ὑμῶν μνεῖαν ποιούμενος ἐπὶ τῶν προσευχῶν μου, ¹⁷ ἵνα ὁ θεὸς τοῦ κυρίου ἡμῶν Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ, ὁ πατὴρ τῆς δόξης, δώῃ ὑμῖν πνεῦμα σοφίας καὶ ἀποκαλύψεως ἐν ἐπιγνώσει αὐτοῦ, ¹⁸ πεφωτισμένους τοὺς ὀφθαλμοὺς τῆς καρδίας [ὑμῶν] εἰς τὸ εἰδέναι ὑμᾶς τίς ἐστὶν ἡ ἐλπίς τῆς κλήσεως αὐτοῦ, τίς ὁ πλοῦτος τῆς δόξης τῆς κληρονομίας αὐτοῦ ἐν τοῖς ἁγίοις, ¹⁹ καὶ τί τὸ ὑπερβάλλον μέγεθος τῆς δυνάμεως αὐτοῦ εἰς ἡμᾶς τοὺς πιστεύοντας κατὰ τὴν ἐνέργειαν τοῦ κράτους τῆς ἰσχύος αὐτοῦ. ²⁰ Ἦν ἐνήργησεν ἐν τῷ Χριστῷ ἐγείρας αὐτὸν ἐκ νεκρῶν καὶ καθίσας ἐν δεξιᾷ αὐτοῦ ἐν τοῖς ἐπουρανίοις ²¹ ὑπεράνω πάσης ἀρχῆς καὶ ἐξουσίας καὶ δυνάμεως καὶ κυριότητος καὶ παντὸς ὀνόματος ὀνομαζομένου, οὐ μόνον ἐν τῷ αἰῶνι τούτῳ ἀλλὰ καὶ ἐν τῷ μέλλοντι. ²² καὶ πάντα ὑπέταξεν ὑπὸ τοὺς πόδας αὐτοῦ καὶ αὐτὸν ἔδωκεν κεφαλὴν ὑπὲρ πάντα τῇ ἐκκλησίᾳ, ²³ ἣτις ἐστὶν τὸ σῶμα αὐτοῦ, τὸ πλήρωμα τοῦ τὰ πάντα ἐν πάσιν πληρουμένου.

Eph 1:16-23 I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, ¹⁷ that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him, ¹⁸ having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, ¹⁹ and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the working of his great might ²⁰ that he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, ²¹ far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come. ²² And he put all things under his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church, ²³ which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

OUTLINE

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0. INTRO: JESUS' RESURRECTION AND "THE END OF THE WORLD"

- "Clarion" – A shrill-sounding trumpet with a narrow tube, formerly much used as a signal in war.

0.1. THE END OF THE AGES

- *THIS WORLD* is *NOT GOD'S ULTIMATE PLAN* → the Crucifixion of the Creating
- ...the problem of *THE END*: extremes → (1) the resurrection has already happened [Hymenaeus and Philetus 2Tim 2:18] (2) the "no-end of the world" mockery [2Pt 3:3], (3) the end-times scare, (4) the hope of no-problem salvation for the whole world as-it-is-now.
- **1Cor 10:11** ...written down for our instruction, on whom the end of the ages has come (τὰ τέλη τῶν αἰώνων κατήντηκεν).
- **1John 2:18** Children, it is the last hour...

0.2. THE CRUCIFIXION AND THE END OF THE OLD CREATION

- **Rom 5:18-19** Therefore, as one trespass led to condemnation for all men, so one act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all men.¹⁹ For as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.
- **2Cor 5:14** ...one has died for all, therefore all have died;
- Mt 27:45; Mk 15:33; Lk 23:44; "The cosmic blackness hints at the deep judgment that was taking place"
- **Col 1:18** He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent.
- **Rev 1:5** ...Jesus Christ the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of kings on earth.

