

Valley Bible Church - Sermon Study Questions

Study Aid for the Sermon from August 28, 2011 “Christ: King of the Cosmos” Ephesians 1:9-10

Observing the text

After reading Ephesians 1:3-14, write down what the believer is blessed with in verses 9-10.

How does the theme of redemption in verses 7-8 influence verses 9-10?

What is God’s future plan of redemption? How does God plan to bring it about?

To what might “the summing up of all things in Christ” be referring?

Applying the sermon

In Paul’s eulogy about our salvation in Christ (Ephesians 1:3-14) he mentions that God has “made known to us the mystery of His will.” How might this be an expression of God’s grace “which He lavished on us?”

What is significant about the cross of Christ in relationship to our blessed union with Him at His second coming (Ephesians 1:7-10; Philippians 2:1-11; 1 Peter 1:3-9)?

If the “paradise” lost in Adam (due to the effects of sin in Genesis 3) is to be restored in Christ upon His glorious return, what hope does this implant in His church? How should our hope in Christ’s return impact our present pursuit of holiness, involvement in church, outreach in our community, endurance in trials, or love for God and for one another?

Andrew Lincoln, in the *Word Biblical Commentary*, aptly says in regards to Ephesians 1:10, “Those who can see that there is therefore no aspect of this universe which is outside the scope of God’s redemptive purpose, in which they too have been included, are thereby given grounds for overcoming any sense of weakness and insecurity in the face of hostile cosmic powers.” How does a thought like this bring comfort to the believer? How does it specifically comfort and encourage you?