

Second Sunday of Advent

“It’s A Wonderful Life: Hope In It”

Isaiah 11:1-10 (p. 673)

We need to become o_____ about the e_____.

An eternal optimist is “a person who will continue to believe in something or a positive outcome till the e____ of t_____.”

Isaiah 11:1 – The stump of J_____ –
The reign of King David and his line promised in
II Samuel 7:12-13 would soon be dead.

Isaiah 11:6-9 - “The P_____ Kingdom”

- by Edward Hicks & Nancy Conant
- the future we are to believe in till the end of time

How do we live in the here and now?

Become an optimist about the eternal who is a
s_____, confident r_____.

- Cling to the hope and promises available through a daily relationship with Jesus:
 - Hope that flows from being f_____
 - You are not a_____ – II Corinthians 4:8-9
- Be a r_____ about the hurts & disappointments we face
 - Dr. Larry Crabb, Inside Out
 - C.S. Lewis – “If we find ourselves with a desire that nothing in this world can satisfy, the most probable explanation is that we were made for another world.”

“Modern Christianity” teaches:

- Complete s_____ can be ours this side of heaven
- Relief is available n_____
- When our soul is thirsty, we can dig our o_____ w_____

But the hard reality is that:

- “something is wrong with e_____.”
- The promise of health and wealth is n_____ for n_____.
- Jesus in John 14

But we need not face disappointment alone:

- We have God’s W_____
- We have God’s S_____ living in us
- We have the c_____

God wants courageous people who are “s_____, still troubled, but deeply l_____.”

“Life’s lowest m_____ bring with them the opportunity to see Jesus as the source of all h_____.”

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“It’s A Wonderful Life: Hope In It”

Isaiah 11:1-10 (p. 673)

We need to become optimists about the eternal.

An eternal optimist is “a person who will continue to believe in something or a positive outcome till the end of time.”

Isaiah 11:1 – The stump of Jesse –
The reign of King David and his line promised in
II Samuel 7:12-13 would soon be dead.

Isaiah 11:6-9 - “The Peaceable Kingdom”

- by Edward Hicks & Nancy Conant
- the future we are to believe in till the end of time

How do we live in the here and now?

Become an optimist about the eternal who is a
surrendered, confident realist.

- Cling to the hope and promises available through a
daily relationship with Jesus:
 - Forgiveness
 - You are not alone – II Corinthians 4:8-9
- Be a realist about the hurts and disappointments we face
 - Dr. Larry Crabb, Inside Out
 - C.S. Lewis – “If we find ourselves with a desire that
nothing in this world can satisfy, the most probable
explanation is that we were made for another world.”

“Modern Christianity” teaches:

- Complete satisfaction can be ours this side of heaven
- Relief is available now
- When our soul is thirsty, we can dig our own well

But the hard reality is that:

- “something is wrong with everything.”
- The promise of health and wealth is not for now.
- Jesus in John 14

But we need not face disappointment alone:

- We have God’s Word
- We have God’s Spirit living in us
- We have the church

God wants courageous people who are “scarred, still troubled, but
deeply loving.”

“Life’s lowest moments bring with them the opportunity to see Jesus
as the source of all hope.”