

Resurrection Sunday 2020

Hope-Filled Warnings

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Welcome

Welcome to Resurrection Sunday 2020 — celebrating the resurrection of Jesus Christ Who conquered death, hell, and the grave — offering eternal life to all who want it.

Message Today — Hope-Filled Warnings — it has the power to change your life for the better — if you'll let it.

Consider this

If I would have told you six months ago that a virus is coming that would —

- a) **cover the globe**, infecting over 1 million people and killing tens of thousands in the first few months
~ *you probably wouldn't have believed it.*
- b) **devastate national economies**, investments, jobs, security
~ *you probably wouldn't have believed it.*
- c) **cause food shortages**, bare shelves, fights in grocery stores
~ *you probably wouldn't have believed it.*
- d) **create fear and hopelessness** leading to an increase in addiction, abuse, and suicide
~ *you probably wouldn't have believed it.*
- e) **that it would quarantine people** in their homes, preventing them from working, going to school, cancelling sports and entertainment events
~ *you probably wouldn't have believed it.*

And yet — every single thing I've mentioned, and more, has happened to us. Life has changed in a moment, **our world has been shaken**, and **will be shaken harder** before this is all over.

The world's response is as Jesus said —

As this shaking happens, the world's response is just as Jesus said it would be —

Luke 21:25-26

... on the earth distress of nations, with perplexity (quandary)... men's hearts failing them from fear and the expectation of those things which are coming on the earth, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken.

God has told us repeatedly that troublesome things would happen, that people and nations would panic as the whole world is being shaken.

Hebrews 12:27-28

... that all of creation will be shaken and removed, so that only unshakable things will remain. Since we are receiving a Kingdom that is unshakable, let us be thankful and please God by worshipping Him with holy fear and awe.

**While all else is shaking, and on the verge of being totally removed,
there is unshakeable hope to be found in God's unshakeable Kingdom!**

This hope is available to you today!

Receive it, and then worship God with holy fear and awe!

When Jesus was asked about the signs preceding the coming of God's unshakeable Kingdom, He gave us some **Hope-Filled Warnings.**

Hope-Filled Warnings

Matthew 24: 6-8,25

And you will hear of wars and rumors of wars. See that you are not troubled; for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet. For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. And there will be famines, pestilences, and earthquakes in various places. All these are the beginning of sorrows. See, I have told you beforehand.

Four Hope-Filled Warnings that precede the coming of God's Unshakable Kingdom

- **wars and rumors of wars**, nations and kingdoms rising — 230 million people died of war in 20th century alone, unparalleled in human history.
 - *Don't be troubled and fearful, it must happen; YOU DON'T HAVE TO FEARFUL, YOU CAN BE HOPEFUL — JESUS!!!*
- **Famines** — World Health Organization 2018, 821 million starving and number is growing, 1 of every 9 people in world.
- **Earthquakes** — U.S. Geological Survey 8 of last 12 years surpassed long-term average of significant quakes, 7.0 and above. Utah and Idaho just had large quakes.
- **Pestilences** — viruses, EBOLA, SARS, MERS, COVID-19 etc. US preparing for 100k-240k deaths in next few months. Plans in place with Army Corps Engineers to turn convention centers, hotels, and dormitories into hospitals to deal with increases in infections and deaths. **Africa and Middle East worst locust infestation in 30 years.**

He told us beforehand — Jesus isn't surprised, shaken by this — He foretold it!

Question — *What do we make of all these signs that Jesus told us about?*

Answer — We must see them as **Hope-Filled Warnings!**

- warning us so our **hope wouldn't be shaken** when these things happen.
- warning us so our **hope wouldn't be misplaced** in the powerless, unsatisfying gods of man and other temporary, shakable, worldly pleasures.
- warning us so our **hope would be placed in God** and His unshakable, glorious, eternal Kingdom.

Where is your hope today? Who or what is it in?

What else Jesus said...

These Hope-Filled Warnings are the beginning of sorrows — birth pains, something that increases in frequency and intensity the closer you get to new life being born.

Friends — all of these signs are increasing in frequency and in intensity — new birth is coming!

Romans 8:22-23

... creation itself, is groaning with birth pains, waiting and longing for the coming of God's unshakeable Kingdom. These signs tell us we are getting closer every day to new life in a new city, new heaven, new earth and new Kingdom!

**That should be a source of hope and peace
for everyone who hears it!**

The Apostles said...

Paul...

Hebrews 11:10

We wait for the city which has foundations, whose builder and maker is God.

- heavenly city with God-made foundations — unshakeable and immovable

Peter...

2 Peter 3:13

... according to His promise, we look for the new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells.

- God promised new heavens and earth

John...

Revelation 21:3-4

“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.”

- All God, no tears, death, sorrow, crying, pain, all things new, TRUE and Faithful

**All the madness in the world today is a Hope-Filled Warning —
because it lets us know that our eternal,
unshakeable hope is getting closer by the day!**

Luke 21:28

Now when these things begin to happen, look up and lift up your heads, because your redemption draws near.

Jesus is the only source of hope

In a world that is shaken and changing daily, you need to have your hope in the unshakeable, unchanging love of God found in Jesus Christ. **He is the only source of hope, peace, and salvation you can count on!**

The false and unsatisfying gods of fame, fortune, comfort, sports, entertainment, lust, drugs, alcohol, etc. will not provide real hope for you — they can't — as we've seen in the last month!

Question — *How can you have this unshakeable hope, this unshakeable Kingdom?*

- **Mark 1:15** — **repent** and **believe** in the Gospel
- **John 1:12** — **receive Jesus**, become a child of God
- **Matthew 10:31-32** — **confess** Me before men — confess before Father in heaven; deny Me before men — deny before Father in heaven.
- **Romans 10:9-10** if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

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or

Call us at 615-591-5091

Discussion Questions

1. What is the most drastic way that you personally have been affected by this pandemic?
2. Once you realized the more “long-term” (months) severity of this situation, have you been able to settle down and put all of this into spiritual perspective?
3. Can you see the warnings as *Hope-Filled*?
4. Do you have friends / family who are distressed and depressed?
5. What is the Unshakeable Hope that you can offer them?

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