1. THE CALL TO BELIEVE

- **Rom 1:1-4** ...the gospel of God, ²which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy Scriptures, ³concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh ⁴and was declared to be the Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness by his resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord,

- Meet Jesus *ALIVE!* (the gospel of Mark with the shorter ending)

1.1. THE CROSS

- the ultimate *offence* → **1Cor 1:23** ...we preach **Christ crucified**, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles,
- the ultimate *power* → **1Cor 1:24** ...but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God

1.2. THE RESURRECTION VANTAGE POINT

- Acts 17 (the Resurrection in Athens) → **1Cor 2 (2:2)** ...I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified → was Paul's preaching in Athens flawed?
 - **Acts 23:6** "Brothers, I am a Pharisee, a son of Pharisees. It is with respect to the hope and the resurrection of the dead that I am on trial."
 - **Acts 24:15** having a hope in God, which these men themselves accept, that there will be a resurrection of both the just and the unjust.
 - **Acts 24:21** "It is with respect to the resurrection of the dead that I am on trial before you this day."

2. THE CALL TO HOPE

- **2Pt 3:11-13** Since all these things are thus to be dissolved, what sort of people ought you to be in lives of holiness and godliness, ¹²waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set on fire and dissolved, and the heavenly bodies will melt as they burn! ¹³But according to his promise we are waiting for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells.

- Experience the new creation through *REGENERATION!* → **Eph 1:19** ...greatness of his **power** toward us who believe, according to the working of his great might ²⁰that he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead – **1John 5:4** For everyone who has been born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world- our faith. – **Rom 6:9-11** ⁹We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. ¹⁰For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God. ¹¹So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

2.1. JESUS, THE FIRSTBORN

- the Mount of Transfiguration → the Mount of Ascension
- **Rom 8:29** For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers.
- **1John 3:2** Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when **he** appears we will be like him, because we shall see him **as he is**.

2.2. BE WAITING!

- **Heb 9:28** ...Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to deal with sin but to save those who are eagerly waiting for him.
- **Titus 2:12-13** ...to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age, ¹³ waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ,
- **Phil 3:20** But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ,...
- **Rom 8:23** we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies.
 - **Luke 12:35-37** "Stay dressed for action and keep your lamps burning, ³⁶ and be like men who are waiting for their master to come home from the wedding feast, so that they may open the door to him at once when he comes and knocks. ³⁷ Blessed are those servants whom the master finds awake when he comes. Truly, I say to you, he will dress himself for service and have them recline at table, and he will come and serve them.
 - Lk 19 – the talents

3. THE CALL TO TAKE SIDES

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ps 110:1-2 he LORD says to my Lord: "Sit at my right hand, until I make your enemies your footstool."
² The LORD sends forth from Zion your mighty scepter. Rule in the midst of your enemies! |
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- Rule by the power of the *WORD*.

3.1. THE RESCUE OPERATION

- **Joel 2:31-32** The sun shall be turned to darkness, and the moon to blood, before the great and awesome day of the LORD comes. ³² And it shall come to pass that everyone who calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved. For in Mount Zion and in Jerusalem there shall be those who escape, as the **LORD** has said, and among the survivors shall be those whom the **LORD** calls.
- **Rom 10:13** ...everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.
- **Lk 21:24** ...Jerusalem will be trampled underfoot by the Gentiles, until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled.
- **Acts 2:40** "Save yourselves from this crooked generation."
- **2Cor 6:17-18** Therefore go out from their midst, and be separate from them, says the Lord, and touch no unclean thing; then I will welcome you, ¹⁸ and I will be a father to you, and you shall be sons and daughters to me, says the Lord Almighty."
 - **John 17:15** I do not ask that you take them out **of the world**, but that you keep them from the evil one.

3.2. THE POWER TRANSFER

- **Mt 24:14** ...and this gospel of the kingdom will be proclaimed throughout the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come.
- **Rev 11:15** "The kingdom **of the world** has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ, and he shall reign forever and ever."

4. TO REMEMBER

- Jesus' resurrection marks the beginning of the end times and of the new creation.
- In the light of the resurrection we can understand Jesus' death on the cross.
- The power of Jesus' resurrected life calls us to live for him and in him while we are in this world of the old creation.