OUR MISSION (why we exist)

We exist to be a refuge, drawing ourselves and others into a genuine relationship with Jesus Christ.

WEEKEND ANNOUNCMENTS

READING PLAN - Read through Mark 10:42 for this week!

PRAYER & WORSHIP GATHERING - April 29th at 6:30, childcare will be provided, but you must register your children with Laura so she can get enough workers.

WORSHIP PLAYLIST - OScan the QR code below with your phone and you will be directed to our Spotify playlist!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WORLDVIEW CLASS - The class on Puritans continues on Wednesday, April the 4th at Dave & Michelle's at 6:30pm.

MEN'S AND WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY - Our men's and women's Bible studies both meet at the church. Childcare is provided. Our next meeting date is March 28th.

HILLSIDE KIDS- Help our children's ministry. Volunteer one weekend a month and help minister to our children.

HILLSIDE PRAYER GROUP - Our prayer group meets on Tuesdays at 6:30pm in the church building. Come pray with us! These have been fantastic meetings!



GET CONNECTED

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THE BOOK OF ACTS

Acts 24:1-27 March 27th, 2022

INTRODUCTION

<u>Acts 1:22</u> (ESV) beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us—one of these men must become with us **a witness to his** resurrection."

<u>Acts 4:1–2</u> (ESV) And as they were speaking to the people, the priests and the captain of the temple and the Sadducees came upon them, ² greatly annoyed because they were teaching the people and proclaiming in Jesus the resurrection from the dead.

Daniel 12:2 (ESV) And many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt.

<u>Matthew 10:28</u> (ESV) And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell.

The resurrection is a genuine and expected reality we will all experience, whether in glory or torment.

OVERVIEW OF PAUL

- Paul's Conversion
- Paul's three missionary journeys
- Paul's final return to Jerusalem
- Paul's Arrest in Jerusalem

PAUL'S TRIAL Acts 24:1-21

The Jewish Accusation

- 1. <u>Personal Accusation</u> "...we have found this man a plague."
- 2. <u>Political Accusation</u> "...one who stirs up riots (sedition)"
- 3. Religious Accusation "...a ringleader of the sect of the Nazarenes."

And here is the difficult thing to see in court. People personified their rejection in Paul, **but what they were truly rejecting was the cross of Christ**.

The world, represented by the religious and Romans, believed the rebellion ended with a cross, but in reality, **our rebellion against the world began there**.

James 4:4 (ESV) You adulterous people! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God.

You are going to have to pick a side. The Bible declares that there is no such thing as middle ground.

There is **no instance** in Scripture of a person **both full of the world and full of the Spirit.** The person will be devoid of one or the other. There is no middle ground in Christianity as it pertains to faith and life.

John 1:46 (ESV) Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see."

Any life that sincerely gazes upon the cross of Jesus can never stay as it is.

Christians should not approach the world around us with the mission of **reform**, but **rescue**.

1 John 2:17 (ESV) And the world is passing away along with its desires, but whoever does the will of God abides forever.

Miracles themselves point to the resurrection and the Kingdom.

What happens to the person restored in healing is a representation of what happens to the universe in resurrection.

IN CUSTODY Acts 24:22-27

Acts 24:25 (ESV) And as he reasoned about righteousness and self-control and the coming judgment, Felix was alarmed and said, "Go away for the present. When I get an opportunity I will summon you."

Felix is literally an example of a man **who gained the whole world, yet lost his soul.**

The last thing I want you to understand about the resurrection today is that **it confirms this life is temporary and eternity is forever.**

Imagine a universe created by God that believes it is moving towards perfection without Him.

No matter how much we care about this world and life, **resurrection** and **eternity** are what we are called to live for.