

12/25/22

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FB 8

Sermon – Christmas Day (2022)

Scripture – Romans 8:31-39

Main Message – NOTHING can separate us from the love of God... Nothing whatsoever.

Merry Christmas. May your fellowship and time today reflect on that special gift, a child born in Bethlehem, that has brought salvation to the world. What a joyous thing that is beyond any words to describe. Our hope and the peace brought about makes this day an everlasting celebration.

Can you imagine how empty our existence would be if we had not faith in God, His Salvation or the Hope and Joy that comes from it? We have discussed all of these topics individually for the last few weeks. Take any element away, whether it be joy, or hope or peace, and how do you live? Well there is the most important element embodied by this season and that is one of Love.

But instead of reflecting on the woes of those who do not believe, that focus briefly this Christmas on the tremendous blessings we have. We have Joy indescribable. We have hope in the face of great adversity. We are able to have peace in our hearts in the midst of turmoil and all we really want is for others to know the source of these things. We don't struggle the way others do. We rise up before the challenges of life. This day is a day in which we can fully celebrate long after the last present is opened. We celebrate day after day, week after week, and the happiness in our life is only marred by our love for those who have not yet found Christ as their savior. God loved the world such that he sent his son to us. We love God so much that we want others to know of this incredible blessing.

The bells ringing on Christmas Day reminds others that we worship the one and only true God in Heaven. It is a sound that perhaps may remind a person what Christmas is truly about. It is a strong symbol, maybe even larger than words that can turn this ship back toward God and His Holiness.

Those who are lost and haven't found their way home yet can follow those bells. Christians do not stand in judgement of individuals, their sin, their shortcomings. We are saved by Grace and that alone. The strife in the world, the resentment of Christians is founded only on flawed understanding. If they only knew of the love of the true body of believers such as the ones here each week, they would see things differently perhaps. But the Bell tells a story.

We are also going to sing that song today, Do you hear what I hear? Wouldn't it be awesome if someone heard our bell ring, and the Holy Spirit of God spoke to their heart, "that ringing is for you, calling for you to come and join my family, my beloved."

Peace on Earth – brought to you by a child born in a manger. It defies logic, which is why it was God's chosen way. He is the LORD of Lords and the KING of Kings.

If others just knew of HIS unfailing Love and His Patience and HIS PEACE.